





- 20 March 1973: CIA-subsidised weekly <u>SEPA</u> aimed at Chilean military officers publishes a front page article by Robert Moss, identified as a British sociologist, with the headline: 'Robert Moss. An English Recipe for Chile military control.' suggesting that if events in Chile were happening in England there would long have been a military takeover. <u>SEPA</u>'s editor at the time Raphael Otero later becomes official spokesperson of the military regime.
- 25 April 1973: New British ambassador, Reginald Secondé, arrives at his post. "Ambassador, Reginald Secondé, was 'a solid supporter of the coup'. I recall meeting him in 1975, when he was asked by an ambassadorial colleague what sort of people the Junta generals were. 'They are all dear, nice chaps,' he said, 'but they make every political mistake in the book.' Ethical foreign policy, Seventies style." as remembered by Howard Davies, later CBI chief and FSA chairman and Director of LSE (Letter to London Review of Books 15 Oct 1998)
- 11 September 1973: "Almost alone of the foreign embassies, the British refused to give refuge to Allende supporters. Tiny embassies like those of Panama and Sweden packed in hundreds, while the spacious British premises remained closed."
- By contrast United Nations premises also act as ambassadorial refuges, operational chief of the UNDP programme 'Resident Representative' in Chile, Margaret Anstee "unilaterally extended diplomatic immunity to those taken into the homes of UN personnel, under pressure from UN workers." (London Review of Books, 17 September 1998, Richard Gott)
- 16 September 1973: Michael Woodward Iribarry, an Anglo-Chilean priest, having studied secondary school in a British Catholic boarding school, is arrested (in a shanty settlement/poblacion, Valpariaso's *Progreso*, where he has built houses and worked mostly under the banner of *Cristianos por el Socialismo*) by Chilean militarist Naval Intelligence officers. He is soon murdered under torture, certainly by 22 Sep 1973, when a death certificate is issued, on naval ship *Esmerelda*, a site for the Chilean Navy's political prisoners.
- 14 January 1974: Pluto Press publishes Pat Kinnersly's Hazards of work. It notes the general failure of occupational medicine: "supposedly humanitarian professions like medicine and sociology... members can still fear for their jobs if they are seen to side too obviously with those their skills are designed to serve". A detailed survey of statistics from major industrial and commercial firms produces a comparison that well over three times as many working

days are lost to the effects of "severe mental stress" as to strike action.

16 January 1974: Ian Paisley, William Craig and Harry West address a rally of 4,000 protesting the Anglo-Irish Law Enforcement Commission. Paisley states: "If the British government refuses to heed us [who oppose power-sharing], we will show ways and means whereby we can bring down the Executive."

27 January 1974: Sir Robert Armstrong, Cabinet Secretary "had been at Ditchley... talking wildly about coups and coalitions" in a positive fashion.

February 1974: Financial Times Survey of Business Opinion reports "The future prospects for output, employment, costs and profit margins are all deteriorating, and in general the level of confidence was lower than at any time in the seven year history of the Survey" i.e. confidence, (business assumptions on the likelihood of realising future profit), is lower than in 1968 or 1969 – a Labour government is preferable." 1968 and 1969 was the escalation of trade union action in opposition to 'In Place of Strife'.

February 1974: "Fairly senior" officers at Army Forces headquarters discuss amongst themselves some form of military intervention to break the miners' strike of February 1974. (Sir, later Lord, Neil Carver's Cambridge Union speech, 4 March 1980)

February 1974: Rhodesia intensifies its policies, introduced mandatory labour programmes for 12 – 60 year old blacks, it gives summary powers to District Commissioners to impose fines (amounting to confiscations) and corporal punishment (most commonly whippings) destruction of kraals and a wave of detentions of rural blacks on account of failing to inform authorities of information about terrorists. This is followed in Apr 1974 by the removal of unlicensed blacks from a whole series of wide border areas and the general destruction of crops in border areas.

February 1974: British Leyland announces it will have links with both Israel and Arab countries once it is removed from the Arab League Boycott Office's blacklist. It has offered to build two car assembly plants in Lebanon, but it asserts it will continue supplies of cars and spare parts to Israel.

February 1974: (later Sir) Robin Day hosts Radio 4's daily phone-in programme *Election Call* where voters ask carefully screened questions to candidates.

7 February 1974: Britain completes its neo-colonial independence for Grenada with Sir Eric Gairy as first Prime Minister.

- 13 February 1974: Frank Field, Director of Child Poverty Action Group, urges a redistribution of poverty, asserting that because of the economic crisis: "It will be even more important for the parties to spell out their priorities. The most effective way of protecting the standards of living of families and moderating wage claims is to increase family allowances."
- 15 February 1974: Prince Charles' ship HMS Jupiter docks in Tonga on a specially arranged goodwill visit. RN officers alongside High Commissioner Arthington-Davy visit Prime Minister Prince Tu'ipelehake. The crew takes part in cricket matches, dances, feasts, pleasure sailing events and sightseeing pleasure trips on the Tonga Tourist and Development Company's 'Islander' aircraft.
- 16 February 1974: Marcel Caetano, faced with growing uncertainty in labour relations, offers a public denunciation of enemies of the regime including "egalitarians, students who imagine themselves above the law, trade unions who gamble with the national interest, leading capitalists who conspire against the state, priests who abuse the respect of their calling."
- 16 February 1974: Harold Wilson attacks the use of the world economic crisis as a convenient scapegoat: "It is all the fault of world prices, they [Conservatives] say. Blame the foreigners. It is nothing to do with us. Well, it is time to nail the lie"
- 21 February 1974: Wilson suggests on TV that trade union leaders should be featured more prominently in television programmes and asked about their attitudes to communism hence proving their loyalty. (ITN First Report, 21 Feb 1974)
- 22 February 1974: David Dimbleby interviews John Tyndall in Midweek (BBC2). "David Dimbleby does a kid-glove interview with John Tyndall of the National Front he contributes to the building of an image for this man as one among a number of responsible political leaders"
- 22 February 1974: General Spinola's *Portugal e o Futura* is published in Lisbon. Its plans are for a modification of the Portuguese Empire functioning with greater autonomy for the colonies. He envisions a 'Community of Lusitania' with Brazil and the colonial territories functioning as a more coherent Commonwealth-style bloc.
- 23 February 1974: Enoch Powell in a public speech calls for a Labour vote without naming it as such: "the party which is committed to fundamental renegotiation of the Treaty of Brussels

and to submitting to the British people thereafter, for their final yea or nay, the outcome of that renegotiation"

- 24 February 1974: LWT's documentary-discussion programme 'Fairness' produced by *Weekend World* highlights Prof Michael Stewart (University College London) declaring as an unchallenged expert: "the only real way one can do it if one is to give everybody every family with a man, wife and two children a minimum income of £2,000 a year really is to have a higher rate of growth, to have more production. We can't do it out of what's in the pot at the present time."
- 24 February 1974: The Observer, with editor David Astor having bought the rights to the ISC report 'Sources of Conflict in British Industry' publishes advance press about it before the election. Funded by John Dettmer of the Economic League, Michael Ivens, Director of Aims of Industry and John Whitehorn, Deputy Director-General of the CBI, it is the result of a body of academics and industrial figures' efforts in the last months of 1973 and places heavy emphasis on subversion in industry and the concept of the unwanted 'mole'. Management consultant expert Frank Broadway, consultant to the IERF (Industrial Educational and Research Foundation), former industrial adviser to Vivella International and Group Information Officer to Reed Paper Group; former diplomatic correspondent of the Observer Eric Clark; inveterate former Communist and current anti-communist Dr Ken Watkins are among the authors. A entire Observer page is given over to the problem of "moles" in industry. The rest of the report is also analysed with warnings of CPGB-Broad Left-'controlled' trade unions funding Labour for the election.
- 25 February 1974: NF makes its first ever television party political broadcast on the BBC at 6.05pm.
- 25 February 1974: Labour's final election broadcast: "Trades unionists are people. Employers are people. We can't go on setting one against the other except at the cost of damage to the nation itself."
- 26 February 1974: Dissident anti-Selassie troops take over Asmara and surround Western consulates, including the British one, in a generalised armed forces strike.
- 28 February 1974: Thousands of indigenous Australian 'aborigines' protest at Queen Elizabeth and her opening of the Australian Parliament in Canberra. They urge the Crown appointed Governors to ensure Parliament does not sell away aboriginal lands for development around and against aboriginal people.

27 February 1974: Reuters reports Ethiopia's generalised armed forces strike has spread to army units in Massaa, its main naval carrier Ethiopia and air force bases.

27 February 1974: Hong Kong's budget sees steep increases in indirect taxation to cover the effects of the recession. Taxation on alcohol and cigarettes is increased by a quarter. The level of income and company tax in the colony remains at a flat standard 15%.

27 February 1974: Heath takes part in what is probably the first Prime Ministerial radio phone-in question time, where carefully screened questions are put to Heath. He is accused of 'dodging' when he fails to answer his plans for coalition. Later, elsewhere he states the issues are "Respect for the authority of Parliament. Inflation. Extremism and how to deal with it." warning the new government must be respected by the rest of the world. "because today, more than ever, prosperity at home depends on confidence abroad"

Liberal leader Thorpe: "We know the great majority of people are ready for a change They have grown tired of the two-party system. They have been alienated by the politics of confrontation"

<u>Financial Times</u> describes the general election as the "most wide open" in the postwar era, and asserts a change is for the better, whether hung Parliament or Labour, after the upheavals with a majority Conservative government.

<u>The Telegraph</u>: "We have criticised some of the measures and policies of the Conservatives. Only the Conservatives, however can provide strong government that the country desperately needs."

<u>The Guardian</u>: "Already it has been argued that the new Parliament will be healthier if the Liberals hold the balance. Happily, there is now a fair chance that they may. Their influence ought to be a healing one and not divisive."

<u>Daily Mail</u>: "Britain needs a government with the parliamentary power to defend the weak against the brute industrial... that will uphold the law... The Prime Minister has appealed to the electorate for a fresh mandate. He deserves it. Tomorrow he must get it."

<u>The Express</u>: "Your vote tomorrow is a vote for leadership. And only Mr. Heath's government can provide it."

<u>The Mirror</u>: The choice for the voter who is not sitting on the fence and wants to do more than register a protest is clear - Labour or Tory. The Mirror believes that the right choice is Labour."

<u>The Sun</u>: "Today's Tories look — in spite of the historic attitudes of their party — the best social democrats we have got. They get our vote — just. But your vote is your concern."

28 February 1974: General Election.

The mainstream press continue their convergence on the idea of danger within parts of the Labour party, in various different ways. Guardian calls for a "three-way balance" so that the dangerous extremes (including Labour's extreme) are balanced out.

<u>The Sun</u>, under Rupert Murdoch's ownership, urges a Conservative vote for the first time because otherwise there would be "galloping inflation and the sinister and ever-growing power of a small band of anarchists, bullyboys and professional class-war warriors".

<u>The Telegraph</u> says Labour government would be "complete chaos: ruin public and private" because of Wilson's "craven subservience to trade union power"

28 February 1974: Tony Benn has a conversation with Reg Bale, South West NF leader: ""you are dividing the white workers from the black workers... there are some very unpleasant people in the National Front. Let's have a word afterwards and see if we can't find a way of making the Labour Party more responsive to the needs of your people because I accept there has been a problem." He told me the Young Socialists had abused him today. I asked him to introduce me to his wife and told her how sorry I was about this, and that it certainly wasn't at my encouragement." (Tony Benn Diaries)

28 February 1974: Turnout at 78.7%, 7% increase on last time. 71.5% in 1970: "it would be very misleading to suggest that the apparent increase of 7% over 1970 represented the true growth of interest. Holidays and an older register in 1970 means that the real increase is less than half the apparent increase" (David Butler letter to Trevor Pateman, 1 Jul 1974)

March 1974: Abercom the largest South African-owned engineering firm operating in Britain expands production in its wholly-owned firm Davidson and Co. that has a 1,000+ workforce in Belfast to take advantage of regional tax reduction policies. The rest of Abercom's plant and workforce is distributed in South Africa (4,000) and Rhodesia (1,000).

March 1974: British Leyland management withdraws recognition from Alan Thornett as convenor and shop steward for allegedly holding unauthorised meetings in the plant. Financial Times reports: "A dramatic initiative aimed at transforming the fortunes of its trouble-torn Cowley car Assembly Plant at Oxford has been taken by British Leyland, which has told the TGWU that it will no longer deal with one of its most senior and militant shop stewards. This unusual step means that British Leyland is prepared to risk a prolonged shutdown of its Cowley works for the sake of curbing the power and influence of extreme left-wingers who have upset production at the Assembly Plant constantly in recent months... This

clash could lead to a major confrontation, which would have immediate implications for the 'Social Contract' between the TUC and the Government. Mr Jack Jones, TGWU General Secretary, is closely identified with the Contract, which he has frequently insisted involves improving general industrial relations and efficiency as much as, if not more than, restricting wage increases."

Unofficial strikes occur at Cowley over the demotion of Thornett, on and off for a month as promises of reinstatement are made only for the workforce to find out they have not been kept. Eventually a compromise is agreed- Thornett will be shop steward but not convenor. T&GWU officials order an inquiry, on their terms, to investigate who are the T&GWU troublemakers at Cowley. Thornett and other shop stewards are privately fingered. British Leyland management in private meetings with TGWU officials make threats over future investment, and offer improved trade union offices and facilities at the plant according to whether the "troublemakers" are demoted or not.

March 1974: Government ratifies the business-dominated appointments for the Reserve Pension Board: Sir Maurice Fiennes, G.F. Grant, J. R. Johnstone, G. Lowthian, Lord Remnant, Professor B. Rose, Sir Don Ryder and Lord Samuel of Wych Cross, chairman of Reed International.

March 1974: A 2 metre long pressure split in reactor No5 occurs in a Nypro UK chemical plant in Flixborough, Scarborough. Before the cause of the split is established, the reactors are restarted for production.

March 1974: Taylor Woodrow wins the contract for the construction of a tower for the Naval Construction Research Establishment at Rosyth Dockyard by the Forth. It carries out experiments to aid warship construction. Its trade shipping research centre is in Dunfermline.

- 1 March 1974: FTSE index, drops over 24 points to 314, its largest ever one-day decline, as it emerges that a period of coalition-bargaining is the result of the election that will continue the emergency situation for a while yet. Sterling also declines.
- 1 March 1974: Press adverts for British Oxygen Company's AGM state it will acquire spending \$80mil a 33% share of Airco, one of the three U.S. industrial gases firms. BOC holds close to an effective monopoly over gases in Britain.
- 1 March 1974: Oxford-educated Endelkachew Makonnen, member of the royal clan, is appointed Prime Minister by Emperor Selassie. He works with Selassie trying to bend the military into competing factions and as well as use it to strangle student protests and mass strikes where demands include land reform, press freedom and the imprisonment of corrupt officials.

- 1 March 1974: 40 Chinese language newspapers in Hong Kong simultaneously increase their cover prices from 20c to 30c. The rise is explained as passing on costs of rising newsprint prices. Since there is no competition commission in the colony, price rises are not even examined much less controlled.
- 4-5 March 1974: A strike for union recognition amongst black workers takes place in Leyland's Mobeni, Durban, South Africa plant. It employs 1,350 whites, 1,830 'coloureds' and 640 'Africans'. Lord Stokes, British Leyland's Chairman, is in South Africa at the time of the dispute, but refuses to intervene and makes no statement on the affairs. + All 175 assembly line, and in total 300, workers go on strike at the plant for recognition of a MAWU [Metal and Allied Workers Union] branch. The strike is timed to coincide with Lord Stokes' visit. Union representatives manage to ask Lord Stokes to press management to settle and recognise the union. He refuses to do this. Strikers are taken back after two days having forfeited their pay for the days on which they struck, and an agreement that management will not negotiate with the structures of the union as desired by the striking party but with any union member still employed. Later going back on the agreement, about 65 of the group, are not rehired but 'retrenched'. Leyland is later responsible for calling South African Security Police to arrest Alfred Mthawa, MAWU union secretary, for distributing pamphlets outside a Leyland plant in 1974.
- 4 March 1974: Labour Government begins after Heath resignation. It announces a Cabinet with significant Labour Left figures. The press announces the government will be on probation from business interests 'industry' and 'international markets'. "The condition for any future for Mr Wilson and his administration is the handling of the inflation problem." (Financial Times)
- "While there is a general assumption that the new government must make substantial concessions to the miners, there can be no doubt that the IMF would throw all the weight of its authority to discourage the general wage explosion in Britain. The new government may in fact find a useful ally in the international monetary authorities when it comes to negotiating with the trade union movement." (Guardian Washington Correspondent)
- 4 March 1974: Cleveland Engineering in joint venture with Dorman, Long & Co complete a motorway bridge near Rio de Janeiro. Construction began on August 23 1968, in the presence of Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip, next to the minister Mario Andreazza, army officer who took part in the 1964 military takeover.

- 4 March 1974: With British approval UNCHR finishes its annual session without having adopted any critical resolution over Chilean militarists.
- 4 March 1974: Court of Appeal announces the Shrewsbury picket convictions of conspiracy will stand: "no ground was raised which would justify the quashing of these convictions... except on Count 3, that of affray".
- 4 March 1974: "The [Monty Python] live show has been a must for pop personalities. Mick Jagger and Bowie have shared a Box... Ringo has been twice to see it." (Michael Palin's Diary)
- 5 March 1974: Newspapers applaud the new Labour government hoping production and profitability can be regained. <u>Daily Express</u>: "All parties should back Mr. Wilson as he picks up the reins." <u>Daily Mail</u> says Wilson "will have the support of all reasonable people in every responsible move he makes to get Britain back to work." <u>The Times</u>: "This will not by any means be a government of wild men. For the present it must have the best support it can in facing the world crisis."
- 5 March 1974: TUC leaders meet Cabinet and Prime Minister, 10 Downing St to begin work on the 'social contract'. CBI does the same "Campbell Adamson [CBI] was assuming an early return to work, but he hoped that there would be commercial and domestic restraint until industry was back to normal. I had to hurry off to the Palace... Queen's Private Secretary, the ADC and so on... an Australian judge took the oath as Privy Councillors and then I got my seals of office" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- Tony Benn concludes: "I feel I have to keep the hopes of the Left alive... there are four powerful Secretaries of State on the Left myself, Michael Foot, Peter Shore, and Eric Varley."
- 5-13 March 1974: NATO Exercise Safe Pass featuring British, Canadian, Dutch, US and Federal Germany armed forces, takes place in the Atlantic. Included in the 46 ships are 5 destroyers and frigates comprising NATO's Standing Naval Force in the Atlantic.
- 6 March 1974: Minister of Pricing Shirley Williams announces new price controls, but these ignore vast areas of necessities: clothing, stationery, furniture, toothpaste, transport, medical equipment.
- 6 March 1974: NUM agrees to end national miners' strike after new Employment Secretary Michael Foot intervenes to allow NCB negotiations to take place beyond 'Phase III'. NUM Executive votes 25-2 to accept the deal. Pay Board in a report on miners has recommended further conditional pay bonuses, particularly to coalface miners operating underground.

- 6 March 1974: Vorster meets black tribalist leaders of Kwazulu, Lebowa, Transkei, Basuto-KwaKwa, Bophutswana, Ciskei, Gazankulu to discuss homeland-bantustan independence.
- 6 March 1974: "Frances and Francis have both been appointed officially as advisers; they are going to get about £4000 a year and share a big office on the same floor as me." (Tony Benn's Diary) 6 March 1974: Parliamentary Report on labour conditions of British firms in South Africa is released, indicating at least 63 of 141 British companies investigated have been paying African workers below the absolute poverty line. It recommends British firms should pay their black workers above the absolute poverty line and the government should initiate a new code of practice for British firms in South Africa.
- 6 March 1974: US State Department official justifies the Diego Garcia base on the grounds of a "potential threat" from the Soviet Union in the Indian Ocean "with the probable opening of the- Suez Canal In the not too distant future".
- 7 March 1974: Energy Secretary, Eric Varley, ends conditions imposed for the 'three day week'. Some NUM lodges return to work. been lifted for all other claims.' Cabinet understands that the NUM settlement will mean NCB's deficit in 1974-5 rise to over £400 million. (CAB 128/54 Cabinet Conclusions, 7 March, 1974)
- 7 March 1974: "My own view is that we should continue with the present Concorde programme."
- 7 March 1974: "Harold had specifically arranged to transfer the Printing Division of the old DTI, which has responsibility for sponsoring the newspaper industry, to the Board of Trade... Harold can keep me entirely away from the mass media" (
- Wilson's first reorganisation is to break apart the Department for Trade and Industry into the 2 Cabinet posts and teams- Industry under Labour Left Benn and Trade under millionaire stockbroker Edmund Dell. Industry is given the aircraft industry, Department of Trade civil aviation. Monopolies and mergers are moved to the new 'Department for Prices and Consumer Protection'.
- 7 March 1974: "Cabinet, where we discussed the wording on the Common Market... we would 'seek changes in policies in the European Community' [after a] Referendum 'looked forward to playing a full and useful part in Europe' which was a complete watering down of our Manifesto position which committed us to retain parliamentary control"

- 7 March 1974: Armed police kill disputed numbers in Addis Ababa during the general strike. Shops and schools close in support of the demands.
- 8 March 1974: "message from Harold suggesting Bill Nield [Rolls Royce deputy chairman, former secretary in Cabinet Office] as a further Minister of State... Nield wasn't available"
- 8 March 1974: Rod Allen, editor of <u>Broadcast</u>, soon to be current affairs producer at LWT, praises TV coverage of election campaigns: "The Nation has decided and it has been informed of its decision efficiently, effectively and though it probably wasn't meant to be in an exciting and, yes, entertaining manner by both channels. Television has flexed its muscles, and proved its unique capabilities." (Broadcast, 8 Mar 1974, p18)
- 8 March 1974: French Foreign Minister Michel Jobert says that EEC countries should end US military presence on their soils if this presence becomes incompatible with their dignity.
- 8 March 1974: Wilson explains what he considers Britain's problems short-term disrupted production from the 3-day week and the long-term dual problem of losing trade abroad and increasing inflation at home. "The country faces a grave situation...The key to our recovery is in our own hands as a united people there is nothing we cannot do. It is going to mean an all-out effort by our people working for Britain. We have all got to get stuck in the watchword now is 'Coats off for Britain'."
- 8 May 1974: National Institute of Economic and Social Research makes a plea for a neutral Budget and for expansionary measures later in 1974. CBI recommends heavy fuel oil duty be removed, personal tax allowances be increased, national savings incentives be reviewed and corporation tax not be increased beyond 50%.
- 8 May 1974: National Westminster Bank's chairman, Sir John Prideaux, in his annual statement says that. the economic outlook for the UK and other European countries in the early months of 1974 is more pessimistic than in any recent year. He says governments have found it extremely difficult to implement polices to reduce the level of inflation under present-day.
- 8-28 March 1974: Bitter nationwide Indian railway strike, sees foreign-owned businesses play a careful role.\*
- 9 March 1974: M J Baker, head of marketing business at Strathclyde University: "The opportunities for exploiting world

markets for Scotland's engineering skills are enormous. To capitalise on this opportunity we must define it precisely and set about matching our skills and resources towards satisfying particular needs. We must seize the initiative and show that we have the ability to overcome the obstacles which faced the merchant and industrialist who laid the foundation of the West of Scotland's prosperity... Above all we. must market ourselves, whether we are scientists, salesmen, or engineers."

William Begg, chief of Begg Cousland & Co: "Corporation dignitaries go to all parts of the world to extol the virtues of Glasgow and to offer special facilities to any new company when existing industry often has to wait for long periods to obtain planning permission for extensions to their premises and even longer for simple information regarding their long-term prospects for expansion on a given site. Until it is fully understood that real Scottish industry is every bit as important to the economy of Scotland as the newer industries attracted from elsewhere we will never really deal with our problems."

- 9 March 1974: "I looked at the brief [for Triumph Meriden]... One of my biggest jobs is to make contacts with the shop stewards' movement"
- 9 March 1974: Following a 4-day conference and extensive reshuffle of senior military posts, Tanzanian army announces its armed forces will have to donate 5% to African liberation movement guerrillas. 9 March 1974: Al Ahram reports political prisoners will be amnestied under the Revolution Day amnesty of 23 Jul 1952. The proposed amnesty applies foremost to coup-plotters associated with the Muslim Brotherhood, anti-Nasserists, rightists and aristocratic elements loyal to the monarchy scrapped in 1952.
- 10 March 1974: 10 are killed in a methane gas explosion at Golborne Colliery near Wigan.
- 10 March 1974: A series of minor demonstrations are held across Britain at Spanish consulates and Iberia offices in protest at the garrotting of anarchist Salvador Puig Antich. Federal Germany sees the destruction of several Iberia offices.
- 10 March 1974: Ethiopian trade unions and Endelkachew Makonnen reach agreement on a minimum wage of 3 Ethiopian dollars.
- 11 March 1974: "meeting about Norton Villiers Triumph at Meriden. Jack Jones came with Harry Unwin, Bill Lapworth [TGWU Divisional chief in Coventry] and Dennis Johnson [plant-level shop steward convenor]... we would make expert advice available to the people in the factory... consultants who would work for the shop stewards in preparing a case for viability.... if they needed any further information from the company I would ask Dennis Poore, Managing

Director of NVT, to make it available... I would ask Poore to desist from any attempt to harass the cooperative... we would try and find some way of getting the bikes to America to meet the summer demand."

- 11 March 1974: "Frances came in and described her lunch with Bernard Donoughue, Joe Haines and Geoff Bish at Number 10. She had got the impression that Bernard Donoughue really saw his main role as spying on Ministers... Frances is in touch with the political network through Number 10 and Transport House, Francis Cripps [has] access to outside economists Nicky Kaldor in the Treasury and Frank McElhone who keeps me in touch with the PLP."
- 11 March 1974 am: Miners as a whole return to work, the night shift having started at 10pm the day before. NCB has stated production with a full workforce will be up to 90% of normal within 3 weeks.
- 11 March 1974: MI6 operatives buried within IRA launch a successful breakout from Dublin Mountjoy Jail.
- 11 March 1974 am: NCB announces price increases in coal to cover for lost receipts during the strike, of up to 48% in industrial coal from 1 Apr 1974. Electricity Council states: "We can only hope that there will now be an urgent decision by the Government in relation to electricity prices if we are not to go deeper into the red."
- 11 March 1974: Peter Preston, Deputy Industry Under-Secretary, visits Moscow to prepare for the joint British-Soviet Commission for Co-operation in Applied Science, Technology, Trade and Economic Relations. Reuters cites "British officials" who "say a spirit of cordial co-operation has emerged, and British industry should benefit" as a result of the new government.
- 11 March 1974: Morrison, Australian Minister responsible for Papua New Guinea warns a Japanese trade delegation, sponsored by the Japanese Ministry of International Trade and Industry, against exploitation of the territory. "Foreign investment, both private and Government-sponsored has become synonymous with exploitation in developing as well as developed countries." He gives his warning during a reception at a Canberra hotel, after which the delegation will spend a fortnight in Papua New Guinea. Unsurprisingly, British and Australian behaviour in Papua New Guinea is not considered exploitation.
- 11 March 1974: Riot police attack and arrest many students at Addis Ababa's Haile Selassie University. Hundreds of students at have recently burnt effigies of Old Etonian Endalkachew Makonnen. University teachers have also suspended lessons. Placards calling for an end to arrests, massacres in rural areas and the right to form political parties (since none at all are allowed in Ethiopia) have been hung on fences around the campus.

- 11 March 1974: Liberal whip Cyril Smith, ignoring a greater vote tally compared to anyone else, informs the press the Liberal Party have sounded out PC, SDLP and Northern Ireland MPs in order to vote against the Queen's speech on 'constitutional' grounds: "Mr Wilson has no mandate to govern, either in terms of seats or votes. We in the Liberal Party take the view that our task is to get the Labour government out as soon as possible." In less than 3 years the Liberals are to form a Parliamentary Pact with Labour.
- 11 March 1974: Government announces that Dr. Michael Ramsey, Archbishop of Canterbury, will be appointed a life peer in the Lords upon his retirement.
- 11 March 1974: France's centre-right <u>L'Aurore</u> expresses the mainstream of French opinion over the government's threat over EEC: "the Labour Government is trying to present the Common Market as the chief cause of Britain's social and economic problems [but] Britain's retreat from the Community would not produce the miraculous effect of stopping inflation and unemployment"
- 11 March 1974: PNG Land Minister Kavali warns of the dangers of the rural population continuing to take their own measures to solve the land/absentee landlord issue taking their own measures including the "illegal occupation of expatriate-owned or leased land and other direct action against expatriate rural interests." He states "People affected by the alienated land problem see the Government as unwilling or unable to act to solve their problems. Accordingly they take matters into their own hands. This brings about a loss of respect for the Government, law, and law enforcement agencies. This loss of respect could easily spread to other areas with the result that the whole authority of the Government could break down."
- 12 March 1974: Billy Fox, Fine Gael member of the Seanad Eireann, a Protestant and critic of the British army presence in the six counties, is kidnapped by 13 militants, in Tircooney, Clones, Co Monaghan near the border. UFF warns of the event to the province's media: "We will search out Republicans and other sympathizers wherever they are to be found." British Army collusion is strongly suspected.
- 12 March 1974: Portuguese government officials publicly admit that armed services have been confined to barracks for the fourth day in a row as part of a "state of prevention" imposed due to "internal disciplinary problems".
- 12 March 1974: Papua New Guinea First Minister Somare announces his government will week independence beginning from 1 Dec 1974.

- 12 March 1974: Queen's Speech announces "the redistribution of wealth" and discussions with the CBI and TUC on "methods of securing the orderly growth of incomes on a voluntary basis". It is vague on the point of nationalisation of industry promising a bill to "consolidate and develop existing legislation to promote national industrial expansion". It will end Heath's clumsy Industrial Relations Act to be replaced with new industrial relations law and the establishment of a new conciliation and arbitration service (later named ACAS). It also promises on a national basis the renegotiation of powers from EEC to Britain, smartly immobilising Labour Left's arguments over 'Europe' until Mar 1975. Labour Left diverts itself into a struggle to hold the referendum as soon as possible, rather than pressing direct for withdrawal.
- 12 March 1974: Government works out its demands from the Republic of Ireland: "an end to requests for cross-border flight having to be made via British embassy in Dublin, regular meetings between the RUC Chief Constable, Garda Commissioner and the Army Chiefs of Staff of both British and Irish armies, regular meetings of experts involved in intelligence, signals etc." ('Meeting to discuss security co-operation with the Republic of Ireland Northern Ireland Office, Great George Street, 12 Mar 1974, CJ4/81)
- 13 March 1974: After the Sunningdale agreement, Liam Cosgrave announces in the Dail that the Irish government accepts the gerrymandered partition of Ireland: "The Irish Government fully accepted and solemnly declared that there could be no change in the status of Northern Ireland until a majority of the people of Northern Ireland desired a change in that status" and states it will no longer "indulge in essentially arid and potentially divisive arguments as to the rights and wrongs of historic events now long past"
- 13 March 1974: Benn's first speech as minister in the Commons "The prospects of national advantage that may accrue through the development of North Sea and Celtic Sea gas and oil are encouraging, but it would be foolish for any of us to suppose that all that has to be done is to mark time until we are saved by an oil bonanza which will return us to an era of automatic prosperity. Everybody recognises that Britain must concentrate on exports and on building a strong industrial base, without which we cannot furnish those exports. I must tell the House frankly that we cannot now count upon earlier estimates of an increase of 12% to 14% in manufacturing investment to be realised this year. Even if the lower figure of 12 per cent. had been reached it would only have restored the position to that level which we had in 1970, when the last Labour Government left office. ... the characteristic of the past

three months has been a breakdown in confidence in the country, which was due— this is the argument we put forward and adhered to— to the view the Government adopted towards workpeople and their problems over a wide range of policy. I have no intention of repeating the tragedy of the long and damaging confrontation with labour which has occurred over the past three years by setting out on a long and equally damaging confrontation with the CBI and the management of British industry... it is central to my argument that the most difficult industrial issues and the necessary adjustments that everyone in Britain must make can be made only after the most detailed and painstaking joint discussion... Workers up to and including skilled industrial management, and Government, with their even wider responsibilities to the nation, are inextricably bound up together, and the relationship between all three must reflect that reality."

It is a plea for 'time' and incorporation: "Bringing the workers into industrial discussions and planning at Government level *alongside* management is a much bigger task than might appear, and it will take time. Consultative arrangements on this scale do not now exist. As they come into operation, they will necessarily affect the flow of industrial decisions ... It might be argued that if workers who are likely to be affected by a wide range of industrial decisions are really to be consulted before those decisions are reached, the pace of decision making will be slowed down but [it is] more likely to be *acceptable*."

Who knows what would have happened if some of the skill and energy generated by the Clydeside shipyard workers during their campaign for the right to work had been available more directly to influence Government decisions about the shipbuilding industry, or had been released to serve that industry much earlier still?

"[Industry] Bill would, for example, give to the Government, amongst other things, the power to obtain information and to make it more generally available, the power to make industrial decision making more accountable, the power in the national interest to prevent foreign take-overs and the power to put in an official trustee to assume temporary control of any company which fails to meet its responsibilities to its workers, its customers or the community.

"the proposals to introduce planning agreements with major industrial enterprises... are also clearly in the national interest if we mean to harness our productive potential to the urgent tasks of industrial renewal."

"the proposals for the extension of public ownership [are for] industries where the present structure either condemns them to disorganised decline or hampers their prospects of long-term expansion and development. We are certainly not committed to the forms of public ownership which have been followed in the past, since neither the great public corporations nor the private company status of Rolls-Royce (1971) seem to us to constitute the ultimate wisdom of public sector management. The National Enterprise Board... is one such new form of public ownership which merits serious consideration"

John Stonehouse, Labour MP: "In France, for instance, we have seen how a Government have been able to pull up their country's aircraft industry almost by the bootstraps, after the war, to a position where its export performance has been extraordinary. We could have a better performance from our aircraft industry if we were to put more behind it."

- 13 March 1974: "Frank McElhone said the right-wing of the Labour Party was delighted [with Benn's first speech] I am under heavy pressure from him to move to the Right." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 13 March 1974: Merlyn Rees welcomes Cosgrave's decision: "I very much welcome, therefore, the statement which has been made by Mr Cosgrave, which recognizes that the factual position of Northern Ireland is that it is within the United Kingdom and solemnly affirms that this position cannot be changed except by a decision of the majority of the people of Northern Ireland. This is the position which is clearly set out in the Northern Ireland Constitution Act." Conservative shadow minister William Pym "There can be no cause for anyone to doubt the good faith of the Government of the Irish Republic."
- 13-23 March 1974: Queen flies to Bali to join Prince Philip on Royal yacht Britannia, then tours the country with aide-de-camps from the Indonesian military. The visit takes place to the background of continuing military arrests in connection with protests against the government during the visit of Japanese Prime Minister Tanaka in January. Army special forces and police maintain a high presence throughout.
- 13 March 1974: Bank of England agrees that all local authority bonds should be issued in the same form and quoted on the London Stock Exchange.
- 13 March 1974: Samuel Macdonald Ltd. at Parkend Industrial Estate, Stornoway, announces bankruptcy and closes the plant. The workforce of 30 is made redundant.

- 14 March 1974: Michael Somare having addressed the Australian Institute of Directors' national conference says renegotiation of the [Rio Tinto Zinc] Bougainville copper agreement will certainly occur soon: "I think you would expect a country to be exploited to a certain extent. But you will not find Papua New Guinea being run by multinational corporations like other countries, including Australia.... "It has been obvious to me and my Government for some time that in today's circumstances the agreement is grossly unfair to us. 'This was made dramatically plain to the general public when last year's profits wore announced."
- 14 March 1974: Samuel MacDonald Ltd. workforce including shop steward Enayat Rawhani begin a work-in occupation.
- 14 March 1974: Exiled author Alexander Solzhenitsyn moves into a large 3-storey home he has bought in the exclusive Zurichberg suburb in Zurich.
- 14 March 1974: Prince Charles examines why he attends foreign receptions, and wishes for a different class of consuls across the US: "I strongly believe it is absolutely true that they are the Navy's best peacetime advertisement. A surprising amount can be achieved as a result of a successful reception. Most of what is achieved is invisible, but in terms of prestige gained, political contacts made and atmosphere engendered, it is invaluable... I only wish we were represented by higher calibre people in places like San Diego, Los Angeles, Hawaii etc.... it can't do much for our image abroad."
- 15 March 1974: Prince Charles attends another cocktail party on HMS Jupiter, docked in the US "a vast horde of Captains and Admirals came on board accompanied by their overpowering wives who came rushing up to me... [everyone] seemed to be swept like water towards a plug" to him. "20 minutes of intense hand-shaking and elbow-clutching and moustache-twitching until I shot out from within the ring of people and again found the room practically deserted"
- 16 March 1974: An attempted military ouster against Caetano fails as only the 5th Infantry Regiment at Caldas da Rainha take action, all participants are imprisoned.
- 16 March 1974: Nearly 70 of the 4 March strike participants are dismissed from Leyland South Africa. All are assembly line workers, and 14 of them are the works committee of the AMAWU union, that had begun as a six-man cell.

- 16 March 1974: Those who liberated Jan Vermeer's The Guitar Player 3 weeks ago as a bargaining chip for assistance to the poor, write to <a href="Times">The Times</a> that the work will be destroyed unless action is taken. Bargaining demands, that included distribution of food to the poor in Grenada and then simply the transfer to Ireland of Dolours and Marian Price to end their painful ongoing hunger strike in HMP Brixton, have been rejected: "All we have established is that a capitalist society values its treasures more than humanity nothing is more lunatic than the fact that the theft of the painting received more publicity than the deaths of your soldiers"
- 16 March 1974 pm: Prince Charles spends time with Walter Annenberg, publishing owner and US ambassador to Britain, at his vast retreat in Palm Springs. He has dinner with Ronald Reagan, the Governor of California, and his wife Nancy. He plays golf on the Annenbergs' 1,000-acre private golf course endlessly watered in the middle of the desert planted with fully grown trees, since trees do not grow in the desert. The Annenbergs are famed for their full luxury renovation to the 35-room US ambassador's home, Winfield House, Regent's Park, costing well over \$1mil. Annenberg later introduces Reagan to Thatcher in 1975. He offers the Shah and his family his retreat when they are overthrown in 1979, and becomes in 1984 an honorary president of Operation Raleigh, which Prince Charles is also a patron of.
- 17 March 1974: <u>The Observer</u> reports a government-source leak that it has reached a secret agreement with TUC allowing the Heath government's controversial statutory wage restraint Stage Three to remain in force for 6 months.
- 17 March 1974: Samuel MacDonald Ltd.'s managing director, Samuel MacDonald, cuts the electricity supply and brings in loyal removal men to break through the occupation and ferret away patters and light machinery. The occupation ends.
- 17 March 1974: Chairman of Standard Life, urges industry friends to stop publicising the use of particular life assurance schemes as means of avoiding taxation: "I should wish that some of our more influential commentators might pause to consider whether in commending these schemes they are not simply providing ammunition for those who would like to see the insurance industry more closely controlled, or even nationalised, to the detriment of millions of policyholders for whom such schemes have little or no relevance."
- 17 March 1974: ALP Minister for Defence, Lance Barnard, announces that USA, Britain, New Zealand and Australia will participate in the largest ever joint multinational defence exercise held in Australia, Kangaroo I, in June 1974. It will feature 8 RN

warships and Royal Marines. He states: "We are maintaining full support to the Five Power arrangements, and the two RAAF Mirage Squadrons in Malaysia... they help Malaysia and Singapore in developing their air defence capability."

17 March 1974: Editorial comment in Kenya's semi-official <u>Sunday Nation</u> shows its: "the whole political tenor of the (proposed) Pan-African congress is leftist, and the choice of Dar-es-Salaam as the venue for the meeting is no accident". It opposes any invitation to Cuba (but not Trinidad & Tobago): "how can the government of Cuba be invited?"

18 March 1974: "Q: How many members of the Chilean armed forces and police are at present being trained in Great Britain? Bill Rodgers: About 75 members of the Chilean Navy are being trained"

March 1974: Employment Minister Foot announces the 18 importance of stamping down immediate wage increases, except for the miners, who have fought a bitter national strike. Government continues the Heath legislation for wage restraint: "The position is this, governing the interim period. The Government intend shortly to introduce legislation to give them power to abolish the Pay Board and the associated statutory pay controls. It will be the Government's intention to exercise this power with Parliament's approval, after discussions with the TUC, the CBI ... I have discussed the position ... with the Chairman of the Pay Board, and he has confirmed the willingness of the members of the board to continue in operation for a transitional period. It must be understood that until we can repeal the legislation the Pay Board will have a continuing statutory duty to enforce the pay code....it must be recognised that under the terms of the existing legislation I have no power to issue consents save where the circumstances are truly exceptional, as they certainly were in the miners' case. So those who have already made agreements on the basis of the current arrangements will be expected to stick to them; and those making settlements in the transitional period will similarly have to keep in line with the rules of the Pay Code.... I have also asked the Pay Board to continue with the existing advisory references. The board expects to report on Government scientists in the next two or three weeks, but it is just not possible for it to report on London weighting until the middle of the year, although we have urged the board to speed it up as much as possible and arrangements will be made for its completion. The problems of London weighting manifestly require independent examination, and I would urge all those concerned to await its outcome.... we certainly want a smooth transition to voluntary methods which takes account of the need to contain inflation and to secure the orderly growth of incomes.

Without this, excessive pay increases could shatter all our other policies on rents, food subsidies, pensions and the rest. It therefore follows that pay settlements in the rest of this pay round should be at a level which does not go beyond the many settlements already made."

- 18 March 1974: <u>The Guardian</u> welcomes the "£3500m international loan which Mr Harold Lever, at Mr Wilson's elbow in No. 10 Downing Street, is reputed to be negotiating" where "setting up of this deal probably accounts for Labour's moderate image more than does the precarious parliamentary situation. Mr Wilson has learned a thing or two since 1964, including how not to alarm international creditors."
- 19 March 1974: Prince Charles reflects on meeting Ava Gardner and Barbra Streisand among others. Gardner: "has rather gone to seed now" Streisand "my only pin-up... she appeared to be rather nervous and kept asking me endless questions in a rather tightlipped fashion" in front of photographers, then in a corner of the set Streisand and Charles "gossiped for about 15 minutes ... she is devastatingly attractive and with a great deal of sex appeal (all based on one film!) but I still contend she has great sex appeal after meeting her... [although] the attractiveness has waned a little" (Prince Charles' Diary). Charles is "guest of honor ... at a cocktail party hosted by executives of Universal Studios and later met singer-actress Barbra Streisand while she was recording a song for a new movie. He also lunched with movie stars Ava Gardner and Charlton Heston and met stars Genevieve Bujold, Telly Savalas, Jack Webb and Lee Majors. He also watched a stunt show on a Hollywood studio back lot. The prince is in Southern California while his ship. HMS Jupiter, is docked at San Diego as part of a world cruise. The prince's meeting with Miss Streisand was anything but a surprise since Miss Streisand's recording company had arranged the meeting alter learning that Prince Charles had long wanted to meet the songstress." (AP)
- 19-23 March 1974: Queen, Duke of Edinburgh and Lord Mountbatten join the British Ambassador to leave Jakarta aboard the royal yacht Britannia and sail around the Indonesian isles through the Java Sea.
- 20 March 1974: Merlyn Rees proposes new operation procedures for police and army units with the Irish Republic counterparts to Garret FitzGerald: "Could we reach agreement that the police and army on each side of the border should be authorised to make contact and cooperate with whichever force (police or army) was most readily available on the other side"

- 20 March 1974: Report released shows over 65% of pupils in primary schools, and 35% of pupils in secondary schools in Scotland are taught in classes deemed officially overcrowded. Over 90% of children aged 3-5 are unable gain access to a nursery place.
- 20 March 1974: A gunman attempts to kidnap Princess Anne from her car in The Mall. He is arrested and later imprisoned.
- 20 March 1974: A meeting is held in Brixton Town Hall to start a campaign for the Brockwell Park Three.
- 20 March 1974: RUC shoot dead 2 members of the British Army Michael Herbert (31) and Michael Cotton (36), both members of the British Army, whilst they sit in a parked British Army civilian type van in Mowhan, near Markethill.
- 21 March 1974: POA Scotland Chairman A.D. Adams pays tribute to prison officers who have prevented the escape of Scottish prisoners in 1973.
- 21 March 1974: An armed raid on a branch of Hambros Bank in central London captures £350,000 of diamonds.
- 21 March 1974: 4 are killed when a top-range RAF Sea King helicopter crashes into cliffs on a return flight to Cullross naval air station at after a training exercise in Falmouth Bay.
- 21 March 1974: Scottish Aviation announces the sale of 5 singleengine Bulldog training aircraft to Jordan. A £150,000 contract includes supplies of spares, pilot and engineer training with at the Jordanian Royal Academy of Aeronautics in Amman. Scottish Aviation has sold 260 Bulldogs at over £6m. Representative states "We are delighted to get any new orders but this is our first from the Middle East. We hope it is a starter in a potentially big market. People tend to be interested in what Jordan does in buying arms and certainly there is other Middle East interest in the Bulldog." Scottish Aviation describes ongoing investment to improve the plane with "teeth" - modifying the trainer aircraft so it can carry machine-guns and rockets. Any government interested in aircraft as an aid to "policing" might be encouraged, it is hoped. Flight trials have been carried out with underwiring loads and firing trials with ammunition are ongoing. A high performance version with a retractable undercarriage is also on the drawing board. Other sales to Jordan over the year include Centurion tanks, Jordan's holdings at the end of 1974 are at 250 compared to 150 in 1971.
- 21 March 1974: Chairman of Britain International Stores & Pricerite, states: "Employees must surely realise that successful businesses are not only the best employers but in the end the only employers if profits are restricted for too long, permanent damage will be inflicted on the means of creating wealth."
- 21 March 1974: "The government is in an interesting position. Harold depends on Michael, Michael brings with him Jack Jone's loyalty and that triumvirate is the most important group in the

- whole government... Harold thoroughly enjoys this risky political position because it means he can do what he likes; so do the right-wing members of the Cabinet because they can always use the Liberals' parliamentary strength as an excuse for delaying any programme" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 21 March 1974: Tony Benn secures the maintenance of the Concorde programme in Cabinet "I said 'we need time and possibly a select committee... there were the relations with the trade union movement; the necessity to keep good faith; and the good name of the Government." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 22 March 1974: Sir Kenneth Keith, chairman of Rolls Royce "went on to describe his attitude to the future of the company... the need for RB-211-524, to the fact that Bristol was such a headache with so many strikes.... He made some reference to 'that ass Scanlon'." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 23 March 1974: A. Mohuddin Ahmad, Pakistan's representative in Scotland, the Pakistan Vice-Consul, gives an interview to mark 34 years of the Pakistan resolution. He states: "Quite a number of British industries ask for Pakistanis as workmen, because they are good workmen prepared to work full shifts... Many of the Pakistani men who have come here have worked for as much as 10 years in order to save enough money to bring over their families."
- 23 March 1974: Courtaulds profits for the 1973-4 year rising by over 70% to a record of £116.3m. Courtaulds like ICI does not see its output much reduced by the 3-day week, making good any drop in mainland demand by switching output to the export market at favourable prices. Exports abroad increase by over 50%, while sales by volume in Britain only 13%. It sets up both firms, Britain's preeminent giants in chemicals-processing-textiles to strongly resist moves for nationalisation or the attempt for nationalisation.
- 23 March 1974: After having received Kaunda's briefing about his fears over FRELIMO, Tiny Rowland meets at the Savoy Hotel, Dr Marquard DeVilliers, board-member board of Lonrho SA and confidant to Vorster. Rowland and DeVilliers believe in drawing Zambia closer to Rhodesia and South Africa.
- 23 March 1974: Maltese Prime Minister Mintoff on an official visit expresses dismay at the early draw-down, against previous promises, of Britain's base purely because it will mean significant lost revenues. Britain is keen to retain its bases on Cyprus and Borneo but not Malta.

- 24 March 1974: <u>Sunday Telegraph</u> reports a leak that Callaghan has agreed the sale of military vessels to militarist Chile. "Eric Heffer rang me tonight, horrified because we were going to supply warships to Chile. He said he was going to write to the Prime Minister."
- 25 March 1974: Budget Cabinet. Healey "can't... introduc[e] a wealth tax this year. He was strongly urged by Jim Callaghan and Harold Lever not to upset international confidence by any action on the gift tax... Number 10 Downing Street is free to look at the Budget... the Treasury will not let anyone else in and that includes cabinet Ministers." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 25 March 1974: Callaghan to Benn: 'The warships are finished. What are we going to do with them? We hope that Chile will become a democratic country and this is a way of influencing her.' (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 25 March 1974: Callaghan has received warning of an imminent militarist-rightist coup in Cyprus. (FCO 9/1945 no5, 'Relations between Cyprus and USSR', no681, James Callaghan to the FCO, 25 Mar 1974)
- 25 March 1974: Ian Smith on guerrillas in the Portuguese colonies "We are concerned, as I think the people in Mozambique and Portugal are, at the manner in which the terrorists do seem to have gained ground. However, I am satisfied that it is the intention of the Portuguese Government to get on top of this problem and eventually push the terrorists out and we must all work to this end" He states a change of political situation in Portugal would be negative for Rhodesia but "I am happy to say I don't visualize that sort of thing taking place."
- 26 March 1974:  $1^{\rm st}$  Budget. Chancellor introduces a few minor increases in taxation on personal consumption, but no wealth tax. VAT at 10% is imposed on confectionery, soft drinks, ice-cream and crisps.

A large series of price increases. Electricity to domestic users will rise on average by 30% from August. Rail fares rise on average by 12.5% for passengers and 15% for freight from summer. Postage rises by 1p. Telephones charges are increased between 15%-20%. Steel prices are increased by an average of 25%.

Since the changes do not attack concentrated wealth, financial markets fall as a result of a slight increase in corporation tax but do do not enter 'meltdown'.

Bank of England, in conjunction with the clearing banks, is to borrow for the government \$2.5 billion, the largest loan ever raised in the international capital market, in the Euro-Dollar (petrodollar) market.

"[Budget] on balance, did very little for the lowest paid workers and, if anything, errs on the side of deflationary caution rather than the other way about." (Institute of Workers' Control)

26 March 1974: Police issue warnings of an 'imminent terrorist attack'. A police officer says: "Our information is that 14 Palestinians may have been specially trained in Australian waters in the conduct of sub-aqua attacks on [British] Navy Ships." Police, military police and armed soldiers at are at all British airports.

26 March 1974: Princess Anne continues her trip to BOAR at Lubbecke, Federal Germany among the 14<sup>th</sup>/20th King's Hussars, where she is honorary Colonel-in-Chief. Princess Anne drives around in a Land Rover watching 30 tanks and 200 soldiers carry out combat exercises. She then pilots a large Scorpion tank over a short circuit over farm-track, a ploughed field, and through woodland. 6 military police with machine guns keep watch to perfect the PR exercise.

27 March 1974: NEC Meeting. "Joan Maynard asked about warships for Chile and Jim said it couldn't be raised there. [Later, Callaghan to Benn] 'Look, about this Chile thing. I don't understand it. It is in line with what we did with South Africa. I mentioned it to Harold and he said to go ahead.'"(Tony Benn's Diary)

27 March 1974: "It sounds to me a good, fair, just Budget, an attempt to solve inflation and to help people who suffer most from it." (Michael Palin's Diary)

27 March 1974: Jocelyn Stevens, managing director and deputy chairman of Beaverbrook Newspapers, says the decision to end production of Scottish editions and transfer all printing to Manchester is inevitable otherwise it will be the end of the <u>Daily</u> Express and Sunday Express. He calls for a total wage freeze until November and warns: "Our assets are the ground we work on, and they are not going to save us. We have a desperate shortage of ready cash and the banks are pot going to, save us. The position of Beaverbrook Newspapers is not going to be solved simply by the savage cutting off of one of our limbs. Our profitability is now by the newsprint manufacturers of Canada Scandinavia. Yesterday's Budget will cost the company an extra £750,000. So this very day the operating costs of the group has risen by £1,750,000 in a full year. Since Beaverbrook Newspapers depend so much on newspapers for our revenue -99.76% of our total income—we are particularly vulnerable. I do not think anyone in Beaverbrook Newspapers deserves more money from the company in its present financial state. It is for this reason that I am asking you to accept a wage freeze, across the board"

Department heads and union officials listen without complaint. His promise: "everyone in Beaverbrook Newspapers has the right to expect security in their jobs" is later broken.

27 March 1974: Government announces, with fanfare, it is restricting some aid/development projects to Chile. The projects affected are a £65,000 programme of training experts about land reform and £144,000 on education aid. These sums have, naturally, largely helped British aid consultants, but they will end. Existing aid projects work on a desalination plant and on a nuclear power station, is allowed to continue. The decision on completing the orders for Chilean warships built in Clydeside and Newcastle is deferred. It is a cynical exercise 'aid' that does not assist British firms directly and immediately is cut off, but infrastructure for Chile that boosts British profitability remains.

27 March 1974: A petition largely from music fans containing over 60,000 signatures requesting a pardon for John Lennon over his 1968 drugs conviction, is delivered to Wilson at 10 Downing Street. 27 March 1974: Tulse Hill Students' Collective organise a meeting attended by 70 Tulse Hill school students to help organise protests for the Brockwell Park Three.

- 28 March 1974: Cabinet Defence Secretary Mason announces the plan to carry on arming militarists well into the future 'we had orders worth £200million in Latin America... we would be regarded as very unreliable if we reneged' (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 28 March 1974: Scottish Aviation, Prestwick, intensifies lobbying to ensure sales of its 'Bulldog' trainer aircraft to Chile are not blocked under the terms of the government review on Chile. The completed aircraft are now ready for transport.
- 28 March 1974: Foreign Office agrees to permit US U2 intelligence aircraft missions from RAF Akrotiri, Cyprus declaring themselves "anxious to be as helpful as we can" to Nixon, avoiding the Heath-Nixon fallout of Oct 1973. ('Visit of US Secretary of State: US Request for Reconnaissance Flight Facilities in Cyprus', FCO 82/441) 28 March 1974: "CBI meeting with the Prime Minister... Michael Clapham said there was deep disquiet about the Budget... no incentive to invest, nor to export; nothing to curb inflation... company profits would fall and the investment squeeze would tighten." Benn's conclusion: "They want confidence which is essential for investment then they refuse to invest." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 29 March 1974: Hawker Siddeley "HS125 jet to Paris... with the ambassador Sir Edward Tomkins, to see Achille-Fould, the French Minister for Transport... it was quite clear that the French are determined to go on with Concorde." (Tony Benn's Diary)

30 March 1974: A 500-strong demonstration is held in support of the Brockwell Park Three. Later in the evening a public meeting is held.

30 March 1974: 5 people are arrested in Kent and kept detained over assisting illegal entry to Britain. They are not granted any bail under conditions imposed by Faversham Magistrate's Court until 1 May 1974.

31 March 1974: Frank Stagg and Michael Gaughan begin water-only hunger strike in support of demands for political status and to return to prisons in Ireland.

April 1974: <u>NATO Review</u> article urges "It is extremely important that the Community develops into a political and consequently a military entity."

April 1974: Lancaster University holds a programme and summit called 'A Seminar on Revolutionary Warfare' for 26 army officers, mostly Majors including Major-General Purdon, two RN officers, four RAF officers, 9 senior regional police officer including 3 Chief Constables of forces, 9 Lancaster University academics including 6 professors, and other academics from elsewhere. It discusses "industrial guerrillas, student activists" etc. (Bunyan, Political Police in Britain, )

April 1974: Walter Rodney issues a denunciation of some certain trends exemplified by the 6<sup>th</sup> Pan-African Congress scheduled in Jun 1974: "The ruling class in each given British Caribbean territory usually takes pains to create a 'national' identity, which amounts to little more than glorifying the fact that some Africans were sent to slave plantations in Jamaica or Trinidad rather than Barbados or Antigua... On the basis of this 'nationalism'... is continue[d] the former British colonial policy of preventing trade unionists and progressives from moving freely amongst the people of the Caribbean" This means, in effect strikes on one island can be easily broken by supplies shipped in from another island, since trade unionists cannot often make the case in person to those on another island" .... "they operate against (unarmed) national liberation movements inside the Caribbean while fully proclaiming support of African liberation movements in Southern Africa. This latter posture, along with other pro-African rhetoric, was forced on several West Indian leaders because of popular sympathy for the African cause... posturing and rhetoric are extremely useful on jaunts to Africa in their quest for class alliances"

He stresses the basic orientation of African and Caribbean states: "apart from the liberation movements... delegates will seek to

retain Pan-Africanism within its present parameters of inter-state co-operation, based on the persistence of the territorial units and of petty bourgeoisie control.... Indeed, most African governments are at the moment scrambling to become more deeply involved in the European Common Market. ... neutrality and unity of nationalism is illusory ... in practice particular classes or strata capture nationalist movements and chart their ideological and political direction. Pan-Africanism today has to recognize such situations... if it is to be a progressive internationalist force."

- 1 April 1974: Air Chief Marshall Sir Andrew Humphrey is appointed Chief of the Air Staff.
- 1 April 1974: Foreign Minister Callaghan aggressively asserts British interests at a meeting of EEC Foreign Ministers in Luxembourg. He has practised his act in front of the FCO with Britain's EEC country ambassadors, to whom he gives a copy of the Labour manifesto, featuring the promise of renegotiation; he says he will "negotiate to succeed". It means securing regional assistance funds to help boost unprofitable parts of British industry, and securing 'access' to the EEC trading area for selected pro-British Commonwealth partners.
- 1 April 1974: 13 years since official medical approval of 'the pill' in 1960-1, NHS begins introduction of free-to-access family planning services.
- 1 April 1974: Sir Ray Brookes, GKN chairman, Henry Grunfeld, chief of Warburg's bank, Jasper Hollom, Deputy-Governor of the Bank of England visit Benn "about the imminent collapse of Alfred Herbert." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 1 April 1974: "had a talk to Hugh Brown and Frank McElhone about the possible support for a feasibility study" for a workers' cooperative replacement of Beaverbook's operations in Scotland. (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 2 April 1974: French Foreign Minister Jobert announces that Britain's possible withdrawal from EEC is a risk for Britain but not for the EEC.
- 2 April 1974: Wilson writes to the New Zealand government attacking its imposition of rather mild restraints on British immigrants to New Zealand. Jack Marshall, leader of the opposition in New Zealand Opposition states: "British immigrants are stall welcome, and there must be a continuing and substantial place for them in New -Zealand's immigration policy." suggesting it will sustain favourable terms in the new permits system in New Zealand.
- 2 April 1974: A 19-year-old apprentice electrician at the firm James Johnston Ltd is killed at work in Elgin.
- 2 April 1974: "lunch with George Woodcock [about] how we should consult the unions and he said 'go and see Len Murray, then talk to

the Executive and ask them to agree that you should contact the shop floor. Go at it patiently and slowly" (Tony Benn's Diary) Caution, caution.

- 3 April 1974: As agreed by the Brockwell Three campaign, around 1,000 school pupils participate in a school strike abandoning classrooms. A rally and march is held past the Lambeth Court, a police station and Tulse Hill School where another 100 pupils join the protest.
- 3 April 1974: Glasgow Herald urges investment to its capital-rich middle-class readers since profitability is on the horizon: "the idea that shares, or, to be more precise, the idea that certain share sectors had been marked down too far, could prove infectious. ... [for instance] shipping and insurance broking which may be little affected by Mr Healey. In the case of shipping for example, the increase in corporation tax will make little difference simply because investment allowances ensure that, in any case, shippers will pay little tax."
- 3 April 1974: "Eric Heffer had started instructions to make Merseyside into a special development area, together with Chesterfield... and also Leith... I had to say to him 'Look Eric, you mentioned it yesterday, but I think we will have to consider it collectively before you initiate it... you see the point, Eric it is a big expenditure' "

[Heffer:] 'Fifteen million pounds'

[Benn:] "I know but we have to consider it against the context of possible substantial cuts in public expenditure that the Chancellor of the Exchequer is proposing." (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 3 April 1974: US House of Representatives approves construction of the military base on the British island of Diego Garcia.
- 3 April 1974: Stroessner's Paraguay signs a treaty with apartheid South Africa for cooperation in science and technology.

4 April 1974: Cabinet on statement on Clay Cross that "there could be no public funds to help the surcharged councillors... it was suggested we strengthen the statement [over] law and order. Jim was strong on the law and order line, as were Roy and Reg. Eric Varley said most of the people at Clay Cross were Trotskyites." Benn's only contribution is to adopt the Conservative solution to the anti-internment rent strike solution in northern Ireland "they are being let off if they pay the arrears.. Why can't we do that with Clay Cross? You make martyrs of these people and even the Tories were clever enough not to let the Pentonville Five become martyrs; they used the Official Solicitor to solve the dilemma.'... I lost the argument, but at least I retained my self-respect." (Tony Benn's Diary)

4 April 1974: Wilson announces fines and political bans for Clay Cross councillors will not be lifted: "My Right Hon. friends and I have always made it clear that the law of the land, however unfair, however divisive, must be obeyed". He states: "the divisive effect on local democracy caused by the Housing Finance Acts should be resolved with fairness to all concerned, including fairness to those who reluctantly implemented the Act". These Left Labour activists have their savings stripped by the courts. Environment Minister Tony Crosland later says of the episode: "We respect the rule of law".

4 April 1974: Following death of over 70 migrant Malawian miners in a poorly maintained aircraft, President Banda unilaterally suspends labour exports to South Africa.

5 April 1974: "I was particularly interested in getting clearance from [Len Murray] to see the General Secretaries *and* the people on the shop floor about industrial democracy.[Murray's response] 'You'd better be careful about that. Don't interfere because we are handling it.'" (Tony Benn's Diary)

5 April 1974: A bomb placed without warning beside the Cuban embassy, London is defused. Right-wing FLNC later claims responsibility for the attack.

5-6 April 1974: Wilson attends memorial services for French President Georges Pompidou, the former Prime Minister who planned the new post-Algerian independence immigration regime on a basis of "We must not let ourselves be invaded by the Algerian labour force, even if it pretends to be harkis. If we are not careful all the Algerians will settle in France." (1963 in C'était de Gaulle, Alain de Peyferitte's memoirs). He later passes legislation proscribing 11 organisations to assist the neo-Gaullist counterattack in response to May 1968.

"A report of Harold's meeting with Willy Brandt... at Pompidou's funeral... Harold had said he could get what he wanted for Britain without an amendment of the Treaty of Rome or the Treaty of Accession." (Tony Benn's Diary, 17 Apr 1974)

6 April 1974: 4 Westland Wessex helicopters, piloted by RAF officers from No.72 Squadron, arrive at RAF Salalah in Oman to assist the Sultan's efforts to hold a new military line - the Hornbeam Line - against the guerrillas. They perform SOAF [Sultan of Oman's Air Force] duties, airlifting materials and troops, and act as guerrilla spotters and forward air controllers. Their role in the SOAF lasts until the end of Nov 1974.

6 April 1974: Bertrand Russell Peace Tribunal on Latin America concludes that the Brazilian, Uruguayan, Bolivian and Chilean military regimes are responsible for crimes against humanity in their campaigns against popular mobilisation.

Metalworkers' leader Lula describes the war in the following terms

6 April 1974: <u>Socialist Worker</u> reports "Strachan builds Ford van bodies under contract. As part of rationalisation plans the workers were given one minute's notice. After three days of picketing they occupied the plant, to stop £2 million worth of car bodies and machinery being taken away. When management became a nuisance they got rid of them. Ford shop stewards had agreed that any Strachan vans that got out would be blacked. A delegation to [Labour Left] Michael Meacher, a new Labour minister, had been told the firm had a right to sack them. Said Malcolm Vass [AUEW Eastleigh branch steward]: "Social Contracts mean nothing if they can treat workers as they have treated us at Strachans.""

7 April 1974: Sunday Telegraph starts up the campaign that later enters overdrive 'the Labour government (treacherously, in some versions) abandoning the British soldier doing his loyal duty etc': Article is sub-headed 'With the troops in Ulster's ugly world of terrorism' under the main heading 'Anger of army that feels betrayed': "To walk along Belfast's Royal Avenue today is like walking in the past - along Ledra Street in Nicosia when EOKA's murderers were at work. Venturing into the Bogside in Derry is like taking a patrol into Aden's Crater district, and dropping by helicopter into a border fort is like visiting a fire-base in Vietnam. So far more than 200 British soldiers have been killed while many more have been maimed. The soldiers' work is hard, their pay is low and more often than not they receive curses instead of thanks from the people for whom they are dying. There can be no surprise therefore that the average soldier is thoroughly fed up with Ireland and everything to do with it. But what surprised me was the extent and depth of the bitterness that exists among the troops, some of whom are on their fifth tour of duty in Ulster. I met a section who had just returned from an 'Eagle patrol' - lifted in by helicopter to set a snap road block. They were tired, dirty and remarkably frank. I said to them: 'Tell me what it is all about'. Their officers were present and I believe that they were also surprised at the depth of feeling that the troops displayed. Soldiers are expected to grumble, but these men genuinely felt that they were being misused and illtreated. Their complaints ranged over pay, excessively long hours, of being "forgotten", and in particular the inability of "the bloody politicians" to settle the appalling mess in which the soldiers found themselves targets of both sides ... Just as the American soldiers in Vietnam used to divide their existence between 'the Nam' and 'the World' so do the British soldiers in Ulster, with only the world outside seeming real while they lead a surrealistic existence in an unreal world punctured by the brutal reality of bombs and bullets. They feel that the people outside cannot understand this strange world of theirs and they feel cut off, forgotten. The impression they have is of people in safe England, so very close, watching their television sets, seeing the explosions and the bodies, saying, 'How terrible', and then turning to something really interesting like the price of petrol."

- 8 April 1974: Tony Benn muses "When the British people discover what it really means they will oppose it and we have got to set out our alternative which is harmonisation with Europe, a free-trade area and cooperation on an ad-hoc basis" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 8 April 1974: Labour Left Peter Shore declares, in defence of links with apartheid South Africa: "I do not believe that the present volume of our trade with South Africa is having any deleterious effect on our prospects of trade with African countries to the north." This is the key criteria that leads to Britain refusing to veto U.N. sanctions later on. Nigeria by 1977 has begun inspecting foreign investor firms as to whether they have links to the apartheid regime or not.
- 8 April 1974: "A lucky coup is that NME want to issue 400,000 Python flimsies [thin records] as a give-away with their paper" (Michael Palin's Diary)
- 9 April 1974: Cabinet on the Chile warships. Callaghan "said it would require legislation to stop the release, and how would you get the Chilean sailors off the ships already doing trials off the English coast." Benn "raised the question of repair and overhaul of Rolls Royce Engines at East Kilbride for the Hawker Hunters we had sold to the Chilean government. We lost. Only two of us spoke against it, Michael Foot and myself." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 9 April 1974: "TUC Steel Industry Consultative Committee with Dai Davies, John Boyd, Moss Evans" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 9 April 1974: Defence Minister Mason explains there will be no change in status with Oman "Volunteers from the Services are seconded on loan to the forces of the Sultan of Oman under the provisions of an exchange of letters signed in 1958."
- 9 April 1974: Government announces "We do not at present provide bilateral aid to North Vietnam". For South Vietnam, there is "a bilateral technical assistance programme costing some £80,000 per year and are providing £1 million capital aid for the development of urban water and village electricity supplies."

In Saigon the standard British practice of assistance to the US continues: "short of military assistance we were there to give them [US military] everything we could, including moral support. And we wished to trade with Vietnam. There were a tremendous number of United States dollars swirling around. The whole economy of South Vietnam was floating on a raft of American dollars and to some extent we were able to profit from this. It is rather amazing that all the oil for the huge American army there was supplied by Shell, which was quite something. But we did a certain amount of business with the Vietnamese. And lastly the embassy had more than its fair share of military and RAF people. ... we had an awful lot of RAF people there. We had three colonels who were looking at the war from what you might call the technical point of view; writing reports on things like the use of the B52 bomber in a tactical capacity, and the use of mass deployment of helicopters and all that sort of thing. They were technical chaps. We also had our Military Attaché, who was a full colonel. We had an assistant Military Attaché and of course they all had to have their supporting staff. The Embassy was enormous [but] it was very small compared to the American Embassy on the other side of the road. As Head of Chancery you are in charge of the political side of the Embassy ... I used myself to brief the British members of the press corps once a week." (John Margetson's Recollections)

- 10 April 1974: John Lennon and May Pang move into a new rented house by the Pacific Coast Highway, Santa Monica. Monthly rent is \$5,000.
- 10 April 1974: Sir Hugh Fraser, chairman of George Outram Ltd. joins the working party to set up a newspaper as successor to the bankrupted Beaverbrook Newspapers operations. A meeting is held with businessmen, bankers, representatives of churches, STUC, Ministry of Industry and advertising firms, Glasgow University. George Outram and William Gray, Lord Provost of Glasgow: "The meeting was unanimous about the desirability of having a newspaper produced by those persons made redundant by the closure of Beaverbrook's". It will ask for state assistance.
- 10 April 1974: "On picketing Michael Foot said we were bound by the High Court decision that pickets couldn't stop cars to get their message across.... second point was that we were going to set up a tribunal to deal with workers sacked by... closed shop [to defend strikebreakers and those who seek trade union advantages without membership] (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 10 April 1974: "Under a pledge of the utmost secrecy we were told it was decided to surround Belfast and prevent any cars entering." (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 10 April 1974: Heffer reads "the text of a speech... saying he understood and shared the disquiet" over the warships to Chile. "We went over the speech carefully and I got him to remove the words 'and share'." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 10 April 1974: Henry Cooper, promoting his ghost-written autobiography, agrees with a question that boxing is becoming an entertainment for untaxed expense-account purposes, out of reach of its working-class core.
- 10 April 1974: Pinochet moves to reorder Chilean armed forces to promote personal loyalists, 4 Generals are pensioned off.
- 11 April 1974: Bank of England lowers MLR to 12%, and clearing banks' base rates are lowered to 12%. This increases the prizes on offer to investing firms, since the cost of borrowing is lower than ever.
- 11 April 1974: Tony Benn to Sir Anthony Part: 'I am not going to jail any industrialists. I am not going to fine them.'(Tony Benn's Diary)
- 11 April 1974: Eric Varley explains energy policy in the New Scientist: "Nuclear energy will come along. And a great big boost will have to be given [ie public financing] to nuclear energy. There are two stages there. There is the stage where you raise steam for electricity generation. Then there will be further development of 'heat systems' and district heating schemes associated with nuclear generation. ... Take the Chunnel: the energy saving aspects of that are quite considerable. If the tunnel is an electric railway it is saving energy. It is better than a cross-channel ferry or aeroplane. That would be a positive saving if trade is going to increase between Britain and the Continent."
- 12 April 1974: Heffer gives a speech against Chile warship sales.
- 13 April 1974: "Heffer rang to say he had had a letter from the Prime Minister... telling him his speech was incompatible with his position as Minister.. Eric finds the compromises of office very difficult to take" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 13 April 1974: <u>Socialist Worker</u> publishes names of alleged blackmail victims in the 1973 mistrial of Janie Jones. It leads to a further expensive and time-consuming libel action against it.
- 14 April 1974: "I rang Frances she advised me not to make a row. 'Harold is in real trouble and rows of this kind don't do the Party any good and you ought not to be tied up with it.' I had various calls from Eric and advised him to say nothing more at all... I told [Judith

Hart] her to keep quiet, say nothing and leave it." (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 15 April 1974: PRC sources reveal that Deng Xiao-ping, PRC Vice-Premier has invited Wilson to China via David Ennals at the UN General Assembly.
- 15 April 1974: Kissinger attacks producer cartelisation, particularly OPEC, at the UN: "The organisation of one group of countries as a bloc will sooner or later produce the organisation of the potential victims into .a counter-bloc. The great issues of development can no longer be realistically perceived in terms of confrontation between the haves and have-nots, or as a struggle over the distribution of static wealth... If the weak resort to pressure, they will do so at the risk of world prosperity and thus provoke despair."
- 15 April 1974: Jack Jones supports transferring the burden of taxation onto ordinary workforces: "We recognise that many trade unionists -will have to pay more tax as a result of the Budget.
- 15 April 1974: Vice-Admiral Sir George Raper: "It is a fact that our Navy is more professionally expert now than it ever has been, and this shows up in relation to other navies. Fortunately the Navy has lost its image of officers in ships merely ordering their men to do things. This business of giving orders and ordering people about is now a very small part of the whole discipline, and what really matters is team work."
- 15 April 1974: A worker is killed when a loose overhead cable strikes the skip he is emptying in Gavieside Tip.
- 15 April 1974: Edward Britton, General Secretary NUT, pressured by a wave of local strikes in major cities including London attacks the government: "The only difference is that now it is Mr Len Murray writing to NALGO telling them not to strike against Phase Three instead of Ted Heath writing to the miners telling them not to strike.... If the money spent on two Concorde aircraft, at a cost of £1600m, had been spent on schools it would have given Britain an education system the envy of the world" He says local government reorganisation will further restrict the power of elected local authority committees, whose powers have been centralised by many council leaderships: "In all too many areas, internal jealousy within the authorities has resulted in power being taken away from education committees".
- 15 April 1974: Paris-trained Djerma aristocrat Chief of Staff Seyni Kountché, with a history of officer service in Indochina and Algeria, assumes power in Niger in a dawn military coup. His first acts are suspension of the constitution, abolition of the National Assembly and seizure of all political parties.

He remains in power until 1987 considerably assisting France's supply of uranium and adds to pressure for Britain to carry on the Namibian Rossing plan.

16 April 1974: <u>The Times</u> editorial effectively urges action against Heffer for breaking Cabinet collective responsibility.

16 April 1974: Michael Palin: "We have reached a kind of material plateau at the moment - a house, two cars, two babies. Now we have more time to think about ourselves... We go out by ourselves once a week if possible, to a cinema and a meal, and can always go to the country at the weekends if we become really cheesed off. But we're no longer the young savers, or the young home-hunters. We have a lot... I'm fond of Oak Village - with its relative peace from the motor car, and its scale, which enables you to see your neighbours often. Today I sat in the garden and read about rising house prices in the *Sunday Times*. This place is now probably worth £20,000, which is a 70% increase in four years. We are well-off by most people's standards" (Michael Palin's Diary)

## 17 April 1974:

18 April 1974: Vickers announces annual profits at £18.21m, up from £9m the previous year. Vickers owns 50% of British Aircraft Corporation. South African profits have increased from £700,000 to £1.5m. On news of this, Vickers' share prices increase by 10%, Williams Hudson, who control 24% of Vicker's equity, sees it share price increase by close to 20%. Vickers Chairman Lord Robens notes the shipbuilding wing has been poor but when naval frigates for the Brazilian navy are delivered returns will be realised.

18 April 1974: NUR Executive votes 10-9 for a one-day strike on Mon 29 Apr 1974 unless the British Railways Board fulfils promise to pay the £33m Stage Three Pay Board offer in full by that date. However union rules fixed according to a conciliationist approach require a two-thirds majority on the executive meaning no action is taken.

18 April 1974: The Times reports that in the six counties "an estimated 40 per cent of the adult and juvenile population have their names and family details on an intricate system of card indexes built up by the army. Some cards even give the colour of a family's wallpaper and a description of the picture hanging on the walls." The army later transfers the card system to a computerised nerve centre in Lisburn, Antrim, and assigns the Army Intelligence Corps to log actions, meetings and the movement of cars to and from the mainland. This car monitoring was first trialled by police forces in secret test operations across England "private motorists had their car numbers monitored and recorded by computer."

- 19 April 1974: Building Societies Association passes on to its members an offer of a loan amounting to £100mil from the government, sustaining the sector.
- 20 April 1974: Walter Kendall writes "Rocketing mortgage rates are not yet back under control. The rich, if nervous, have yet to suffer the massive redistribution of income some had feared. Construction remains in the doldrums and adequate acceleration measures have yet to appear.... existing commitments (including two warships) [to Chile] will be honored unless, as seems possible, labor opinion forces a reversal. The anti-labor press has organized a field day around land deals and the profits of some of Prime Minister Harold Wilson's close associates" (Postcript to British Labor's Indecisive Mandate, Walter Kendall New Politics, 1974, p91)
- 20 April 1974: Kenya announces that a number of senior British police officers including senior Commissioner of Police James Myles Oswald, head of Nairobi Area Police, will not have contracts renewed as part of the ongoing Africanisation programme. Their retaining pensions provokes a strong Kenyan populist feeling, but the British government offers no reparations.
- 20 April 1974: Federal Germany's <u>Unsere Zeit</u> reports the growing dismissal of teachers from posts in Schleswig-Holstein at least 4 DKP members have been dismissed from teaching jobs in the past weeks. It adds to the growing wider application of the *Berufsverbot*. Dr. Guthler, a Hesse teacher, is to be dismissed for "carrying on propaganda for the Social-Democratic Party". Prof. Dr. Holzer, has been dismissed from his post as has SDP and active trade unionist Rudiger Offergeld, studies director at a Munich college under CDU political pressure.
- 21 April 1974: Open arrival of US naval forces to Britain's SBAs in Cyprus.
- 21 April 1974: Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael Ramsey gives a sermon praising "peace" and reconciliation in St. Anne's Cathedral, Belfast. He is attacked for his ecumenism by 30 disruptive protesters from Rev Paisley's Free Presbytarian Church. He later makes a short walkabout PR tour in Royal Avenue, Belfast talking to British soldiers. He praises the "patience" and "courage" of British Army soldiers in the province.
- 21 April 1974: CBI confirms GKN, Britain's biggest engineering firm, has ended its membership in the CBI earlier in the month. Sir Raymond Brookes, chairman of GKN, and John Campbell Adamson director-general of the CBI clashed over Campbell-Adamson publicly criticising the Industrial Relations Act.

- 21 April 1974: Oman announces it will order 4 fast patrol boats in addition to the 3 already in service. The patrol boats, built Lowestoft, are mounted with 40-mm Bofor artillery and are capable of 30 knots. Separate deliveries of 6 launches built at Cowes, Isle of Wight, will begin over the next fortnight. Muscat's Defence Ministry say 3 new naval bases on its coast will be constructed as part of its military expansion programme.
- 22 April 1974: Former controllers of BBC2 particpate in a self-congratulatory programme In Vision to mark BBC2's 10<sup>th</sup> birthday. 22-26 April 1974: 4 MPs, David Walder, Keith Hampson, David Howell and Norman Fowler-Renter, take part in a propaganda trip to praise the war that British officers, seconded to the Omani forces or under contract are jointly executing with the Omani military.
- 22-27 April 1974: HMS Hampshire, destroyer class warship makes a visit to Split where naval officers exchange ideas.
- 23 April 1974: A single 18<sup>th</sup> century tureen, serving dish with a cover, in the shape of a black cockerel is sold for over £8,500 at Sotheby's.
- 23 April 1974: Leyland states: "The company re-emphasise that there is absolutely no change in their decision to refuse facilities for Mr A. Thornett as a union representative. The decision to recall employees follows massive representations by employees. their families, and local opinion that the work force should be Riven the earliest opportunity to resume work. In the interest of the whole work force of Cowley the company sincerely hone that transport drivers will respond to the company's initiative so that normal work can take place and their own outstanding lay-off problem can be discussed." Leyland has helped coordinate with a tiny minority of housewives a 'pro-money in your pocket' 'pro-working' campaign group to achieve maximum exposure on the mass media. The group's leader Carol Miller conducts a host of interviews speaking for 'housewives' that they are all fed up with strike action over several days declaring 23 Apr 1974: "We have got the men back to work. The management mentioned getting some arrangement with the men once they are back. We are all very pleased." It is part of a general psychological war, since parts of plants have gone on strike to reinstate Thornett.
- 23 April 1974: A British medical equipment exhibition is held in Tokyo, it sponsors expecting a tenfold increase of British medical exports to Japan over the year.

- 23 April 1974: David Frost announces he will fly to Australia to make two special programs with party leaders for Channel 7. The production team is to be led by Graham McPherson, formerly of Channel 7, who has produced Frost international media products.
- 23 April 1974: Lonrho board member De Villiers meets Vorster alongside General Hendrik van den Bergh, head of BOSS, and warns them (via information supplied from FRELIMO rightists-to-Kaundato Tom Mtine [Lonrho Zambia]-to-Tiny Rowland) a major change in Mozambique is possible in the next 2 weeks.

De Villiers: "Mr Rowland and I undertook to use our good these two leaders and we had the advantage of not being connected to any particular political viewpoint or party.... We were sufficiently small to be repudiated and that was always the strength of our negotiations. We could be the honest broker... our appreciation at that time was that it was in the interests of South Africa that there should be a settlement in Rhodesia that would bring some stability to the area. I think when Tiny told me that Mozambique had thrown in the towel, it became obvious that it would be very bad for South Africa for a black victory in Rhodesia. In fact may I quote Mark Chona on this, and he was quoting President Kaunda: President Kaunda said that "a white victory in Rhodesia was impossible. A black victory was not only possible but he thought undesirable." This impressed Mr Vorster enormously and it was one of the key phrases that made him appreciate that you had to have a settlement [in Rhodesia] that was not through the barrel of the qun."

- 24 April 1974: A family suicide-murder takes place in a home near Dover. 2 children are found shot dead in bed, the parents in a suicide pact shot dead seated on chairs.
- 24 April 1974: Rev Paisley opens his first Free Presbytarian church in Ulster.
- 24 April 1974: Office and housebuilder BDP Group is convicted for serious asbestos exposure breaches. It is later fined only £40.
- 24 April 1974: British liaison officers to CIA accept CIA passing on intelligence gleaned from US flights from RAF Akrotiri Cyprus. US National Photographic Intelligence Center will provide FCO with "duplicate positive copy of the film taken from each U-2 flight" and a complete CIA written assessment of the images.
- (Simons (Washington) to Arthur (FCO), JIC2/12, 'Information about Israeli/Egyptian Disengagement from US Reconnaissance Flights' FCO 93/401)
- 25 April 1974 pm: Caetano surrenders to the JNS had surrendered to him personally on the afternoon of the 25th, informing his

- successor, 'You must take care. You must keep control. I am frightened by the idea of power loose in the streets.'
- 25 April 1974: Cabinet: "Harold said Ministers must consult with the FO, and in particular with the Northern Ireland Secretary before saying anything... he used these words 'Ministers have no other existence other than as Ministers.'"
- 25 April 1974: Cabinet agrees to legal machinery for appeals to a tribunal by union members against unreasonable expulsion or exclusion from a union, largely to protect those who refuse to participate in agreed go-slows or strikes: "The government had made numerous concessions to the unions and the time had come to see what the unions had to offer in return. By including this provision in the present Bill the government would demonstrate that they were not instruments of the TUC but were taking their decisions on grounds of public interest." (CAB128/54, Cabinet Conclusions, 25 Apr 1974)
- 25 April 1974: World Council of Churches' committee, overwhelmingly Third World in make up, issues a report calling for an end to multi-million pound investment in South Africa by international banks. The report is released simultaneously in London, Geneva, Frankfurt and New York. The government opposes the call.
- 25 April 1974 am: Ministry of Defence states "there is no chance whatsoever that anyone would bomb the Army out of Northern Ireland" and that its forces remain steady at over 15,000.
- 25 April 1974 pm: Rev Ian Paisley, makes the claim that British troops have already started to leave the province and northern Ireland is being abandoned to the Republic and Sunningdale is hurtling towards Dublin.
- 26 April 1974 pm: Spinola announces the introduction of JSN, junta of national salvation to enact and enforce government over Portugal. It is 7 military chiefs Spinola at the top and 2 each from army, navy anda air force: Brigadier Diogo Neto, General Carlos Galvao de Melo, General Costa Gomes, Brigadier Jaime Silvorio Marques, Capt. Jose Pinheiro de Azevedo and Capt. Antonio Alba Rosa Coutinho. It is the only official source of law in the system. Beneath it, is a co-ordinating committee automatically drafted on to a 'Council of State' alongside the JSN. It contains 2 Spinolists from a military background and 5 'outstanding citizens', among them Professor Rui Luis Gomes, newly installed as rector of Oporto University, Dr Jose Azeredo Perdigao, a rich liberal lawyer and director of the Gulbenkian Foundation, and Prof. Diego Freitas do

Amoral, a member of the Corporative Chamber under Caetano. Major Otelo de Carvalho is left out of the A

26 April 1974: Montreal Gazette editorialises on Concorde: "In the end. however, Concorde is still doomed. Perhaps all 10 planes will be completed — at a cost of \$250 million each; perhaps Air France and British Airways will even be subsidized for years to fly the twice-the-speed-of-sound jets, satisfying people like the 2.000 novelty-seekers who have already booked seats. But the promise that Concorde would revolutionize society by shrinking the world to a 12-our-globe will be unfulfilled. Once national pride is assuaged by a few years service, [it] will be transferred to scientific work, such as chasing solar eclipses. There are many tragedies in the Concorde fiasco. It is a tragic spectacle to see modern governments blindly venerating the golden calf of technology. It is tragic that so many skilled engineers have frittered away a half a generation's work on a jet-set plaything while the world cries for aeronautical necessities such as quiet airplanes which can take off and land in restricted runways. It is tragic — and just a bit comic— that for the billions of dollars which France and Britain have spent on Concorde, they could have brought control of every major U.S. aerospace company at present market values. And had a few hundred millions left over as small change."

26 April 1974: TUC's CSEU "led by George Doughty came to see me about British Leyland... concerned about press stories [it] was cutting back on the investment programme and selling off its operations in Basingstoke and Spain... 'Do you want to let it be known that this talk took place?' They said no, fearing it might endanger the company." (Tony Benn's Diary)

26 April 1974: British Leyland states workers will be locked out if TGWU 150 transport drivers vote on Mon 29 Apr 1974 to continue a strike in protest at British Leyland's de-recognition of Alan Thornett, drivers' shop steward.

26 April 1974: Leader of the right-wing backlash 'wives campaign', Carol Miller invites chairman Lord Stokes, of British Leyland, to tea at her home to discuss the troubles. The press continues its adulation of the Carol Miller campaign group.

27 April 1974: NF holds its first march in Northern Ireland to protest a meeting of Republican Clubs supporters in Belfast. It is led by Independent Unionist NF Councillor Michael Brooks from Castlereagh Borough and addressed by Bernard Ward, NF Belfast secretary and editor of <u>Ulster Worker</u>.

28 April 1974: "I can see my way through now in breaking industry's resistance to my policies. I shall win over the managers

and the small businessmen, and I shall get the nationalised industries to welcome the planning agreements; I shall isolate the Tory companies, then show how much money they have been getting from the government, and if they don't want it, they don't have to have it. Geoffrey Goodman rang and said he detected among senior businessmen a general belief that there will have to be an authoritarian government until the oil comes ashore, in order to control the trade unions" (Tony Benn's Diary)

29 April 1974: "Dinner at Glyn's Bank with Richard Lloyd the Chief Executive, Sir Jasper Hollom of the Bank of England, the Earl of Airlie... Dundas Hamilton, Deputy Chairman of the Stock Exchange... they were interested in meeting us all. I left it that Jasper Hollom or somebody would come to talk to us about the general problems and how they thought we could overcome them. I told them there was endless time for consultation, we were not in a hurry, we hadn't got a parliamentary majority and we had got to look at things afresh." (Tony Benn's Diary)

29-30 April 1974: ZAPU Council member and representative in Zambia attends the pan-Europe Rhodesia conference at the Municipal University of Amsterdam, attacking the British failure in participating in sanctions: "the political behaviour of every country is governed by its socio-economic foundations. Capitalist countries do not abandon business from areas where they have been making super-profits... Britain enticed the world by toying with the economic sanctions idea, ZAPU stated... without including South Africa and Portugal, the proposed sanctions would not bring the Rhodesian regime to its knees. We still stand by our word; sanctions can only be of substantial significance if they used as supplementary and not as the main weapon as has been the case on the Rhodesian issue. ... Britain chooses to consolidate the position of her own kith and kin in order to cling to power and exploit the African people. She made sure that she led the bandwagon of sanctions on Rhodesia in three stages - voluntary, selective and comprehensive saw to it that the military aspect was completely excluded from all quarters. Why are sanctions raised as most important? Every move by Britain on sanctions against Rhodesia was preceded by advance preparations in Rhodesia against those sanctions. As such, the Rhodesians did not lose time. They opened sanctions-busting officers in Europe, America, Asia and, of course, Africa whose task was to provide new avenues for carrying out trade with the outside world since the known routes would be affected by the UN move to isolate Rhodesia. Offices... in Johannesburg, Pretoria, Durban, Lorenzo Margues, Beira, London, Bonn, Munich, Paris, Rome, Brussels, Basel... the most notorious one in London is known and appears under the name of the "AngloRhodesian Society ... There is unprecedented intensification and expansion of mining activity. As a result, mineral production has reached record levels at the time when the Rhodesian economy is supposed to be throttled. In value, the 1972 mineral output ... represented 64% above its pre-sanctions record. As a matter of fact, the Rhodesian mining industry ... increased mineral output since the imposition of sanctions. Turner and Newal is a British company with Headquarters in Manchester. It has a subsidiary in Rhodesia - Turner and Newal Rhodesia- involved in the extraction of asbestos ... from a fake company in Johannesburg bearing the name of Southern Asbestos. ... What the British sought by a sanctions programme was to set the world in pursuit of a mirage. The problem is British colonialism. Sanctions are of a supplementary value if properly applied in support of the armed struggle. ... There is, of course, a current flurry of rumours and speculations about a possible constitutional solution of the Rhodesian problem. These speculations are inspired by the British government to lend credibility to its manoeuvres of diplomatic drafting of the Ian Smith and Vorster Regimes for direct dealings with independent African states and possibly with liberation movements. ...

There is, of course, a current flurry of rumours and speculations about a possible constitutional solution of the Rhodesian problem. These speculations are inspired by the British government to lend credibility to its manoeuvres of diplomatic drafting of the Ian Smith and Vorster Regimes for direct dealings with independent African states and possibly with liberation movements.... Joshua Nkomo and hundreds of freedom fighters are in death cells, prisons and detention cells; South African troops are in Rhodesia. What talks can be held in an atmosphere of a police-state and war?" (The Significance of the Sanctions Campaign for the Liberation Movement, Philemon Makonese)

30 April 1974: "a meeting on Meriden at which the Department put forward their recommendation – on the proposals put by Geoffrey Robinson and the cooperative - that we couldn't go forward with Meriden [in defiance of Ministerial instructions]. ... asked the Department to prepare a paper arguing in favour of Meriden which we will put before colleagues.

30 April 1974: Defence minister Mason explains "Iranian forces stationed in Oman benefit from facilities provided at Salalah by the RAF, which are used by the Sultan's armed forces.... The RAF has for many years enjoyed the use of facilities in Iran for both national and CENTO purposes. These consist of arrangements for overflying, staging and operational training facilities, including the use of lowflying routes and the use of airfields for exercises."

On Oman: "There is a British technical assistance programme which in the last financial year cost about £160,000. It includes English language and technical education, public health and the development of natural resources including hydrology.... The British Army training team serving in Oman, which includes members of the SAS, gives training assistance to the Sultan's armed forces."

30 April 1974: Nurses staff side negotiators (COHSE and RCN) meet the Health Secretary Castle to request she appoint an independent review body for nurses' pay and an interim payment be made while the review body sits.

30 April 1974: COHSE launches its campaign for a major re-examination of nursing pay, Albert Spanswick tells 1,500 nurses outside the Department of Health in Elephant & Castle, London: "the Government's action on key social policy questions inherent in the social contact cannot exclude a full re-examination of the pay of people like nurses who form the human side of the equation. It must be clearly stated that nurses are highly-skilled, highly-trained employees carrying a high degree of clinical responsibility and who work constantly under great strain and pressure ... [and] ...that if no movement is forthcoming, we will be forced to explore the possibilities of further action."

30 April 1974: With news of the 24 Apr 1974 takeover reaching Mozambique, a large protest in favour of withdrawing colonial governors is held in Lourenco Marques. Police disperse it with fire.

late April 1974: The Northern (Maritime) Offshore Resources Study Group says "Civil and military power over and above that which presently exists" are required for oil installations in the North Sea, "this amounts to a new 'commitment' in both security and defence terms" which will be "of some permanence". Professor Erickson explains the idea of an "active" defence patrol force to guard offshore installations.

May 1974: PRC military advisers begin arriving in Zaire to train FNLA forces in Zaire and Angola. Understanding the collapse in Angola is a matter of time after the 25 Apr 1974 revolt, CIA also begins its funding of FNLA via Zaire.

"FNLA, at least on paper, appeared to have the inside track to power as the events of 1974 unfolded. Closer examination would reveal a Bakongo nationalist military force headed by a dictator and his cronies. Political education, economic advancement, and Angolan nationalism were cast aside in attempts to achieve power through political intrigue and military posturing." (A Political History of the Civil War in Angola, 1974-1990, W. Martin James, 52)

Contrary to press reports branding the Soviet Union as aggressor, it rapidly ends all assistance to MPLA in 1974 to induce it to come to

terms as quickly as possible with MFA-run Portugal. It is only as South African, Zairean and covert CIA and MI6 intervention, partly involving mercenaries, is ramped up that Soviet aid materialises on a smaller scale than South African efforts.

May 1974: "I sent Wilson a paper drafted by Andrew Graham altering the need to come to grips with the monetarist issue [to tackle inflation] and suggesting he should set up a cabinet committee" (Bernard Donoughue's Diary)

May 1974: An NUS survey into postgraduate employment is conducted. It finds average pay is £1 an hour. "Firstly, postgraduates are being shamelessly exploited and used as cheap labour. Their institutions are using the low level of postgraduate grants to get them to work for well below the rate for the job. This is bad for everyone: bad for postgraduates, and bad for the University teachers whose jobs and salaries are made vulnerable by this practise."

"Herriot Watt University... has departmental variation between 75p in the Pharmacy Department... and £1.75. in the Department of Computer Science (one of the highest). Across the street at the University of Edinburgh demonstrating rates vary between £1 and £1.60. However, the rate for tutoring is subject to even greater variation. The Department of Nursing Studies, paying 0p per hour is, platitudinously. the lowest in the academic community, whereas at £4 per hour, the Social Studies Department must be regarded as one of the most munificent of academic employers."

Reflecting relative strength of trade union organisation, the lowest-paying institutions were all Universities, and the highest-paying institutions were all non-universities. All four institutions paying more than £2.50 are Polytechnics. NUS Deputy President Alastair Stewart states: "the survey shows the urgency for postgraduates to receive a living grant, so that they are not forced to take work at exploitive rates." (as reported Jun 4 1974, Felix)

May 1974: John Tyndall writes in the month's <u>Spearhead</u> of the importance of "securing for the National Front a foothold in the trade unions" to "assist National Front trade unionists getting elected to office" the entry of non-white workers into skilled roles must be resisted and propaganda against illegal immigrants must be mounted. "The intention of the National Front is to do what the Tories have not and can not do, to fight the Left in its own ground in the unions."

May 1974: The 'Group'- a consortium of U.S. firms Occidental, Allied Chemicals, and British-owned firm Thomson Enterprises (with its various brands of media The Times, Sunday Times, Scotsman and STV) and the personal fortune of J. Paul Getty- discover a second oil field, Claymore, 20 miles west of the one discovered at the end of last year, Piper. Speaking of this oil exploration, millionaire Lord

Thomson tells Armand Hammer, chief of Occidental: "I've always wanted to be a billionaire. God knows I'll never get there with my newspapers. But maybe this will give me my chance." Alastair Dunnett, editor of the Scotsman, has been given an extra managerial role in charge of Thomson's newest firm Thomson Scottish Petroleum.\*\*

May 1974: Government introduces the bill for the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act. It is quickly attacked by the press as "a threat to freedom of speech" on the grounds that, theoretically, a journalist who refuses to join a union in an established bargaining unit will be replaced by one who will under "closed shop" provisions. More generally, "immunity" for secondary picketing, often denied by the Courts, is described as "undemocratic" and "special treatment". \*\*

May 1974: Asian workers at Imperial Typewriter works, Leicester, begin a strike. National Front T&GWU members encourage the strikebreaking against the strike, hoping the Asian workers will be dismissed. It organises a 'White Workers of Imperial Typewriters' March' in opposition to the strike, declaring it unofficial and improper. The strike remains unofficial as T&GWU full-timers do not accord it official status. Later in 1975 Imperial Typewriters closes its Leicester plant, and no union action is taken in response.\*\*

May 1974: A Royal Commission on the Press is set up to investigate the power of media monopolies and newspaper behaviour.\*\* It achieves no democratisation of the media. (Curran 1978)

- 1 May 1974: "Rather sad notices around Ballachulich today asking for volunteers to join an army for a scene tomorrow. They're only getting £2" [for a day's work on the set of *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*] (Michael Palin's Diary)
- 1 May 1974: Prince Charles visits St. John's Colliery. NCB management and a selected workforce greet him.
- 1 May 1974: Extel British company service's record of 249 British companies whose annual reports are filed in Apr 1974 comes up with £3,300,803,000 total profits compared with £2,113,356,000 for the same 249 the previous year. Profits of 767 British companies filed during the Jan-Apr 1974 total £5,480,411,000 compared to £3,716,242,000 for same period in 1973.
- 1 May 1974: Government reiterates "we recognise one Government in South Vietnam."
- 1 May 1974: "Overseas Policy and Defence Committee... engines, spares and overhauls for the Hunter aircraft for Chile. Jim Callaghan 'It would be a victory for the British Communist Party if these overhauls were stopped'. Edmund Dell said all the regimes in Latin america depended on the goodwill of the army and therefore we

should supply the arms. Roy Jenkins didn't think this issue mattered very much... it was a remote country of which he knew little and there was no philosophical basis for differentiating between these overhauls and the supply of warships" (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 1 May 1974: May Day in Portugal sees over 500,000 in Lisbon, Similar levels of participation are reported in urban centres across Portugal. However many rural areas are uninvolved under feudal pressure and isolation: "In the remoter villages of Tras-os-Montes, in the north-east, news of the coup did not reach some communities until well into May 1974." (Tom Gallagher, New Left Review)
- 2 May 1974: <u>Glasgow Herald</u> reveals the source of Sainsbury's profits: "A major contributing factor to the company's success in keeping profit margins (pre-tax to turnover) at a reasonable level was the emphasis on operating efficiency and productivity in the stores. Over the last five years the number of workers on the payroll has fallen while the volume of trade as measured by sales based on constant prices has risen by 46%."
- 2 May 1974: PS leader Mario Soares JNC-appointed Foreign Minister begins tour of European holding talks with Wilson and Callaghan. He later meets Willy Brandt, Pietro Nenni, Cardinal Augustine Casaroli, Olof Palme, Finland's Kalevi Sorsa, Norway's Tygrevie Brateli and Denmark's Anker Jorgensen.
- 2 May 1974: Eric Varley announces Labour's plans for a new thrust into nuclear industry: "it must be admitted that our overall record is disappointing. We have not applied the fruits of our technology sufficiently successfully. We have slipped behind other countries. While they have ordered heavily, we have placed no new orders since 1971. By 1980, on present plans, we shall be behind France and Germany. ... There has been in this country a most remarkable public acceptance of nuclear power. Our future energy policy depends upon a large element of nuclear electricity generation, and this public acceptance must be preserved.... It affects the very economic existence of the country in the remaining decades of this century and beyond." He states the government will place an order for reactors after discussions with the Nuclear Power Advisory Board.
- 2-16 May 1974: Princess Margaret and Lord Snowdon, having left on a first class British Airways flight, visit the Kentucky Derby and then tour the USA and Canada. "Their circle included Peter Sellers and his wife Britt Ekland, Greek shipping tycoons, the Aga Khan, the ballet dancer Rudolf Nureyev, rock stars like Mick Jagger, actors such as David Niven, trendy journalists, the hairdresser Vidal

Sassoon and the designer Mary Quant, alongside the more predictable rich aristocrats. They holidayed in Sardinia, Venice and the Caribbean." (Andrew Marr, The Diamond Queen, p200)

- 3 May 1974: First operational flight by Nimrod R1 aircraft. Nimrods become the standard intelligence gathering aircraft of the period. 3 May 1974: Industrial Relations Court (NIRC) orders the seizure of the AUEW's financial assets for contempt of court after the union had refused to pay a £47,000 damages award over the dispute at Con-Mech, a small farm machinery firm, September 1973. AUEW announces it will not comply but appeal the decision.
- 3 May 1974: FTSE ordinary index ends the week above the 300 barrier at 307, representing another high, and the largest weekly gain since the announcement of Heath's resignation.
- 3 May 1974: A 17-year old is killed on an industrial estate in Nitshill removing a load of glass sheets alone without support. A police officer states "The load slipped and the youth was crushed by many of the [75] glass sheets."
- 3 May 1974: Malcolm Threlfall, engineering specialist, gives evidence at a hearing over the 1971 Ibrox disaster that killed 66 spectators. He states the disaster could have been averted by £30,000 of improvements on Stairway 13, which had faced earlier accidents in 1961, 1967 and 1969. He states there were too many steps and too many flights of steps on stairway 13, and safety would have been increased if the stairway was made to tum after 2 flights of stairs-a fairly easy alteration, but one requiring expense.
- 3 May 1974: Eric Heffer looked in furious he had received a letter from Harold saying his speech on Chile had gravely embarrassed the government. I said 'Whatever you do, Eric, don't make another speech about it on May Day.'" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 4 May 1974: Sir Peter Greenwell, chairman of machinery and property firm, Ransomes, Sims and Jefferies at its AGM announces the firm has recovered significantly after the end of the 3-day week, March 1974 rescuing profit levels in the first quarter of 1974 to a comparable level of 1973.
- 5 May 1974: Wilson addresses a May Day march of over 5,000 in Glasgow. He is severely heckled by building workers urging the release of the Shrewsbury 2, others call for his resignation over the Government approval of the delivery of Clyde shipyard frigates and submarines to Chile. Several times he loses his composure as he is drowned out but instead of answering their concerns .

- He shouts, suggesting they are mindless football fan chorus: "Liverpool did -it better yesterday at Wembley and no doubt Celtic did it better at Hampden." He later shouts: "People who think and shout in slogans have never contributed anything to social democracy in this country."
- 5 May 1974: In an Edinburgh May Day rally, NUM President Lawrence Daly urges the absolution for the Clay Cross councillors and the release of the Shrewsbury 2, but also states he supports the government. Others threaten mass protests in case bailiffs and sequestors arrive at AUEW headquarters.
- 6 May 1974 am: 6 are killed and others injured in a fire covering two homes, both overcrowded split into flatlets and rented on a room-by-room basis, mostly to migrants, Clapham Road, London.
- 6 May 1974 am: High Court approves the seizure of £300,000 from AUEW to force the union to pay back the damages award by the Industrial Relations Court (NIRC).
- 6 May 1974: The Queen visits BSC 'Anchor' complex at Scunthorpe.
- 6 May 1974: "TUC-Labour Party Working Party on the nationalisation of the aircraft industry with George Doughty of TASS, David Lea of TUC, Jack Service of CSEU and others"
- 6 May 1974: John Compton and his United Workers Party win elections to the St Lucia House of Assembly promising independence soon. Foreign Office civil servants later visit to inspect the situation.
- 6 May 1974: British Lions rugby team leave London to begin a 22 match tour of South Africa and Rhodesia, ignoring pleas by the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa (SCSA). Some African nations led by Tanzania sever sport links with Britain in protest.
- 7 May 1974: AUEW executive votes 3-3, deciding vote in favour. to begin a strike in its engineering section over the NIRC decision. All 9 national daily newspapers are not printed. Many car plants are closed down by mass walkouts. Process plants, power stations, gas works are called out.
- 7 May 1974: Robert Crawshaw, UK managing director of car hire firm Hertz, says Scotland's oil and "rising economy" is attracting business visitors in their thousands from the south and overseas through Glasgow Airport. He states "oil will help the Scots make their economy the envy of Europe"
- 7 May 1974: Britain signs a 10-year technical cooperation agreement with USSR.
- 7 May 1974: Tony Benn: "academician Kirillin [Chairman of the State Committee on Science and Technology] and I were old friends

and we had tried to make technological agreements work. (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 8 May 1974: Eagle Star car insurance firm announces it will increase premiums for the second time this year.
- 8 May 1974: Ford UK, Vauxhall, Chrysler UK, British Leyland, Govan shipbuilders, Southampton naval yards, Marathon oil platform construction, Babcock & Wilcox all experience walkouts over the AUEW decision.
- 8 May 1974: An unidentified person pays just under £70,000 the damages award and the fine for non-payment as requested by the NIRC via a QC Brian Neill. AUEW General Secretary Hugh Scanlon meets Michael Foot and agrees to call off the strike. NIRC Judges retire to consider the offer and announce they will accept the donation, saying it will also meet AUEW's outstanding £25,000 fees from the NIRC seizure in 1973. Michael Foot refers to NIRC Judge Sir John Donaldson as "some fool or some trigger happy judicial finger", but no action is ever taken against the judge.
- 8 May 1974: NCB Seafield coal mine general manager David Peterson says the general rise in unemployment is helping ease expansion in certain pits: "Since the strike there has been improvement in the absenteeism figures. This allied with the new recruits, is allowing us [Seafield] to man-up faces and developments faster than ever before. Because of the number of volunteers we are able to be more selective, and this is benefiting the industry. Our present manpower of 2387 producing a millionand-a-quarter tons of coal a year, will be increased to 2450 by the end of 1974."
- 8 May 1974: 11 nurses at Storthes Hall Hospital, Huddersfield, strike for 1 hour— 3 wards are closed. Government announces it will implement the minor increases flowing from the Briggs Report from the previous government.
- 10 May 1974: "Flanigan, a presidential adviser at the White House and also one of the Council of Economic Advisers came to see me to urge the American view that at the OECD Conference 29-30 May we should agree to review the rules of investment generally [to protect the subsidiaries of multinational firms]" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 10 May 1974: "Sir Anthony Part "came in and we had a chat about my workers' control draft speech which has scared the pants off him. He said that it would create terrible fears and that it was one thing to say this in Opposition but another to say it in Government." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 10 May 1974: "George Ball, former Under-Secretary to Kennedy and Johnson, came representing United Airways aircraft with a proposal for some arrangement by Pratt and Whitney for a link with Rolls." (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 10 May 1974: <u>Investors Chronicle</u> reports on the difference between Labour in Britain and Australia, effectively suggesting that Britain's ability to reign in the Labour Party is not as successful as Australia. It warns under a heading 'Investors in Australian shares should act before the election' that "with the benefit of hindsight" the most successful investors liquidated Australian portfolios before ALP's 1972 victory. It states ALP success in Senate and the House of Representatives "would have a very detrimental effect on industrial share prices." It states "uncertainty has been mirrored in the slim markings and mixed performance which have characterised stockmarket trading in the post-taster period" and warns the mining sector should only be invested in if the Liberal-Country Party coalition comes lo power.
- 12 May 1974: <u>Sunday Times</u> investigate team exposes the brutal activities of one SAVAK agent in London against dissident Iranian students.
- 12 May 1974: Ben Hamilton, coroner for Merthyr Tydfil calls for a law to those over 70 living alone, after examining the case of a 78 year-old blind woman who died in a home fire. "People of 70 and over should be compelled to go to an old people's home if they can find nobody to stay with them. It is a tragedy that there are elderly people living on their own. These people should be watched 24 hours a day."
- 12 May 1974: Frances said she was convinced that the Department of Industry was sabotaging my industrial proposals. I feel the same. Sir Antony Part is making no progress, they just turf back things I want with their objections... on the planning agreements, the NEB and the Industry Act, the officials are simply skating over the really difficult questions so they are never explored properly. It is as if I'm trying to swim up the Niagara Falls."
- 12 May 1974: US press reports Britain's military panel in Washington has expressed interest in purchasing 14 multi-million dollar Boeing 3-E spy planes that consists of a huge pancake radar mounted on a 707 jet, each aircraft costing at least \$30mil. Each 3E can tackle 18 aircraft at any one time and give minute-to-minute directions to other planes.
- 12 May 1974: UDT (Uniao Democratica Timorense) is legalised in Timor. Its chief Francisco Xavier Lopes da Cruz, pro-Caetano Accao National Popular representative to the Lisbon National Assembly, former lieutenant in Portuguese armed forces and customs manager. Its vice-president Costa Mouzinho, UDT Vice-President

and Dili Mayor, another ANP representative to the National Assembly. It unites Timorese assimilados and pro-Portuguese civil servants on a platform in favour of association with Portugal on Spinolist lines, later abandoning this when pro-imperial voices in Portugal are defeated.

13 May 1974: "Antony Part said there might be [a slump] 'We're reaching the point of crossing the Rubicon and your speech about workers' control will lead to tremendous opening of fire on us because industrialists fear you are going to establish it.'

'I am not trying to cross any Rubicon, I am sitting on the banks of the Rubicon, waiting for consultation'" (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 13 May 1974: Hospital managements in a large number of regions begin making moves to restrict hospital admissions.
- 13 May 1974: Defence Minister Mason begins a tour to South East Asia to reinforce Britain's ongoing adherence to the 5-Power Treaty, in spite of Armed Forces rearrangements.
- 13 May 1974: <u>The Guardian</u> states: "For the first time, nurses have taken industrial action... The possibility of strikes by nurses is real for the first time."
- 13 May 1974: Lords, reflecting much Labour thinking, urges care in cutting international information services from the FCO.

"We are represented in about 80 countries.... [including] Morocco, Tunisia, Senegal, [South] Vietnam ... Thailand... acting as agents for the Ministry of Overseas Development (as it is now known) in many countries overseas... the pendulum has swung right back and the demand for advice and guidance in spreading the teaching of English extends all over India, all over Pakistan, and all over these other countries, to a remarkable degree. There are demands for English language teaching, for technical training, and above all for books. In the last few months such people as Lee Kuan Yew and General Gowon have been pressing me for more books, more teachers and more aids to teaching. In all these countries I have met the Ministers of Education, in most of them also the Head of State, and all the Prime Ministers. I believe that one of the most valuable things about the British Council is that, although there may be interruptions and a temporary loss of diplomatic relations at Foreign Office level, the British Council goes beavering on and on with its contacts."

Former editor of The Guardian, Manchester Evening News and Daily Herald explains the importance of BBC's World Service: "How fortunate are we that the Overseas Service—the External Service as it is now called—was founded 44 years ago, not by some agile political warrior of the new style but by that man of stiff-necked rectitude, John Reith.... our views in Britain should be made known throughout the world... first of all on Ulster, this terrible

phenomenon, which is so very difficult for the foreigner to understand, especially if he has listened to a compatriot of Irish descent. I do not think that there is any Irish exile, whether he comes from North or South of the Border, who would be wholly uncritical of British policy although we are pursuing, I believe, an unselfish, bipartisan and enlightened policy.... The second current need is to explain our various attitudes—again I use the plural towards Western Europe and the Commonwealth. The London correspondents of foreign and Commonwealth newspapers and broadcasting stations are excellent men and women, but they, of course, see things through their own eyes and not through our eyes. Nor can we depend upon the travelling businessman. I do not assume for one moment that when our businessmen are abroad they lack either integrity or patriotism, but I do feel that sometimes the complexities of intervening governments of the modern kind escape them. These are political complexities at which they are not at their most expert. So I think that we have to put across abroad the British case, or cases, and the British view. ... I think we need to talk directly to our friends in other nations, to let them know not only what the Government are thinking but what the Opposition Parties are thinking, what the businessmen are thinking and also what the trade unionists are thinking... the External Services do not represent merely the view of the British Government, but the views of all the representative bodies in Britain; and this is especially important at a time of national crisis... BBC in particular, has a most important job... perhaps most impressive job of all because it goes right into the homes of people."

Charles Hill, appointed by Wilson as Chairman of the BBC Governors (1967-1972) to "sort out" the BBC, but a former head of the BMA Conservative MP & Postmaster-General, explains importance of BBC External Broadcasting. Large cuts or "retreat from the broadcasting past without harming the image of Britain" are impossible "it would be said that Britain had lost interest in disseminating". "Another suggestion I believe this is argued from within the Foreign Office, is that the Services should be cut where British interests are thought to be minimal... but the trouble is that nowadays minimal areas of interest are liable at any moment to become maximum areas of interest. Up to 1971, the Bengali service might have seemed to be expendable. Yet by the end of 1971, the BBC had a vast audience in that country and through it, I suspect, gained a huge fund of goodwill. There is another argument. Why not concentrate, it is suggested, on certain obvious target areas like Russia? I believe that would be a mistake. We thrive on our reputation as worldwide broadcasters with no propaganda intentions and no obvious political motives. I think the more comprehensive we are, the more effective we are likely to be. ... the toleration, the fairness and the serenity of this country, the capacity to make democracy work, British calm and courtesy... We want people to know more of these things... Our economic strength, to say the least, is not what it was. These are arguments for strengthening the presentation of this country, its mood, its attitudes and values to the world. ... It is good for them and for us that they should know more about us."

Paul Gore-Booth, former head of the Diplomatic Service, ennobled by Wilson as a crossbencher warns "if you sit there in Northern Italy, you will be overwhelmed by... material from Moscowmaterial in Russian, in Spanish, in other Slav languages as well as in Portuguese and Italian. You name it, you get it. There is this overwhelming screed of stuff which comes at you every day... it hits these audiences all the time, with abuse of our institutions, disparagement of our policy in Ireland and so on... We need consistently a foreign policy with continuity, with not too much posture, with enough ambition, but not beyond our capabilities and not a timidity or a looking inwardness British Information Services ... needs to be good and it needs to be there. The reason it needs to be there is.. that there are countries in which it is necessary to let the media know ... to let the people who matter know what our policy is, so that at least to the people who are in touch with the local media there may be proper guidance."

Ian George Eden crossbencher: "my wife and I and a number of other people paid a visit of a private nature arranged by British European Airways and the Romanian State Airways. I was asked to do this broadcast, and I hope that it contributed something to the good commercial relations which we and Romania and some other Eastern European countries have at the present time. I think that these broadcasts to such countries are important. We must remember that they have a political philosophy which is different from our own; but I do not think that they are intractable, and there is much that the BBC, with its innate fairness, can do."

Noel Lytton crossbencher: "The BBC is independent... even truth, if it is purveyed in a certain way, will bore and defeat itself. Surely the French, under General de Gaulle, suffered from just that. They lost an enormous amount of ground because of the grandeur which was continually purveyed in a monotonous sense projecting the image of France. ... the African services—the three I mentioned: Somali, which is in the vernacular, Swahili and Hausa—came about as a result of the Suez crisis, and only as a result of that; and it is important to know what we have to defend ourselves against." Monitoring and fighting "the evil untruth which is being broadcast by the Soviet Union day after day after day. ... what our enemies ... say when they denigrate us."

Owen Goronwy-Roberts: "It may well be that Britannia no longer rules the waves, but that is no reason why she should not have a go at the wavelengths. Power is one thing; influence, as we have heard, can be as great as power. There is no argument about the value of these agencies. They are the best and most honourably conducted in the world. It is not a propagandist exercise; that would be self-defeating... it is the weapon of truth and tolerance that these services use in putting to the rest of the world most credibly what Britain is about. ... The services try to correct the often distorted image of this country which is presented abroad"

- 14 May 1974: Daily Express sees Walter Terry attack Benn, Foot, Joan Lestor, Ian Mikardo and Hugh Scanlon for working for the formation of a dangerous Moscow-aligned Allende-style Marxist government.
- 14 May 1974: Dr Donald Coggan is enthroned as Archbishop of Canterbury in a service where he sermonises against the "abandonment of the old gods and a pathetic inability to replace them with anything adequate for the needs of modern man."
- 14 May 1974: Britain concludes an economic agreement with Socialist Bulgaria, the government covering the cost of credit and insurance for British investments there.
- 14 May 1974: Nurses at Newsham General, Liverpool hold a 1 hour strike.
- 14 May 1974: Healey speaks to the CBI, about government financial aid to private sector.
- 14 May 1974: Stormont Assembly votes 44-28 to support Sunningdale Agreement. UWC lockout begins in response-power and water workers block production with enthusiastic loyalist armed militant participation.
- 14 May 1974: COHSE announces plans for but no date of a rolling programme of limited action. Discussion includes a general bans on overtime work, and specific bans on non-nursing duties such as reporting and meetings. COHSE specifically warns against action that might endanger the health of patients. NUPE attacks it as the "irresponsible act of amateur adventurers". RCN calls on COHSE to stop the action because it will harm patients and damage the status of the profession.
- 14 May 1974: Tony Benn's senior civil servants, who command power over their civil servants, continue to conspire against nationalisation and participation efforts: "At 10.15 Secretary came in and we had a further discussion on my speech on workers' control next Friday. He told me again this was the crossing of the Rubicon... He said for the third time I must consult the Prime Minister. While we were talking in came a letter from Robert Armstrong at Number 10 to Roy Williams saying 'In understand that your Minister is making an important speech in his constituency on Friday and the Prime Minister wants to see the text.' So I asked

- 'How did Number 10 know? Nobody knows except Roy Williams, and you, Permanent Secretary.'" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 15 May 1974: "Shirley Williams said 'The public may turn to a coalition. There is a fear that the plurality of our society will disappear and it would become like Eastern Europe'" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 15 May 1974: RAC survey on parking charges reveals £28mil has been taken across the country over the past year.
- 15 May 1974: W.D. & H.O. Wills tobacco plant in Alexandra Parade, Glasgow, that produces Embassy cigarettes sends away its workforce of 900 after an 8-day strike by 80 craftsmen continues.
- 15 May 1974: Dumbarton shipyard of Foster Wheeler John Brown Ltd locks out its 500 workers to break an overtime ban.
- 15 May 1974: 200 COHSE nurses from St Nicholas Hospital in Gosforth, near Newcastle, go on strike for just under 2 hours, staging a demonstration at the hospital gates.
- 15 May 1974: Ladywood General Hospital, Salford, sees a 1-hour stoppage.
- 15 May 1974: 1000 nurses at Guy's Hospital decide at a meeting that they will only care for emergency patients and end cooperation with new routine cases from 23 May. Around 500 X-ray technicians demonstrate outside Parliament.
- 15 May 1974: COHSE staff in various organised branches vote to stage 2-hour stoppages for a day a week from 3 June 1974
- 15 May 1974: 400 nurses from Woodilee, Lennox Castle and other hospitals hold a demonstration in Kirkintilloch. Glasgow NUPE officer calls for employment of more orderlies and for an end to the situation where charge nurses act as nursing officers without training or pay.
- 15 May 1974: Eric Varley tells a Commons committee multi-national oil firms will receive a "proper reward" in contracts with the government.
- 15 May 1974: Albert Spanswick calls for "no less than £100 million on the table" but rejects any reference to a standing commission 'I am sad to have to say that it is now no longer possible to assume that nurses will never take strike action.'
- 15 May 1974: A referendum on Egypt's 'October Paper' is held securing a stunning 99.9% approval. It proposes a programme of economic and social reform including tax-free trade-export zones and tax rebates to attract foreign investment and the introduction of a wider private enterprise sector the *infitah* reforms.
- 16 May 1974: Cabinet. "Jim maintained that the [Rolls-Royce military aircraft repairs] contract should be honoured, it was a political matter. The Communists were in favour of stopping

supplies and the International Committee of the NEC was unrepresentative. Jim believed we should not isolate the Chileans I complained of the fact that this was being made a Communist issue and Sir Thomas Brimelow, head of the Diplomatic Service, had been circulating Departments – or maybe just my Department to find out how many Communists there were... the sale of Wasp helicopters to South Africa... Jim said 'Don't send them because of Nigeria'" (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 16 May 1974: COHSE's NEC meets in emergency session and decides that industrial action will be imposed if the meeting at 10 Downing Street with the Prime Minister on 20 May does not provide 'cash on the table'.
- 16 May 1974: An RCN suggestion is made for nurses able to do so to resign en masse from the NHS, and presumably seek employment in the private sector.
- 16 May 1974 <u>Glasgow Herald</u> prints only 2 letters about the move to ban work on Chilean warships: "In regard to the plan by certain trade unions on the export of arms to Chile, many will agree they are simply being naive and, more important still, acting against the best interests of this country and their fellow workers... If we do not supply the necessary frigates and sub-marines, Chile will merely turn to our European competitors and place the business with them."
- "The effect of withholding the ships would be to deprive them of the diplomatic weapon they possess to achieve a compromise. It would be the most certain way of precipitating war in South America. And once started, war on our crowded planet, like disease, knows no boundaries. Mr McGahey asks whether we want to have the Mood of workers of Santiago on our hands. If we fail to deliver the warships we may have that and a good deal more to answer for besides."
- 16 May 1974: Jackie Stewart, millionaire British racing star, at a London press event promotes 2 new brands of motor oils to be marketed through Sternol for Elf-France's state-controlled oil group, that has recently purchased the subsidiary. Stewart has recently been appointed as overseas vice-president of marketing for Sternol Ltd.
- 16 May 1974: Glasgow Lord Provost William Gray meets US oil executives declaring: "There is certainty no need for any fight... between Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee, and Aberdeen or any other part of Scotland... I feel that the work available is more than sufficient to keep the whole of Scotland engaged."
- 16-17 May 1974: Mahmoud Riad, former pro-Sadat Egyptian Foreign Minister, Secretary General of the Arab League, holds talks

with the Sultan of Oman over the Dhofar guerrillas, but does not call for the withdrawal of Iranian or British forces in the fighting.

- 17 May 1974: Benn holds talks with CBI chiefs to discuss the proposed planning agreements.
- 17 May 1974: <u>Glasgow Herald</u> prints only one article on the Chile submarine affair: "[trade unions] would do well in the interest of their own trade union members and their country to mind their own business and concern themselves only with prosperity of their homeland"
- 17 May 1974: MI5-SAS-assisted loyalists explode 3 car bombs without warning during Dublin's rush-hour. An hour and a half later a car bomb is exploded in Monaghan. Much press speculation concentrates upon these as likely PIRA attacks.

The "decision by loyalists, assisted by their undercover allies in the various branches of the security forces, to bomb the Republic was taken shortly after the signing of the Sunningdale Agreement in December 1973 - long before the start of the UWC strike. The objective of both the bombings and the strike was twofold: (a) to collapse the Agreement and undermine the British Prime Minister of the time, Harold Wilson, whom sections of the right-wing British establishment believed was a closet communist... (b) to force the Dublin government into cracking down hard on activities of the IRA. On a visit to Dublin in 1972, as leader of the Labour Opposition, Harold Wilson had said in a speech that he could envisage a united Ireland within fifteen years. The speech outraged those right wing elements, including a group of right wing officers within MI5, who Wilson himself believed later plotted against him. In an interview with two British journalists, Barry Penrose and Roger Courtiour, in 1976, and shortly after his resignation, Wilson claimed that a right wing MI5 faction had been collaborating with American and South African intelligence to organise a smear campaign against him in the 1974/75 period. 'I'm not certain,' Wilson declared, 'that for the last eight months when I was Prime Minister I knew what was happening fully in Security.' He complained that ... a story had been put about of a 'pro-Soviet cell in No 10'. He alleged a level of interference by the security services that bordered on professional treachery and suggested a Royal Commission be set up to examine their accountability." (Joe Tierney, The Dublin and Monaghan bombings and the murder triangle, p265)

17 May 1974: A £40mil contract for 4 Rolls-Royce powered TriStar airliners is signed in Hong Kong for Cathay Pacific. It follows an order for 2 TriStars for Saudi Arabia's national airliner the previous week.

- 17-18 May 1974: John Lennon acts as a DJ for Philadelphia-based radio station WFIL's Helping Hand Marathon charity extravaganza.
- 18 May 1974: Tony Benn's speech on workers' control at the Workers' Educational Association.
- 18 May 1974: Nigeria announces its Nigerianisation measures for the oil industry, 50% of Nigeria's oil giant subsidiaries must in Nigerian hands. BP broadly breathes a sigh of relief, major investment decisions are not alterable.
- 18 May 1974: <u>The Guardian</u> reports the Economic League provides "a unique service to industry by compiling data on individual workers who may be politically active" and records that in 1973 it distributed 22 million leaflets via its collusion with firms against nationalisation and, where necessary, trade union action.
- 19 May 1974: Wilson "really does think that my public statements about 'open government' and so on, are destroying the Labour Party." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 20 May 1974: Tony Benn reports on industrial strategy to Labour Party-TUC Liaison Committee, declaring it is on track.
- 20 May 1974: A petition to Downing Street, symbolically handed by 3 nurses from the Prince of Wales Hospital Tottenham holding a large 'Wilson' 'pipe' filled with crumpled pay slips.
- 20 May 1974: Meeting at 10 Downing Street yields a promise only of urgent consideration of the problem and an assurance of the Government's concern.
- 20 May 1974: Vice President of Soviet Council of Ministers Kirilin meets Wilson.
- 20 May 1974: Creation of a new producer cartel for coffee amongst producer nations in central America.
- 20 May 1974: With the agreement of the Junta de Salvação Nacional in charge of Portugal, former President hard Salazarist, Admiral Americo Tomas and Prime Minister Marcello Caetano, are allowed to leave for militarist Brazil where their asylum has already been granted.
- 20 May-12 June 1974: A British motor industry sales mission, sponsored mostly by the Department of Industry, conducts an Antipodean tour visiting Auckland, Wellington, Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne, Perth, attempting to secure sales for vehicles, components, accessories, specialist vehicle bodies, engine diagnostic equipment, air conditioning units and workshop manuals.

20 May 1974: ICI reports a successful recovery from the 3-day week, completed sales in the first 3 months of 1974 at £661mil up 36% when compared with the same period of 1973. Exports are up by 66% to £154mil (including a 93% rise in exports to the EEC) and by overseas subsidiaries 45% greater at £388m. Nonetheless chairman Sir Jack Callard says "I see great dangers in Government intervention in the management and day-to-day running of our business and in the State owning part or the whole of the company... In the field of industrial relations we have pioneered and developed a system of consultation between employees and management right up to board level... We remain ready to work with Government in looking for ways to develop this country's wealth and to achieve agreed national objectives.... I am convinced that State control or ownership would- be detrimental not only to the performance of the company and to your own personal interests, but also to the national economy" ICI later sends a letter to every ICI employee and shareholder, attacking the idea of nationalisation. Later in 1974 ICI announces half-yearly profits have increased to £254 million, a rise of 71% compared to the previous six-month period.

- 21 May 1974: 11 Arab foreign ministers meet to agree on 'EEC-Arab dialogue'
- 21 May 1974: Secret service man Chapman Pincher's article 'Ministers in Security Risk Shock' claims that doubts about junior Labour ministers and their loyalty to the CPGB and Soviet Union over the OSA have led to restrictions on their seeing classified material.
- 21 May 1974: Rev Paisley states the UWC has its full support.
- 21 May 1974: 200 nurses at Guy's Hospital warn that they will treat only emergency cases from 27 May 1974.
- 21 May 1974: Emergency meeting of all COHSE regional officers held. Six-point plan of industrial action is announced to come into effect at midnight on 26—27 May: (a) a ban on clerical duties; (b) a ban on domestic duties; (c) a ban on 'acting-up'; (d) a ban on all overtime; (e) selected and short withdrawals of labour; (f) ASC staff are to be asked not to fill-in with domestic jobs normally done by nurses.
- 21 May 1974: Government explains "The contracts which exist for the supply of arms to South Africa are being reviewed, and it is a question of understanding the circumstances of them. In regard to the importance of Simonstown, we have always recognised that it is useful but not essential. We also believe ... that today our trade with Africa as a whole has as much importance as our trade with South Africa." The government concern is Black Africa sliding in the orbit of competitor nations (Federal Germany, Soviet Union, Japan etc.) or perhaps even more dangerously all pursuing a self-reliant

- and 'solidaristic' course within the Third World. Trade in 1974, in financial terms, is 2:1 in favour of Black Africa as against South Africa.
- 22 May 1974 South Africa and USA extend to 2007 their 1957 agreement on the export of enriched uranium, increasing the quantities allowed and allowing the import of high-quality enriched U-235 for research purposes. US State Department notes "South Africa contains 27 percent of the free world's supply of uranium" and hence cannot be alienated. (US Department of State, Signing of Amendment to U.S./S.A. Atomic Energy Agreement, memorandum, 21 May, 1974)
- 22 May 1974: Government agrees to sell a nationalised brewery in Carlisle to T & R Theakston. It is a continuation of the denationalisation policy adopted by the Heath government for the food and drink industry.
- 22 May 1974: after a meeting of the Anglo-Soviet permanent commission for co-operation in science, trade, and economic relations, Vladimir Kirillin, a Soviet Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of Committee for Science and Technology, announces BP executives will be in Moscow from 27 May 1974 to discuss oil exploration in the Soviet Union. He states deals over oil equipment and machine in exchange for Soviet oil and co-operating in direct oil production joint ventures and refining will be welcomed.
- 22 May 1974: Aberdeen University's Prof Maxwell Gaskin, at the Institute of Petroleum's conference says there is a need for pressure on operators to "buy Scottish" and firms to "supply Scottish." He makes a national call "We need the future Offshore Supplies Office for Scotland to be something more like the ill-fated IRC, or a merchant bank. Something which will go around and lean on people. Large sums are at stake and risks should be taken in this way. in spite of the snares"
- 22 May 1974: Home Office announces that although Dolours and Marion Price have had no food, and only water, for the past 5 days as part of their hunger strike to be sent back to Ireland to continue their sentence, it will not accept any of their demands.
- 22 May 1974: Tony Benn asking for public financial support at the Public Enterprise Committee for Meriden: "I said it wasn't easy to find a project where you could have a degree of commitment as great as this, with workers prepared to take a drop in wages." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 23 May 1974: "ministerial meeting at 9.15. Eric Heffer, Michael Meacher and Frank Beswick were there. We discussed our growing

dissatisfaction with the Department. First, there had not been the degree of help and commitment in the proposed Green Paper on industrial policy that was expected. Second, we knew the Department played some part in stirring the Treasury to get Denis Healey to send on Monday a critical minute, denouncing my industrial policy. Third, the Department continued to put before us proposals on European issues that involved acceptance of the principle of entry. Fourth, in the case of my speech on workers' control, it was the Permanent Secretary who notified number 10 in advance. Fifth, in respect of IPD, the old Fisher Bendix... Eric Heffer had not had enough help. Sixth the Department had resolutely asked for cancellation of Concorde and done all it could.. the long delay in bringing forward Francis Cripps's proposals for handling the interim situation, and opposition to our plans for the Meriden cooperative."

- 23 May 1974: Defence Secretary Mason explains "plans exist for the defence of important sea routes, including those around Southern Africa provided for under the Simonstown Agreement. It is not the practice to give details of military plans."
- 23 May 1974: A nuclear underground test code named Fallon takes place at the Nevada range, as agreed by the government and US officials.
- 23 May 1974: ITV broadcasts its live beauty contest Miss TV Times London finals, featuring Hughie Green and Bernard Manning making various sexist
- 23 May 1974: Livestock farmers threaten to withhold supplies of milk, meat, eggs and cheese, unless they receive get government assistance to end their losses, at an unofficial NFU opposed meeting of 150 farmers at Central Hall, Westminster. They passed a resolution calling for abolition of the Restrictive Practices Act which operates to keep prices down in markets. A dairy farmer discloses he is receiving £6 a week supplementary benefit because he was receiving inly £16 a week from farming.
- 23 May 1974: Lebanon's state News Agency publishes the text of Wilson's message to Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir denouncing a Palestinian guerrilla attack on the Maalot settlement. It quotes a Lebanese Foreign Ministry spokesman: "Mr Wilson has gone out of his way to express personal as well as Britain's sympathies... But when Israel staged its massive air reprisal against Palestinian refugee camps and border villages in Lebanon, the British Foreign Office merely condemned all acts of violence. The difference was

clear between the position the British Prime Minister had taken on the two events." (AP)

- 23 May 1974: Education Secretary Prentice states he will not accept the request for him to speak at an NUS teacher education conference in Leeds unless the NUS policy of opposing NF and hard-right racialists is rescinded. He states free speech must be preserved.
- 23 May 1974: Secretary of State announces an independent inquiry, faced with industrial action, to be set up under Lord Halsbury. No word of an interim payment or a fixed date for the inquiry to report by is given.
- 23 May 1974: RAF announces it has begun transferring No63 Squadron to Gutersloh, Federal Germany, to begin operational service with the Rapier low-level missile system, replacing a squadron of Bofors artillery at the forward RAF base.
- 23 May 1974: Robert Wright, chief of the General Medical Council's overseas committee, states that tests to ensure foreign doctors are competent and can speak and write good English before entering Britain will imposed early in 1975: "The capacity of the scheme will expand quite rapidly and so by the end of 2 years it should be able to accomplish the testing of about 2500 doctors from overseas- that is about the number admitted in the past year. In this exercise we are concerned to produce in the United Kingdom, a system of evaluation of overseas doctors seeking temporary registration" The competency and language tests are later exempted from white Commonwealth nations' junior doctors, yet still imposed on the largely Asian doctors.
- 24 May 1974: Tony Benn's Scotland visit: "John Warne... DTI's director for Scotland, Ray Tuite, Roy Williams, Frank McElhone, Hugh Brown, MP for Provan, and the 3 people from the workers' cooperative who are trying to set up the Scottish Daily News Alistair Mackie, Chairman of the Action Committee, Hooper and MacGee. We talked but I couldn't promise any money." (Tony Benn's Diary)

A meeting with STUC in Glasgow "deputation of yard convenors from Barclay Curle... owned until yesterday by Swan Hunter, who had sold it to Yarrows. Four men came in their work clothes, intelligent pawns in the game, expressing their bitterness by their management to do consultative exercises with them to improve relations in the yard, and just reached a peak, they were told the yard had been sold and they would now have to queue up for a job at Yarrows... they might well be dismissed... I went to meet the

Reverend Geoff Shaw, labour leader of Strathclyde Council representing 2.5 million people." (Tony Benn's Diary)

"Post Office... introduced to the management, the union representative, UPW and others [where] a complete syndicalism has developed between management and labour, they just come together in a way one would never have thought possible before. It is a most interesting development in the nationalised industries." (Tony Benn's Diary)

24 May 1974: Government confirms it has placed no restrictions on Rolls Royce over military equipment servicing contracts in Brazil.

"Q: what is the policy of Her Majesty's Government in regard to the sales of arms and military equipment to Brazil.

Roy Hattersley: The policy of Her Majesty's Government in this respect remains the same as that followed by previous administrations."

The military deals are one part of general British push in Brazil to capture US military interests in 1974-6. The Rolls-Royce aero engine works in Sao Paulo which services military and civil engines for much of Latin America finds orders from an upturn in a nearly continent-wide flood of militarisation over the decade. Stone Manganese (Stone Platt Industries) sets up a joint venture to produce propellers for civil and military aircraft in 1975. Thomas De La Rue expands into securities and money printing. Glaxo expands its pharmaceuticals plant in Rio de Janeiro. British Caledonian, British flag-carrier to South America, designated to avoid competition with British Airways, expands its services from Gatwick to Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo, carrying businesspeople, engineers and tourists.

The stable British 'underground' operators continue. These are British firms operating with Brazilian names, brands and public managers. Souza Cruz, that has a nearly monopoly (89% of market share by sales) on tobacco sales, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of BAT. Wilkinson Match produces matches, lighters, razor blades and sunglasses all under different Brazilian names.

24 May 1974: PRC Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping greets Ted Heath at Beijing Airport. Several thousand Chinese children in gaily-coloured clothes are at the airport. They perform elaborate dances and chant slogans of welcome in Mandarin and English. The crowd have been given Union Jacks and the airport has been decorated slogans in Mandarin and English "Warm welcome to Mr Heath".

"Mao had asked Chou, Why wasn't there a guard of honour and a band playing the national anthem?' and Chou said 'It might have upset Mr Wilson' Mao is reported to have said 'What does that matter.'" (Tony Benn's Diary, 17 Jul 1974)

Deng Xiaoping in a banquet in heath's honour claims there are some disagreements with Britain [meaning Hong Kong] but that "there is no pressing need to settle them".

- 24-30 May 1974: Dr Michael Ramsey takes part in the first senior British religious visit to 'Democratic' Germany. He delivers lectures, preaches sermons in churches and meets senior church and state officials.
- 25 May 1974: Portugal-PAIGC negotiations begin in Whitehall, London.
- 25 May 1974: COHSE's NEC meets in emergency session to consider the announcement of the inquiry. After the meeting, Albert Spanswick tells the press that industrial action will continue because there is no interim payment and any inquiry can "take months".
- 25 May 1974: Protestant Telegraph explains the triumph of Protestantism in Switzerland. It claims that because Switzerland is serious in its Calvin-inspired Protestantism, there are only 92 unemployed people in the country the Protestant Swiss people being morally strong enough to avoid state welfare. Catholics within Britain however have believed "that the state, claiming separation from the Church instead of subservience to it, was an apostate body and therefore liable to be exploited by the 'faithful' when opportunity offered hence no trouble of conscience." Hence Catholic moral weakness and welfare dependence lies at the heart of Britain's economic weakness. It follows comfortably from the concept of 'welfare dependence among the poor' increasingly promoted by the TV and radio media.
- 26 May 1974: Cavalry units of the Republican National Guard use tear gas and water cannons to break up a crowd of 2,000 protesting for colonial independence, outside a military prison demanding the release of Cuban officer Pedro Rodrigues Peralta, arrested for training African anti-colonial guerrillas. Chief of Staff Gen Francisco Da Costa Gomes warns that "individuals have adopted attitudes which may lead to an inevitable confrontation with the forces and so in turn, make themselves guilty of crimes against the established political order." Military authorities order all reporters not to record the incidents. 2 Independent radio stations in Lisbon issue protests against the censorship.
- 26-29 May 1974: Britain's Foreign Office keen on securing an orderly transition in Africa allows its good offices for talks between

Portugal's new MFA government and representatives of PAIGC guerrillas. Mario Soares, PS leader and Foreign Minister, is the head negotiator for Portugal. Callaghan holds informal talks with him.

- 27 May 1974: Callaghan explains on British warships to Chile "I cannot give a clear undertaking on existing contracts, as I have said, because that matter is being reviewed. There are industrial and commercial considerations that have to be and will be taken into account."
- 27 May 1974: Engineers, including several levels of management, shut down Northern Ireland's power stations faced with UWC action. A spokesman for the Electricity Board says the entire grid system is shutting down completely and no further supply of electricity will be made. Gas plants and several factories also respond to a weekend of intensified armed lockout calls.
- 27 May 1974: AP reports industrial sources in Iraq have invited 16 Western firms including British ones for the construction of a state paper factory.
- 27 May 1974: ICI chief Sir Jack Callard attack's the government's price control plans, warning that investment plans will be affected if the disparity between prices the firm can charge under Price Commission rules in Britain compared to overseas is allowed to continue. He says the costs of raw materials in 1973-4 has risen by about £160mil for Britain alone. "We shall hope to recover these extra costs In higher selling prices at home and overseas, but there is no guarantee of this. We are concerned particularly that world trade stays at this level and that the volume of trade is not adversely affected by the financial problems resulting from the higher price of oil and other raw materials". He states ICI remains profitable in spite of inflation: "Bearing in mind the present cost of new money, you will see that in real terms our 1973 profitability is no more than adequate for the future prosperity of the business." However 1973's pre-tax profits of £311mil would have been £50mil less and profitability would be several points less than 1973's 18% (ROCE), if ICI had not employed international transfers.
- 27 May 1974: Reuters reports "British and NATO" forces shadowing a Soviet fleet as it holds an exercise in the Arctic Ocean.
- 27 May 1974: Malaysian Health Minister Tan Sri Lee Slok Yew announces he has appealed to WHO to discourage the detrimental migration of trained medical personnel from the Third World to economic core nations.

- 27 May 1974: Concorde begins series of trial flights from Paris to Rio de Janeiro, in preparation for its Latin America service.
- 27 May 1974: Indian Trade Minister Devi Chattopadhya asks EEC's Executive Commission for further trade concessions over its key exports of cotton textiles, dyeing materials, jute and handloom textiles.
- 27 May 1974: Japan's MITI announces the country's economy has entered recession with declining production, unsold products by volume increasing 6.4% from Apr to Mar 1974 particularly in the the textiles and car sectors.
- 28 May 1974: Heath, receives another enormous PRC welcome from a troupe of lion dancers and thousands of specially-dressed children dancing and waving Union Jacks in Shanghai.
- 28 May 1974: PRC leaders indicate in talks with Heath that Hong Kong is no issue of contention.
- 28 May 1974 pm: Northern Ireland Executive collapses following the resignation of chief executive Brian Faulkner and all culturally loyalist Unionists members. British government could continue to retain Stormont with only SDLP members in the Executive, but faced with a loyal backlash, refuses to do so. UWC has won. "I didn't let them win. They were going to win anyway. It [maintaining Stormont] could not be done that's the short answer. The police were on the brink of not carrying out their duties and the middle class were on the strikers' side"
- 28 May 1974: Straits Times analyses India "it is less than fair to suggest that the Indian Government has given economic development low priority. A nationwide planning apparatus was set up 23 years ago and India has launched a series of plans meant to modernise the country and generate more national wealth. It is clear even to visitors that these efforts have borne some results. Light and heavy industry dot the country, extension workers take the message of 20th century agriculture to the peasants many public housing schemes have been completed and the infrastructure developed. Yet the difference between rich and poor remains shatteringly visible. The "Jet set" flaunts its wealth with impunity but a million children die of malnutrition every year according to India's National Institute of Nutrition."
- 28 May 1974: Brescia, Piazza della Loggia, *Ordine Nuovo-MSI* bomb attack during an anti-fascist protest, killing 8, injuring 102.
- An Italian Parliamentary investigation in 2000 concludes "'So even before the 'stabilising' plans that Atlantic circles had prepared for Italy became operational through the bombings, one of the leading members of the subversive right was literally in the pay of the

- American embassy in Rome'" (US 'supported anti-left terror in Italy', Guardian, 24 Jun 2000)
- 28-30 May 1974: Bakery workers in Portugal go on strike, attempting to secure back pay and pay increases. They return to work under the warning from
- 29 May 1974: Lord Arran writes his column in the London Evening News: "I hate the Irish. I always have hated the Irish. I always will... I loathe and detest the miserable They are savage, murderous thugs. All of them. There is nothing to choose between north and south. Would that a tidal wave were to sweep over that bloodstained island." The open nature of the hatred leads to criticism and the London Evening News editorialises that it is defending freedom of speech. In Aug 1970, Arran was rebuked by the Press Council for his anti-Arab column 'Go to it Israel and push those Egyptian bastards into the Qattara depression', but no action was taken. Similarly his newsprint remains his after this episode.
- 29 May 1974: Ulster Workers Council confirms its calling off any action and states power and water services will be back to normal within days. It urges engineers in the electricity supply industry to work overtime to return services.
- 29 May 1974: At a victory rally in Ballymena, Rev Paisley warns the republican movement: "If you don't quit, we'll destroy you."
- 29 May 1974: PRC's Mao Zedong and Zhou En Lai hold talks with Malaysian Prime Minister Abdul Razak, securing private cooperation in the efforts to isolate guerrillas in the South-East Asian peninsula.\*\*
- 29 May 1974: 1 and 2 hour COHSE stoppages occur every day in all parts of the country. Nearly 20,000 participate in some form in the North-West.
- 29 May 1974: COHSE announces new special measures to prevent seriously ill patients being affected.
- 29 May 1974: Argentina's government announces the creation of an industrial police force to guard factories, including British-owned ones, that have been a target of guerrilla threats or attacks.
- 29 May 1974: Ethiopian armed forces mobilise to break a strike by communications workers which has halted Ethiopia's international telephone and cable links, severely affecting foreign business interests.
- 29 May 1974: 6,000 Portugal's transport workers vote to end their strike securing \$40 a month increase.

- 30 May 1974: Prince Philip writes to Prince Charles urging him to strive hard to win the polo Queen's Cup at Windsor "for the honour of the family". Monarchy officials have been telling him "If you can't set aside a couple of games of polo in order to do something really rather important in Canada or Ottawa... then there's something wrong with your priorities" (Prince of Wales p312)
- 30 May 1974: 300 COHSE nurses at Woodilee Hospital, Kirkintilloch, vote to postpone strike action for 2 weeks. Tony Martin, NUPE area officer attacks the overtime ban and work-to-rule: "The action being taken by their members is clearly dangerous. It is causing harm to patients and distressing relatives."
- 30 May 1974: Delegates of the National Radiographers' Action Campaign Committee meeting in Birmingham declare it will press the Society of Radiographers for a date for strike action after 4 Jul.
- 30 May 1974: General Spinola issues a warning against strike action at a speech in Oporto, a vast industrial complexes: "It is the time for all Portuguese to think deeply about the paths to take from now on the path of the country's salvation or that of its ruin." He also warns of the threat of "counter-revolutionaries and anarchy" that could usher a return to right-wing dictatorship.
- 30 May 1974: Malaysia's Police Inspector-General Abdul Rahman Hashim says setting up diplomatic relations with PRC will not deter elimination of Communists in the country.
- 31 May 1974: After 2 days of negotiations, Spain rejects a British request for easier landing conditions for Concorde at the Airport closest to Gibraltar Airport.
- 31 May 1974: End of negotiations between EEC and USA over commercial terms sees mutual tariff concessions approved.

Britain's EEC Commissioner Soames, former War Secretary under Macmillan, Wilson's appointment as ambassador to France in 1968, leads the EEC side. "Sir Christopher Soames, Vice President of the European Community Commission, and Ambassador William D. Eberle, the U.S. Special Representative for Trade Negotiations, both deserve the thanks of the entire Atlantic community" (President Nixon Speech)

June 1974: Labgear, Cambridge-based subsidiary of Pye, which itself is a subsidiary of the Dutch-owned Philips, announces it has signed an agreement with a South African company to supply technical knowledge on television aerials, and for it to market Labgear's colour television products for South Africa's conversion to colour TV in 1976.

June 1974: 544,400 patients are on long-term N.H.S. waiting lists.

June 1974: Abu Dhabi Telegraph and Telephone Co. (ADTT), a wholly owned subsidiary of British firm, International Aeradio Limited (IAL), takes charge to facilitate the expansion of the U.A.E. oil industry by extending telephone communications to desert oil installations. The existing Plessey Pentex electronic exchange will be expanded. "The network is planned to meet the demand for communication caused by the increased business activity in the area, including the construction of a new oil refinery at Ruwais. Plans for two more exchanges at Jebel Dhanna and Bida Zaid are currently being drawn up, and negotiations are proceeding to locate an exchange on Das Island, the centre of Abu Dhabi's offshore oil production." (Electronics & Power, 11 Jul 1974)

June 1974: Joe Gormley, new Labour Friends of Israel chairman, states any anti-Israel wing of the party is not "very strong" since the British and Israeli Labour parties have "been long-time collaborators in the Socialist International."

June 1974: Prince Charles visits another private school Carmel College: "Speaking at a dinner held to mark the silver jubilee of Carmel College, Britain's only Jewish public school, the Prince of Wales praised the college's education "based on the best aspects of the Jewish faith without necessarily turning everyone into a rabbi". (I was able to observe Prince Charles when he spent a day with us at Carmel College in 1974, to celebrate our 35th anniversary. He was incredibly impressive in the way he had clearly learnt his role, to seem interested in everything and everyone and be excessively polite and friendly. He was an impeccable professional. But at the same time his entourage was busy picking up signals from him of which attractive females to proposition and invite onto his royal train. It seemed as though he had a royal procurer, unofficial of course. In this he was no different from almost all other royals and aristocrats who comprise the fabled Eurotrash jet set. What about him, or indeed his siblings, commands respect? The fact that one day he would inherit the title "Defender of the Faith"? Or his oft

1 June 1974: Chancellor Healey claims in Durham: "the price of our imported raw materials may level off in the months ahead. So what happens to wages is the key to controlling inflation in the coming year."

expressed wish to be the "Defender of Faiths"?)

1 June 1974: An explosion on a Sunday kills 28 workers at the Nypro UK plant (built about 18 months ago). Buildings are damaged within a five-mile radius. Fires from the blast last for another week, until the Fire Brigade at full stretch can put them out. Observers declare hundreds would have been killed, had the explosion occurred on a weekday. The workforce during the week is more than 500. An official enquiry begins.

- 1 June 1974: Jenkins announces that Marion and Dolours Price will not be transferred from HMP Brixton, so long as their hunger strike continues.
- 2 June 1974: Press support Jenkins in his stance of refusing to transfer Price sisters from HMP Brixton. <u>Sunday Times</u> editorial is titled 'Jenkins is right'. <u>The Observer</u> states Jenkins has made "a courageous decision."
- 2 June 1974: COHSE continues with its action. At the end of the first week, over 50 wards have been closed and patient care is rearranged. Dockers in Manchester and other industrial workers have stopped work in sympathy during the first week. Local authority and district nurses also participate in action.
- 2-15 June 1974: Kangaroo One, a vast military combined exercise, is held in Australia and the Indian Ocean involving military forces from Australia, America, Britain and New Zealand. Australia has 10 anti-submarine helicopter Sea Kings on order from Britain, and British officers show they can best be used on sea carriers. British admirals applaud the final show-piece exercise where U.S. Marines execute an invasion of Sabina Point, Shoalwater Bay Training Area, Queensland, Australia transporting dozens of vehicles and tanks and thousands of troops in under 20 minutes.
- 3 June 1974: Michael Gaughan, bank raider for IRA funds, succumbs to death on hunger strike after a final attempt at forced-feeding. His brother John Gaughan explains his weight has halved and "his face simply had no flesh left. I saw him a week ago and I knew then he would die if he was not sent back to Ireland."
- 3 June 1974: Issue of <u>Time</u> sees Lee Kwan Yew call for continued Anglo-American involvement in the Persian Gulf: "The centre of gravity in the Indian Ocean is the Gulf area, which was traditionally guarded by the British navy. As the source of considerable oil production, the Gulf will be crucial to all industrial nations. The liquidation of the British bases in the area (an exit that is scheduled for the mid-1970s) gave rise to a new situation one that was not very neatly balanced by Russia's entry (with its naval fleet into the Indian Ocean) or by putting an obsolete American Navy vessel off Bahrain. I believe that the rearrangements that must follow the reopening of the Suez Canal will demand more than a token presence by one Navy vessel."

He also urges 'recycling of petrodollars, a call that will become a mantra for solutions that seek to delay fundamental equalising moves in the economy: "we are dependent on trade with developed countries. If the international financial institutions can deal with the huge sums of money accumulated in what have been called 'petrodollars' all will be well. If the \$300billion to \$90billion in surplus oil dollars cannot be recycled, there's going to be great financial instability."

- 4 June 1974: EEC Foreign and Agriculture Ministers meet to discuss the impact of and mitigate any possible side-effects from Britain's intention to renegotiate its EEC membership.
- 4 June 1974: Meeting in Dakar, Senegal, between EEC and African states seeking bloc adhesion and preferential trade terms. EEC is partially successful in being able to play one country against another on the basis of their differing products.
- 5 June 1974: <u>Daily Telegraph</u> (Mark, Marcus and Marxist St Michael versus St Anthony' reports Sir Marcus Sieff, chief of Marks & Spencer, in a tirade at nationalisation plans and planning agreements.
- 5 June 1974: "Jack Spriggs the AEUW convener and Dick Jenkins the TGWU convenor from the old Fisher-Bendix works in Kirkby came to see me. [it] is now not viable and is asking us to save 1,200 jobs. .. I told them what the position was and they said "The plain truth is the last government was ready to help us and you apparently are not." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 5 June 1974: Portugal-FRELIMO negotiations begin in earnest in Lusaka, Zambia. Machel stating "The Portuguese must negotiate with FRELIMO to study the mechanism of transferring power to the Mozambican people"
- 5 June 1974: Nixon gives a major speech in favour of détente: "Around the globe, we, as Americans, committed ourselves to halting the advance of communism, to promoting economic development, and even to encouraging other countries to adopt our economic, political, and social ideals. Simplistic and occasionally misguided as this goal may have been, it was a noble and unselfish goal in its enthusiasm. ... And by the later 1960s, our policy of trying to solve everyone's problems all over the world was no longer realistic... As our overwhelming superiority in power receded [in 1969], there was a growing threat that we might turn inward, that we might retreat into isolation from our world responsibilities, ignoring the fact that we were, and are still, the greatest force for peace anywhere in the world today. This threat of a new wave of isolationism, blind to both the lessons of the past and the perils of the future, was, and remains today, one of the greatest potential dangers facing our country...

We have also succeeded... in ending our military involvement in Vietnam in a manner which gave meaning to the heavy sacrifices we had made and which greatly enhanced the preservation of freedom and stability in Southeast Asia. One result is that today the 20 million people of South Vietnam are free to govern themselves and they are able to defend themselves. An even more important result is that we have proved again that America's word is America's bond. We have preserved the trust of our allies around the world by demonstrating that we are a reliable partner in the defence of liberty; we have earned the respect of our potential adversaries by demonstrating that we are a reliable partner in the search for peace. ... In surveying the results of our foreign policy, it is ironic to observe that its achievements now threaten to make us victims of our success. In particular, a dangerous misunderstanding has arisen as to just what détente is and what it is not. Until very recently, the pursuit of détente was not a problem for us in America. We were so shift international tides trying to confrontation toward negotiation that people were generally agreed that the overriding consideration was the establishment of a pattern of peaceful international conduct. But now that so much progress has been made, some take it for granted."

6 June 1974: "Lunch at ICI with chairman Jack Callard directors Robert Haslam, Maurice Hodgson and Ray Pennock. They asked ... 'Will you give a promise that ICI won't be nationalised?' One chap said 'You know as a citizen I agree with you entirely but of course ICI is a successful company. What about profitable companies?' I said 'I couldn't nationalised ICI unless there was a case for it. You are successful, you have a good investment record, good exports, good industrial relations. What concerns me at the moment is poor industrial performance.

'Can I quote you on that at a shop stewards meeting?' asked Callard '... I'll speak for myself. I'll come and address the shop stewards if you like... people are suffering great injustice and want to correct it' 'Well, tell them to work harder – an honest day's work for an honest day's pay'" (Tony Benn's Diary)

6 June 1974: <u>Luta Popular</u>, daily newspaper of the MRPP (Movimento Reorganizativo do Partido do Proletariado), reports a vote by an armed forces unit in Tancos that it will refuse to embark for Africa under any conditions, leading to their armed 'staying put'. Its editor Jose Luis Saldanha Sanches is arrested by armed forces and detained at Elvas military prison camp.

It is this kind of reporting that makes the JSN further tighten its censorship procedures.

7 June 1974: Burmah Oil chairman, Lumsden, confirms Burmah Oil and BP will jointly begin development of their respective blocks within the Ninian Field area.

7 June 1974: President of Glasgow University Students' Representative Council opposes increases in rents: "We have learned that the original proposal by the university finance committee was to increase fees by 48.9% Id halls which have catering, and be 30% In non-catering halls. We now understand, however, the suggested increase for catering balls is from £249 to £342 per 30-week year, which is a rise of 37%. The figures can be contrasted with those at Aberdeen University, where the top fee proposed is £292. The increase In Glasgow would be the highest In Scotland."

7 June 1974: Press reports ICI Britain's biggest industrial film, and second largest maker of polyester film, is linking up with Ozalid in a £5.8mil deal to combined interests in polyester film-based products. It involves ICI taking a 12% stake in Ozalid in exchange for shares worth nearly £4mil and a 25% stake in ICI's Bexford subsisiary, valued at £1.8mil.

7 June 1974: Membership of the Inquiry into NHS nursing pay is finally announced. Midwifery, speech therapy and allied fields are included Lord Halsbury is appointed chair it. Lord Halsbury is a director in scientific research firms, Chancellor of Brunel University, and former Managing Director of the National Research Development Corporation 1949-59. In the Heath era he has been a prominent figure in favour of statutory pay restraint upon workforces.

7 June 1974: 5 detained guerrillas are executed in Iran.

8 June 1974: Michael Gaughan's coffin is sent after a requiem service from the Church of the Sacred Heart Kilburn, London via Heathrow Airport to Dublin. "Several spectators booed the cortège on the way to London airport and one woman called out: "That's the way they should all go back to Ireland."

8 June 1974: The Economist 'No Voice in Space' urges Britain to participate in the satellite race to transmit TV broadcasts directly into homes of foreign countries "commanding the eyes of the uncommitted, undeveloped world" for political goals."The Americans can hardly be asked to launch Europe's propaganda for it ... The ATS satellite [launched by the US recently] may not look like much of a menace now, but before a decade is out the earth is liable to be girdled with its offspring... To say that Britain should not be up there claiming... attention is equivalent to saying...Europe has nothing to contribute." It could be a "rewarding venture" (Economist, 8 Jun 1974)

9 June 1974: Ronald Butt in <u>Sunday Times</u> writes 'The vacuum at the heart of the Tory Party' explaining there has been no update in

- thinking since Feb 1974 to convince key business sectors that they can offer a return path to profitability.
- 9 June 1974: Irish Political Hostages Campaign holds a rally in London calling for the transfer of and political status for the remaining 4 republicans in English prisons.
- 9 June 1974: Prince Charles is interviewed in <u>The Observer</u> where he explains his attitude to marriage: "A woman not only marries a man; she marries into a way of life into which she's got a contribution to make. She's got to have some knowledge of it, some sense of it, or she wouldn't have a clue about whether she's going to like it. And if she didn't have a clue, it would be risky for her"
- 9 June 1974: Report on multinational firms as requested by the majority of members of the UN Economic and Social Council is released.\*\*
- 10 June 1974: On direct orders from Raul Rego, former editor of liberal Republica (legal under Caetano) and current Minister of Media, broadcast of a play by the Comuna theatre group at the Mercado da Primavera is cut mid-air after he hears anti-military sentiments.
- 10 June 1974: COHSE Executive Emergency Resolution offering a complete return to normality if interim payment is offered carried overwhelmingly. John Cronin, MP, chief of COHSE's Parliamentary Committee, backs the demand for an interim payment.
- 10 June 1974: "meeting with George Edwards, chairman of BAC 'I know you don't agree with my ideology, George, and a lot of the things I say but unless we pull ourselves up by the bootstraps we are finished." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 10 June 1974: "I told [Bill Lapworth and Dennis Johnson] that Harold Lever and Joel Barnett had seen Poore... they were recommending to Cabinet that regretfully we didn't support the cooperative." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 11 June 1974: EEC authorises payment on 3.6p/lb on the export of Irish tomatoes. Michael Collett Scotland NFU has declared the move "a bitter disappointment for all Scottish tomato growers"
- 11 June 1974: "Part ended up by saying the NEB would be highly controversial in Whitehall; other Departments at an official level were already saying it was a Marxist document. Peter Carey [Under-Secretary, Department of Industry] said he thought it was too polemical for Whitehall, and Ron Dearing said, 'Don't attack the multinationals' Part said 'The multinationals are growing and we mustn't be like King Canute.' " (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 11 June 1974: Black miners from Merrispruit hold a demonstration against working conditions. South African police open fire killing or seriously injuring 19.

12 June 1974: 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Group of 20 of the IMF (first organised 26 Jun 1972), bringing together the major financial contributors. It agrees to reform its constitution on a steady plan to sharpen lending arrangements.

12 June 1974: Heath attacks Tony Benn as a Commissar and describes Industry plans as in danger of leading to an Eastern European Britain.

12 June 1974: Government publicly explains its position on apartheid South Africa: "although we withhold arms from South Africa, we want to see normal trade proceeding with that country." Lord Winterbottom, former Labour Defence Secretary, sums up the broad Labour approach to weapons sales: "The cost of weapons and weapons systems is becoming so astronomically high that it becomes almost impossible to supply equipment unless the costs of research and development are spread over a much wider cost of production than is required for this country. For this reason, we have to export: hence we have the Defence Sales Section within the Arms Procurement Executive. We must trade in arms if we are to have a Defence industry."

He explains the importance of the crucial completing weapons orders, in order that competitor nations do not win over Britain:

"Sentimentality can be as dangerous as brutality, and I regret that trading in arms is not suited to sentimental people. Anybody who works in this business can only be ruled by hardheaded national interest. The only question that we can ask is whether the delivery of arms to a certain country is in the national interest? We must never forget that if we sell arms we must also be prepared to sell the ammunition and the spares for them....

I think the best comment upon the whole nonsense about the supply of arms to Chile, and particularly in this case submarines, was made by a worker in the Lower Clyde shipyards, who remarked that if the submarines being built there were to be used to put the workers down, "then they must have bloody big sewers in Chile". I think that is the definitive comment on the subject. Why should British workers be denied work because of a revolutionary splinter group preventing the Government and a Government establishment from, shall we say, reconditioning Rolls-Royce engines for Chile? Or why should they be denied work because of someone's bleeding soul? There are two big arms contracts going in South America at the moment. One is about £100 million worth of naval equipment for Argentina, and there is another £100 million for Brazil. ... Is our conscience so tender that we cannot sell him [Peron] £100 million worth of ships which he will never use against us? I just do not understand the position. Of course, it is not only just this particular issue but the attitude which is spread throughout the whole world

where we are trying to sell arms which will enable us to finance our own Defence budget." Eventually the submarines are delivered to Chile later in the year and the warships to Argentina and Brazil in 1975-6.

- 13 June 1974: Ralph Bateman, CBI President, attacks the Tony Benn plans for industry, but not the Labour Party, in a speech in Bath.
- 13 June 1974: "flew to Blackpool for the POEU conference and straight to the Savoy Hotel"
- 13 June 1974: Tony Benn meets trade union and management representatives involved in the plan for the creation of the 'workers co-operative' at Meriden "two basic solutions the Robinson plan to make Meriden work within NVT; and the second... to try to get the independent Meriden cooperative working." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 13 June 1974: South Africa replaces its police border guards with armed forces units along 2,250km of border with Angola and Zambia. It concentrates on the Namibia-Angola border in particular to ready for an invasion to thwart any moves for economic and multiracial democracy.
- 13 June 1974: BMA's annual conference of local medical committees reports severe financial pressures within Health Boards is causing crisis and cutbacks in the NHS. Dr Arthur Loden, a Kent GP says the government has allowed increases in expenditure of 6% or so when costs, due to inflation have risen 30% or even 50%. He urges patients' watchdogs, Community Health Councils, be told of the reality in order to tackle "one stupid government that cannot see that the health service is crumbling around their ears."

Dr Roger Arthur, from New Maiden. Surrey, a member of the General Medical Services Committee, explains it is generally agreed that by Sep 1974 funds allocated to the NHS would have been spent. "This is the last day that we meet as a body before the crisis situation explodes. We must act now - resignation by October this year, not on grounds of remuneration but on vocational grounds on humanity grounds, on grounds of care, on grounds of price in medical standards in this country, is what is needed from us."

BMA sends a telegram to Wilson and Castle expressing anger at the government's failure to publish the Halsbury Report on pay for medical professionals in the NHS, before the conference, so that its contents can be debated.

13 June 1974: Prince Charles makes his maiden speech in the House of Lords during a debate on reports of the House's Select Committee on Sport and Leisure. He urges the use of school sports facilities in the evenings to avoid destructive youth [meaning working-class youth] behaviour: "This report must awaken us to the

challenge of removing the dead hand of boredom and frustration from mankind."

It is covered in the press with standard sycophancy and sexism. "His speech was listened to by Miss Laura Jo Watkins, daughter of an American admiral. Miss Watkins, aged 20, the latest lady to have her name linked with that of the Prince was wearing a pale gold skirt and cardigan, with matching waist-length hair... [Charles] had to listen to question time... Baroness Burton becoming euphoric on learning the British Airways terminal in Buckingham Palace Road — (loud and loyal laughter) - would continue its check-in facilities. His speech proved an elegant, literary, undergraduate affair, and, as far as one could judge from the back of the royal neck — all that could be seen from the press gallery which is right above the cross benches on which he sat — he remained calm and collected throughout. Being a modest chap, he told their lordships he was afflicted by trepidation, trembling, and fear, but he gave no sign that this was so. Prince Charles spoke for about 15 minutes, quoting extensively from authorities on leisure ranging from Aristotle, Tailhard de Chardin, and Oscar Wilde, through Dr Paul Weiss of Yale University to 'my father, the noble Duke'.... By the royal maiden, it must be said, everyone, including the scrumptious Miss Watkins, was quite bowled over." (Glasgow Herald, 14 Jun 1974)

- 13 June 1974: BBC's *The Money Programme* records the visit to Britain of the Hudson Institute, the US business-funded research foundation, that has recently that Britain will soon become one of the poorest countries in Europe and France the richest. It follows Hudson Institute's Paris bureau head visiting factories and offices in various parts of Britain to urge French-style corporatism
- 13 June 1974: David Nicolson, chairman of British Airways announces, after his arrival on Concorde at Logan Airport, Boston, from Paris in a record time of 3 hours 9 minutes on board a Concorde, a series of "shadow" flights to establish and test passenger service techniques. Each flight is to carry up to 100 passengers, including the specially invited guests. The testing, ie free trips to rich and well-connected clientèle, includes 36 trips from Heathrow to north America as well as many flights to and around the Middle East and the Far East.
- 13 June 1974: Ralph Bateman, CBI president, at a CBI function in Bath, warns against nationalisation plans by Foot and Benn where "by means of carrot and stick' interference, politicians and their civil servants would be able to bully experienced managers into taking decisions which might well be against their better judgement." He describes the plans as a threat "to the health and success of British industry." He calls for a sane economic policy which "would mean

far more stringent efforts to control wage inflation. It would mean that the revolutionary proposals from Mr Foot and Mr Benn would have to be abandoned ... price control would have to be overhauled to make it much more sensible. It would mean a European and foreign policy which gives United Kingdom industry and its overseas customers confidence in our ability to honour promises."

The plans themselves are modest the nationalisation of only 25 selected firms and planning agreements with 100 other firms.

- 13 June 1974: Sir Raymond Brookes, chairman of GKN, issues an open letter to Benn warning against nationalisation plans, even though the firm has received over £8mil in direct government financial assistance in 1970-4, as well as countless government orders amounting to an enormous subsidy.
- 14 June 1974: "I had a candid talk to Roy Williams. 'Look this is what is really happening. All my industrial and regional policy in respect of Europe is being taken away and put under the Foreign secretary's control. My green paper is being blocked by the Treasury, by the Chancellor's minute. My day to day business is now being watched by Harold Lever and Joel Barnett. All my speeches are controlled, and indeed I have been told by the Prime Minister not to speak or broadcast. And as regards appointments, has said I am not to proceed even by letting it be known there are vacancies [for boards of nationalised firms]" (Tony Benn's Diary) 14 June 1974: Tony Benn speech in Bristol in favour of small
- 14 June 1974: Tony Benn speech in Bristol in favour of small businesses.
- 14 June 1974: Chile's Decree 527 vests all executive power in the President of the Junta, Pinochet.
- 14 June 1974: Government concedes "a small number of Indonesian officers are attending training courses in this country."
- 15 June 1974: Exodus of 500 SWAPO supporters into Angola, begins a large shift where Namibian civilians under threat from SADF units begin to seek refuge in rural areas vacated by Portuguese domination.
- 15 June 1974: Red Lion Square police assault on anti-fascists whilst defending a black-shirted National Front rally sees the death of 21-year-old Warwick University students' union member Kevin Gately. John Randall, NUS leader urges only an inquiry over the death, instead of action against the police chiefs and officers who charge a crowd of well over 1,000 anti-fascists with horses.

- 16 June 1974: World press devotes significant newsprint to Prince Charles and a potential future wife. A single sample front page in the highest selling newspaper in Australia the Sun-Herald based on a Reuters report: "A midnight rendezvous between Prince Charles and an American Admiral's daughter today heightened rumours of romance in the life of the heir to the British Throne. Charles and blonde, sun-bronzed Californian Laura Jo Watkins had the midnight meeting at Kensington Palace, according to reports In the palace one of the Royal homes in London—the Prince and Laura Jo sipped drinks for several hours. Miss Watkins is staying in London as guest of US Ambassador Walter Annenberg. Meanwhile in San Diego, California, the American girl's mother went into seclusion after being deluged by telephone calls for two days. Laura Jo, 20, is the daughter of US Rear-Admiral James Watkins, of San Diego. She attended Mr Annenberg's party to mark the relinquishment of his London envoy post. Prince Charles normally would have attended this function, but the death of his great-uncle, the Duke of Gloucester, required him to remain in official mourning. According to a report in the London "Evening Standard" Laura Jo slipped away from the party to meet the Prince at Kensington Palace. The newspaper quoted a friend of the Watkins family, Mrs Marie Wahl, of San Diego, as saying: "Laura likes the Prince enormously and thinks he is a very fine person—but she has no plans to marry at the moment." The Prince met her at a San Diego cocktail party in March. He subsequently kept in touch with her and this week invited her to the House of Lords to hear him deliver his first parliamentary speech."
- 16 June-17 September 1974: France begins its 8<sup>th</sup> round of nuclear testing in Polynesia. Britain makes no comment since it too is performing underground nuclear tests.
- 16 June 1974: RAF Regiment No.63 Squadron becomes the first operational Rapier SAM unit as it completes its deployment-transfer to RAF Gütersloh.
- 16 June 1974: Portuguese armed forces chief General Francisco da Costa Gomes holds "serious and important" talks in Brussels with Wilson and Callaghan, about Portugal-EEC relations.
- 16-17 June 1974: 48-hour strike action by production assistants who are forced to work overtime for little extra pay. Filming of 2 plays, Porridge and Late Call is halted.
- 17 June 1974: "Mrs B ["cleaner, babysitter and general good sort" to the Palins] is being relentlessly importuned William who is trying

to persuade her to stop cleaning the bathroom and buy some sweets for him." (Michael Palin's Diary)

17 June 1974: Labour Lords argue for more government compensation towards army equipment and musical instruments blown up in a night-time attack on army barracks in the six counties, though no one has been injured.

17 June 1974: The first Papuan officer to command a Royal Australian Navy warship takes up his post, commanding the largely Papuan crew of HMAS Ladava, the Australian patrol boat. He has trained in Australia after (Australian-administered) colonial education in Port Moresby/Pot Mosbi and will be one aspect of the link to the future independent Papua New Guinea.

17 June 1974: Association of Metropolitan Authorities criticises a government plan to reduce the trainee teacher supply, attacks plans for differential pay rates for teachers and urges an immediate restoration of free school milk. Representing all local authorities in Greater London and metropolitan areas of Merseyside and Greater Manchester, West Midlands, South and West Yorkshire, and Tyne and Wear, AMA explains that dozens of authorities face severe overcrowding in schools.

17 June 1974: Governors at Highbury Grove School, Islington, vote 12-6 to refuse to draw up a short-list for the head-teacher post, having rejected a short-list approved by ILEA. The governors, supported by activist backlash middle-class parents demand a name in the tradition of Rhodes Boyson, former head and current Conservative MP, who approves of frequent suspension and expulsion.

17 June 1974: The rape case of PC Robert Buttolph concludes with a prison-term after the jury agrees 10-2 that the police officer with a police issue gun has entered the Norfolk home of a TV dancer and raped her. The defence has claimed the rape victim could have been influenced by sexual fantasy, and "must be a liar of snake-like cunning and loose morals. She would be a woman prepared to invite a man into her chalet in circumstances which add up, you may think, to a brazen invitation to take advantage of her body."

17 June 1974: Lord Fenner Brockway explains his earlier oppostion to anti-fascist protest at Conway Hall: "I dissented very strongly from this and declined participation in it because I thought violence would result, not from our own associates, but from other fringe groups."

17 June 1974: Jonathan Guinness, former chief of the Monday Club, invited by Central London Polytechnic Conservative Association finds the Students' Union building locked, the lecture cancelled after protests have been called against his presence.

17 June 1974: Tony Benn-Wilson blistering row:

Wilson: "Well, you are not working as a member of a team. [other Ministers] don't think you're a member of the team. Now, on broadcasting, why do you get all this exposure?'

Benn: I get messages twice a day saying I'm not to broadcast – one ven came in stopping me from doing *The World at One* before I had actually been invited.'

Wilson:... if Eric [Heffer] speaks [against the government industrial policy censure motion], every word will have to be looked at. You know what is happening. I had to restrain a senior minister this weekend who was determined to make a speech attacking your policy." (Tony Benn's Diary)

17-18 June 1974: Frank Berry, UCATT chairman, urges pay restraint, at its Congress describes Britain's situation as "frightening and reminiscent of the winter after the strike in the construction industry. In the kind of situation that could develop over the coming months it would be well for us all to remember the circumstances in which a Tory government was brought into power in 1970, and how we suffered as a consequence.... We owe it to the Government to see that moderate influences prevail in the field on wage demands, although we must not forget our responsibilities towards seeing that the lower paid section of our membership are fairly treated."

George Berry UCATT general secretary, member of the TUC General Council argues against bargaining opening with fixed wage targets in favour of moderation for the "social contract".

- 17-19 June 1974: The last ever Pan-African Congress 'Six PAC' is held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.
- 18 June 1974: Paul McCartney celebrates his 5-year anniversary in an interview with the <u>Daily Express</u> declaring: "I'm rather old-fashioned- I believe in the marriage contract."
- 18 June 1974: General Spinola and Nixon meet in the Azores.
- 19 June 1974: Government is defeated 299-308 on an amendment to the Finance Bill to return to trade unions £10mil of taxation sequestered from trade unions that did not register under Heath's Industrial Relations Act.
- 20 June 1974: PCP-controlled Intersindical federation repeats its attacks on the postal workers' dispute: "Certain demands made at this tune are an affront to the democratization of the country"

- (Diario de Noticias, 20 June). PCP organises attacks to intimidate postal workers and threaten to enter the occupied and blocked work locations. In Braganca, where a PCP strikebreaking team enters the post office, but strikers nonetheless refuse to return to work.
- 20 June 1974: Government announces legal aid will remain stacked against the disabled: [there are] "no proposals at present to amend the regulations to allow for sickness benefit to be disregarded in assessing the income of applications."
- 20 June 1974: COHSE decides to step-up action, believing that an interim payment is reasonable, because of the absence of a firm date for the report's publication. COHSE's May recruiting figures show 14,882 new nurse members. Bans are introduced on admitting private patients and working with agency nurses, and a ban placed on all non-emergency admissions.
- 20 June 1974: A worker is burned, dying 2 days later in hospital, after unsafe electrics leads to an explosion, in the interior of a water tank in a bulk carrier at a Scott Lithgow shipyard in Cartsdyke.
- 20 June 1974: Government plans to increase costs to industry for off-peak electricity produced by CEGB are defeated in the Commons. A separate Conservative-tabled motion, condemning plans for nationalisation and control of industry, wins.
- 21 June 1974: Amnesty International news release reports the discovery of new mass graves of army-supported 'death squads' in Brazil, the arrest of Maria de Conceicao, Sarmiento Coelho da Paz and a wave of other arrests since Mar 1974. Amnesty International's Report on Allegations of Torture in Brazil, originally published Sep 1972, is re-issued Jul 1974 with changes bringing documents up to date. Yet the militarists' widespread brutalities are basically dismissed in the British media, concentrating, if at all, on President General Geisel's distensao(relaxation) policy.
- 21 June 1974: Printers in support of action by workers in the regional press, halt production meaning <u>The Times</u>, <u>Financial Times</u> and <u>Daily Mirror</u> are not published.
- 21 June 1974: Government is defeated in a censure motion over its industrial strategy.
- 21 June 1974: Concerned by discussion of nationalisation plans and insufficient compensation, British share prices reach a 15-year low FTSE 30 index drops 5.7points to 252.3 points.
- 22 June 1974: Keith Joseph in a major backlash speech urging a stiffer centre-right line: "First, for the past 30 years in our party competitive efforts to improve life, we have overburdened the economy. We have overestimated the power of government to do more and more for more and more people... In the social services,

alas, we seem to have generated more problems than we have solved. We have found it harder than our neighbours to keep the overall level of demand- so important to the economy and to society as a whole- at about the right pitch. Secondly, for 30 years, levels of state expenditure have been greater than the economy could bear... Has it been wise to pour money and skilled people and growth firms - all needed desperately in our big cities - into new towns? Has it been wise to expand our universities guite so fast? There are many other forms of expenditure which need to be reexamined. Third there are the trade unions. Workers here seem to co-operate less... than do the workers of north west Europe. Our shop stewards and those they lead tend to be more resistant to change, less ready to improve techniques and more prone to strike, more given to damaging wage claims, than workers in north west Europe. And fourth is the running vendetta conducted by the Socialists against our free enterprise system and those who manage it. Throughout the years a large section of the Socialist leadership has been downright antagonistic towards our wealth producers and towards the industry - national and multinational, large and small ... There are other reasons too. Rent controls and local authority housing have almost destroyed the ability of people to move [ie meaning industry cannot locate as it pleases but must consider its workforce, an intolerable proposition]. Our well-intentioned social workers and misguided left-wing teachers have between them helped to erode the will to work. ... This much we can already learn from one or more of [North West European neighbours]: that poverty is not ended by levelling down: that great prosperity has no link with public ownership: that high earnings are bred by cooperation not by conflict. A football team could not perform at its best if it were treated in the way that Socialists have treated British management.... We must decide whether to go down with Benn or on to a more rational economy.... It is pointless to argue about the level of investment when existing investment cannot be used properly because of poor labour relations, inflation, unpredictability created by continually changing government expedients. It is the quality and direction of investment that counts. We have destroyed or are destroying the market criteria for investment and production and have yet to produce another set. ... Governments are only free to act within the constraints set by public opinion. It is my job and the job of the Centre for Policy Studies now being set up to show what can be done [against the Benn approach]"

22 June 1974: Federal German police drag protesters from the field of the Berlin Olympic Stadium at a World Cup match between Chile and Australia and arrest 10 of them. British press analysis largely sees it as another damaging instance of "bringing politics into sport"

23 June 1974: 10,000 students hold a silent procession through central London marking a week since the killing of Kevin Gately.

23 June 1974: <u>Sunday Telegraph</u> lists the 20 top firms in Britain earmarked for state intervention or takeover. It includes, amongst others, British Leyland, ICI, Ford, Esso, Courtaulds, Hovis, Unigate, Unilever, Allied Breweries and Bass Charrington. The list has been leaked by a rival Ministry, presumably the Treasury, so as to raise the defences and backlash efforts of the firms concerned. The 20 companies control in all more than 4,000 subsidiary firms. What is proposed for nearly all is the planning agreement system under NEB whereby the government ends all aid and finance to the companies and promises to reintroduce it only when undertakings on prices, investment or industrial relations are satisfied. NEB is a successor to Labour's 1968 Industrial Reorganisation Corporation (IRC) whose purpose was announced as "to promote structural change which will improve the efficiency and profitability of British industry." (30 Jan 1968, Hansard Vol.757 c278-9).

23 June 1974: Sunday Express sums up the standard press line on the revelations of 20 firms for nationalisation. Its cartoon features Benn and Wilson as caretakers over an open coffin marked 'Nationalisation of Production, Distribution and Exchange' gesturing to a Britannia figure with a factory trident, gear brassiere and shield in the shape of a Union Jack tyre, labelled 'British industry'. Wilson gesturing and saying 'You look shaky, dear you'll feel much better if you take a lie down, with Benn with the coffin lid grasped tightly behind him.

23 June 1974: 10,000 students hold a silent procession through central London marking a week since the killing of Kevin Gately.
23 June 1974: Weekly journal <u>Le Point</u> publishes an interview with a senior policeman admitting French security services bugged telephones of many major figures including Giscard in the early 1970s.

24 June 1974: Jack Jones opposes assistance to Meriden workers: 'Harold Lever says Meriden isn't viable. They just want £7million of public money.'

Benn: Harold Lever doesn't want this [cooperative] to work'

Jones: Oh I'll have to see him about it' Jack replied making it quite clear... bypassing me and going straight to Harold Lever." (Tony Benn's Diary)

24 June 1974: Jack Jones attacks nationalisation:

Jones: "Nationalisation is no good.... You don't want to support the Scottish newspaper workers.... You don't want to do that. You don't want to save every lame duck.'

Benn: What about British Leyland

Jones: Why couldn't you sell it?... Why don't you sell it to [US world number one vehicle multinational] General Motors." (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 24 June 1974: Callaghan to Meacher: "You'll have to drop the first part.... The National Enterprise Board. We can't have it we will just go for plannig agreements." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 24 June 1974: Wilson confirms that the government has recently conducted underground nuclear weapons tests.
- 24-28 June 1974: Associated Newspapers, owners of <u>Daily Mail</u>, <u>London Evening News</u>, various North sea oil interests, London taxicab firms and a property management group, announces 150 redundancies at the <u>London Evening News</u> and states that unless the autumn launch of the Evening News as a tabloid is success, a further 700 posts are at risk.
- 25 June 1974: Malaysian police, including the partly British trained Malaysia Special Branch, conduct mass raids in Jinjang and Kepong arresting 16 dissidents under ISA and anti-terrorism laws.
- 25-26 June 1974: Wilson goes to "a meeting of the North Atlantic Council and to sign... the declaration reaffirming the aims and ideals of the North Atlantic Treaty which was adopted at the meeting of Foreign Ministers of the North Atlantic Alliance in Ottawa last week." (Hansard 27 Jun 1974)

The 'Atlantic Declaration' as it is known pays oblique tribute to British nuclear weapons, noting that 2 nations within NATO, besides the United States, have nuclear weapons, 1 set (British) committed wholly to NATO, another set (French) outside. It is based on the Ottawa Declaration (19 Jun 1974), which has been accepted largely from a British draft, (appearing to soften the harder US edge of a US draft, thus incorporating objectors such as Norway and Belgium, Britain playing its standard bridging role) adopted at the NATO defence ministers' meeting.

26 June 1974: John Pardoe: "South America has had more experience of hyper-inflation than any other area in the world in recent years and therefore affords a suitable study if we are trying to combat the catastrophe that will come to the United Kingdom in the coming months."

26 June 1974: TUC publishes *Collective Bargaining and the Social Contract*, a statement of eight "guidelines" which all member unions are expected to follow after the lifting of the Stage III pay limits.

It explicitly rejects any pay settlements to cover falls in wages relative to prices over the preceding years stating "the scope for real increases in consumption at present is limited, and a central negotiating objective in the coming period will therefore be to ensure that real incomes are maintained... this will entail claiming compensation for the rise in the cost of living since the last settlement, taking into account that threshold agreements will already have given some compensation for current price increases" It states: "the twelve month interval between major increases should in general continue to apply" and urges "priority should be given to negotiating agreements which will have beneficial effects on unit costs and efficiency, to reforming pay structures... attaining reasonable minimum standards, including the TUC's low pay target of a £25 minimum basic rate with higher minimum earnings, for a normal week for those aged 18 and over... progress towards four weeks annual holiday... full use should be made of the conciliation, arbitration and mediation services of the CAS [later becoming ACAS] to help towards a quick solution of disputes."

Its aim is to restructure capitalist relations slowly to improve "unit costs" ie to reduce the costs borne by employers for every unit of production. Training when funded by general taxation (polytechnics and YOP schemes), no demands for crèches and socialisation of childcare, keeping pay claims down, only demanding a rise once a year, public subsidies for transport for, higher productivity, heavily specialised competitive team-working, mental wear and tear of the worker on the job, mechanisation, limited opportunities for slow-down, not taking production-halting action over on-the-job stresses and injuries all reduces unit costs.

It explicitly endorses the government record from Mar-Jun 1974: "40. much progress has been made in implementing the social contract, which was first envisaged in the TUC-Labour Party Joint statement of February 1973. Since taking office, the government have demonstrated their commitment to implementing the agreed approach." (General Council, Collective Bargaining and the Social Contract, appendix to TUC General Council's Report, Report of 106tb Annual Trades Union Congress, 1974, 290-1)

26 June 1974: Tony Benn announces in public that "the Government are ready to acquire the entire shipbuilding and ship repairing interests of Court Shipbuilders and consider that this should stabilise the situation in respect of Court Line's interests, including the holidays booked for this summer." Court Line are owners of Court Shipbuilders, Clarksons and Horizon Tours. "before

making a statement I sought the advice of the CBI and the TUC. Without conveying any confidential information, I sent to the TUC the latest annual report of the company and the Press cuttings. The TUC asked me to try to safeguard the jobs in the shipyards. The CBI felt unable to make a recommendation." (Hansard HC Deb 26 Jun 1974 vol.875)

26 June 1974: "Lunch with Frank Chapple 'Why do you have to talk about it [nationalisation]? Why not do it?' You have got to win the argument first' I replied."

27 June 1974: Antony Part "first thing he did was ask me about the aircraft nationalisation report that had recently been published by the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, and he said 'I hope you are nothing to do with it... your name can't appear on it...' Then he came on to my speech due to be made in Buxton about regional policy... [leaked to Part without Benn's knowledge via Transport House]

what you're doing is inflaming the north against the south... Well, you're enflaming people. You're raising temperatures'" (Tony Benn's Diary)

27 June 1974: World Bank, with British votes, approves its ever first funding for socialist Romania, a loan 1020 for the licenses, engineering and construction of chemicals plants in Tecuci. It means that the fertiliser, urea, phosphoric acid and sulphuric acid produced must eventually be returned to lenders in the form of repayments of foreign currency.

27 June 1974: Labour Government is defeated in the Commons on local rates increases. Rates stay down as do services since no central government compensation is offered.

27 June 1974: "[Labour Left] Cryer asked the Secretary of State for Defence (1) what was the yield of the nuclear device recently exploded; (2) what was the cost of conducting the recent nuclear explosion.

Defence Secretary Mason: It would not be in the public interest to publish this information."

27 June 1974: France and Iran sign an agreement including the sale of nuclear reactors.

27 June 1974: Pinochet formally assumes the title of Supreme Chief of the Nation 'Jefe Supremo de la Nacion'. An hour before the public proclamation, the President of the Supreme Court is instructed toi preside the ceremony, where Pinochet signs a 'supreme decree' that does not include approval from the rest of the junta.

28 June 1974: "Industrial Development Committee of the Cabinet... I said I wanted to be make it absolutely clear that I liked my colleagues and thought they were able, keen brilliant, good, true, hard working, and well meaning. But we faced a great crisis... Profits would fall and the problem was one of collapse... I accepted the mixed economy but the very big firms would be either publicly owned or publicly controlled and the small firms which comprised 999 out of every 1,000 would be encouraged to go ahead on a free enterprise basis... all the other policies of the government had created uncertainty... the Common Market and the other north Sea Oil... I said we learned during the three-day week that if there was a slight shaking of the rigidities of the management hierarchy, higher productivity was possible." (Tony Benn's Diary)

28 June 1974: Following a week of secret meetings involving senior COHSE officers, Health Secretary Castle says that Lord Halsbury will announce the publication date of his report at the end of July and she "will consider asking him to recommend an interim payment".

29 June 1974: COHSE's NEC meets in emergency session and agrees to suspend industrial action. Albert Spanswick states "the Government has been prepared to move towards us and we have been prepared to move towards them. We have succeeded in defining the date of the report." Some bans on working on private beds and the use of agency nurses remain. Close to 400 wards have closed during the course of the dispute.

29 June 1974: "Churchill Hotel to meet Itzhak Rabin, the new Israeli Prime Minister. Eric Heffer was the only other Minister there, with some Labour and Tory MPs.... [Labour Left] Brian Magee asked 'What about a national home for the Palestinians?' 'I don't know what that means' replied Rabin. He said there was no democracy in the Arab world." (Tony Benn's Diary)

29-30 June 1974: Socialist International Chequers Meeting. 29 June-1 July 1974: Foreign Office Minister visit to PRI Mexico.

30 June 1974: Iran signs an agreement with South Africa in the fields of nuclear energy, petroleum, mining and trade.

30 June 1974: Under the pretext of finding those who left a bomb outside Finance Minister 'C. A.' Kamara-Taylor's home, 35 opposition figures are arrested under Public Emergency Regulations. In Jul 1974 15 appeared in court charged with treason and in Nov 1974 are found guilty and sentenced to death.

30 June 1974: A storm of sexism over Benn taking Frances Morrell to a usually all-male industrial chiefs' dinner <u>Sunday Telegraph</u> headlining 'Benn's Effrontery'. The following day <u>The Sun</u> joins in

'Wedgie's Stag Night Guest who stops blue stories' <u>The Mirror</u> 'Benn's Bombshell'

July 1974: Major airports in Britain suffer the biggest fall in passengers for over 25 years when passenger figures show a drop of 10% compared with July 1973. Overall regional airports do worse. A drop at Prestwick of 18.1%, Edinburgh of 10.3%, Gatwick of 12.9%, Heathrow of 4% reduction.

July 1974: Roy Jenkins announces the new Government's proposals for dealing with police complaints. It proposes a new 'independent' body to oversee investigations of complaints. He states it's "important to avoid bringing to bear a disproportionate weight of resources on matters of a minor nature; the new arrangements should provide for the early identification and the expeditious handling by the police of intrinsically minor complaints.' It is gutted before starting: "The JCC saw that the Jenkins plan for complaints went along similar lines to its own proposals. In the consultation period before the changes were eventually embodied in the Police Act of 1976, the proposals were refined. The commission became the Police Complaints Board, and its first chairman was a distinguished academic, Sir Cyril Philips. In recognition of the cooperation he had received from the Federation, Jenkins acceded to a request that previous Home Secretaries had refused. He agreed that police officers should be entitled to copies of letters of complaint about them, and he permitted the Federation to change its fund rules to allow it to give financial support to officers suing for defamation arising from their duties."

July 1974: Government compulsorily purchases another part of G.A.A. grounds in Crossmaglen, County Armagh, and cede it to the British Army.

July 1974: Anglo-Israeli Chamber of Commerce says it has intensified cooperation with the British Overseas Trade Group for Israel and the Economic Council for Israel in an effort to coordinate the promotion of trade and investment in both directions.

July 1974: Dominica's WAWU (Waterfront and Allied Workers Union) launches suppressed protests against increases in telephone rates by Cable and Wireless. WAW President Louis Benoit has called on the Public Utilities Board, stating that multinational firms in Dominica hold the public to ransom because of their monopolistic practices. The promise is "We will fight the proposed increases, but first we are requesting that the utilities board refuse them" however concerned by the response of the British Governor, the Utilities Board, apparently unwillingly, accept the increases.

- \* July 1974: Barbara Castle tells a special meeting of COHSE's NEC that the report will be published in the week beginning 16 Sep 1974. COHSE NEC agrees not to reimpose industrial action.
- \* July 1974: British Leyland Leyland signs a £12 million contract to supply buses to Iraq.
- 1 July 1974: Defence Secretary Mason: "Polaris force will continue to be supported with replacement components supplied under the terms of the Polaris Sales Agreement."
- 1 July 1974: US Ambassador Roger Davies begins his term in Cyprus.
- 1 July 1974: New York Times reports Sandor Gaspar, Politburo member and chief of Hungarian trade union confederation: "Ten years ago there were no such contacts of any kind. Now we have close cooperation on certain subjects with trade unions in such countries as Holland, West Germany and Belgium. High-level British trade unionists will be visiting us soon, and some British workers take their holidays here. We discuss, for instance, such problems as how workers should be consulted in basic factory decisions, especially those involving investment. Many of our disputes here center on the proportion of income to be spent on investments as opposed to profit-sharing among workers, and that is just as big a problem in capitalist countries as here."
- 1 July 1974: Charing Cross Hospital staff nurses, domestics and ancillaries withdraw services (including domestic, catering and linen services) from pay bed wards since the deadline to begin closure of pay wards has passed yesterday.
- 1 July 1974: "Part is working away with other Permanent Secretaries on what, is in a sense, is the policy for a government of national unity and it is absolutely clear that civil servants are already preparing for such a government." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 1 July 1974: Heads of the Southern European Department FCO, having received warning of an assessment suggesting a likely assassination attempt on Makarios and a military move against AKEL and Makarios supporters in Cyprus, declare Britain should do nothing but ask for "moderation from Athens" as "the occasion offers". (FCO 9/1950/ no16 'Relations between Cyprus and Greece', Alan Goodison to Charles Wiggin, Under-Secretary at the SED FCO, 1 Jul 1974).
- 2 July 1974: "Lord Stokes, chairman of British Leyland came to see me... he had heard rumours that I was going to intervene abd nationalise British Leyland. So I said 'Look. I have never made a

statement to anybody. But do let me know if you get into trouble because I really wouldn't like to know at the last minute.'...

'We might need a bit of money in spring of next year but we are managing, but of course we can't sustain our investment programme.'...

'Well, work out a shadow investment programme which is higher... but which is still rational and sensible and let me look at it.'" (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 3 July 1974: Guerrillas throw a bomb into the British embassy compound, Tehran in Iran compound during the evening. There were no injuries, but some windows in the chancery were broken by the explosion.
- 3 July 1974: Barbara Castle attacks nurses at Charing Cross Hospital taking action to end blatant private medicine in the NHS: "I cannot condone the action they are taking. We believe that this issue must be dealt with by the Government of the day and in an orderly way." The government's orderly way means allowing an escape or backlash route for private medicine to establish itself more strongly outside of pay beds. She restates the position in general that "No one is suggesting that private practice should be outlawed by an Act of Parliament."
- 3 July 1974: Makarios asks for the junta in Athens to remove its officers stationed on the island, since they are plotting a dangerous coup. Neither Britain nor Turkey apply pressure to effect the removal.
- 3 July 1974: Hong Kong military chiefs explain an important purpose of military facilities there. RAF's 117 Signals Unit in conjunction with RAAF operate the Little Sai Wan base on mount Tai Mo "To provide intelligence information for the UK, USA and Australia". Planes often cross the airspace border at high altitude (Sir Edwin Bramall (Chief of British Forces Hong Kong) to Sir Neil Carver (Chief of Defence Staff), 'Force Levels in Hong Kong', 3 Jul 1974, FCO46/1172)
- 3 July 1974: NEDC Meeting at Millbank, Wilson, Benn and others attend. CBI chief Ralph "Bateman said he was pleased at the Social Contract, but the present situation was dangerous; everyone is asking how do we get out of our problems; there is an anxiety about company profitability, cash flow, investment and jobs."(Tony Benn's Diary)
- 3 July 1974: France begins its 6 month complete halt to all worker-level immigration, spearheading backlash calls for similar action in Britain.
- 3 July 1974: On behalf of Socialist International François Mitterrand holds talks with General Spinola and his liberal 'independent' prime minister Palma Carlos.

- 3 July 1974: Portuguese Mozambique colonial police open fire on demonstrators on a building site in Maputo.
- 4 July 1974: Faced with the collapse of Stormont, government white paper 'Constitution of Northern Ireland' is published. It foresees a 2-tier approach to democracy in the province, with an election of a Constitutional Convention and then a new version of British rule to be produced as a result.
- 4 July 1974: Cabinet. Tony Benn announces plans for a non-EEC Europe Bloc: "We therefore also had to begin thinking about an alternative to the EEC. I could see the United Kingdom with Ireland, Denmark and Norway and a new EFTA working closely with the Six in the reduced Common Market, all within the framework of the European Security Conference." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 7 July 1974: Tony Crosland "said he had nine Ministers and he had to spend most of his time on psychiatric work comforting those who thought they should be in the Cabinet." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 8 July 1974: Right-wing (the strong majority) hospital consultants begin a 'go slow' and 'work-to-rule' in NHS hospitals against Labour proposals to begin phasing out of pay beds, unsurprisingly their private work in this work-to-rule are unaffected, The work-to-rule consultants effectively transfer, to some degree, their social capital (medical training and experience) from state to private, trying to lock-out the state sector, so that it relents on the stiffness of its terms against private medicine. This is not to be confused with other action by medical students and other doctors against training and budget cuts.
- 9 July 1974: Industrial Development Committee meeting. Wilson: "you can't have a marauding NEB going round the country grabbing firms. Jim said "you can't write a manifesto for the party in opposition and expect it to have nay relationship to what the Party does in government. We're now free to do what we like.' Then we came to the list of companies. Harold Wilson was adamant that we had to avoid a list. I thought we ought to be flexible." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 9 July 1974: Frank Sinatra makes insulting comments about the journalist profession at a concert in Festival Hall, Melbourne, Australia, tickets selling at AU\$20. "So ired were... musicians, theatrical employees and later aircraft fuel handlers refused to work with him, causing Sinatra's private jet to remain grounded." He is nonetheless later eagerly invited to venues in Britain, including a

charity concert run at the Royal Albert Hall on behalf of NSPCC and management.

- 10 July 1974: IPD announces bankruptcy, the official receiver having been appointed. Receivers are prepared to guarantee only 450 jobs out of 1,200. Hal King, chairman and managing director of both subsidiary and parent firms, explains he has been forced into this position because of debts to Barclays and others totalling £2.8 million. A reason for the debt is part of IPD's capital has been spent on redeveloping land next to the plant, other destinations for capital include Hal King's very large luxury home, his Rolls Royce, his Jaguar and the sponsorship of golf tournaments.
- 10 July 1974: Dr Louw Roberts, South African Energy Minister, announces that the uranium cascade at Valindaba has been successful declaring "We now have a bargaining position equal to that of any Arab country with a lot of oil"
- 11 July 1974: NUT ILEA half-day strike. Over 35,000 NUT members participate. Over 5000 march from Hyde Park to a lobby of the House of Commons. Education Secretary Prentice refuses to meet the NUT deputation. Brent NUT manages a 3-day strike.
- 11 July 1974: Government announces it will seek to become the majority shareholder in oil firms' ventures in the North Sea. Oil firms begin a steady backlash.
- 11 July 1974: Meeting with Benn featuring "Hugh Brown, Gregor MacKenzie, Peter Shore, Eric Deakins, the Glasgow newspaper workers with all officials." Tony Benn ensures that our nationalisation workers cooperative the as а of Glasgow Beaverbrook newspaper workers (ultimately as the Scottish Daily News) will fail due to insufficient state capitalisation: "in the end I told them that if they could find half the money from somewhere else, if they recognised that the workers being equity holders would come at the bottom of the pile for redundancy pay if the venture went bust, and if they accepted it was £1.75million and no more, then we would consider it" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 11 July 1974: Soviet President Podgorny and Siad Barre sign a Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation in Moscow, giving the Soviet Union access to the Mogadishu and Berbera ports the first Soviet deep-sea access to the Indian Ocean.
- 11 July 1974: NUM Executive votes 12-10 to accept a resolution for the TUC, drafted jointly by Lawrence Daly and Joe Gormley, in favour of the social contract. It calls for the TUC unions' "full

support to the TUC-Labour Party Liaison committee in the efforts they are making towards solving the economic problems facing Britain today " with the social contract.

11 July 1974: NUM Executive agrees 3:1 to go ahead with negotiations over NCB proposals for a coal pit productivity scheme. 11 July 1974: UPRONA (Union pour le Progrès National) is designated the sole legal political party in a new Constitution for Burundi. Lt-Gen. Michel Micombero is elected Secretary-General of UPRONA, as a result, meaning the start of a new 7-year presidential term (cut short in 1976). Micombero represents the hard edge of Tutsi chauvinism, having ordered the suppression and reprisal massacres against Hutu communities, featuring mechanised killing of 100,000-300,000\* Hutus in 1972. "That 100,000... happen to be massacred in the name of Tutsi supremacy makes little difference as long as France's brand of francophonie-meaning in effect the promotion of French, as distinct from Belgian, cultural values-stands to profit... What matters ultimately is the expansion of France's sphere of influence in black Africa, culturally and politically. And since the Tutsi as a group are being viewed as having a greater nimbleness of mind and greater expressional skills than the Hutu and on the whole more willing to do business with the French, they are generally viewed as a better "investment" by French diplomats. These considerations are essential to an understanding of the supporting role played by French military assistants during and after the rebellion. As one knowledgeable observer [Jeremy Greenland] put it: "French military assistants flew and are still flying the regime's helicopters. This airborne was crucial in routing out the rebels in the south ... Frenchmen were holding the helicopters steady while Burundi soldiers were machine gunning Hutu rebels out of the side windows, and Frenchmen were at the wheel of the same helicopters in the incursions into Tanzania, in the course of which numerous Tanzanians were killed". Under the cover of a Société de Transports Aériens du Burundi... French pilots and helicopters supply the Micombero regime with minimum guarantees of security" (Professor René Lemarchand and David Martin, Minority Rights Group Selective genocide in Burundi, July 1974)

12 July 1974: Rev Ian Paisley states: "It's our right to arm ourselves to protect our homes and property. We are not going to surrender this right."

12 July 1974: "Clive Jenkins came to see me...about the Security Services... Clive has a lot of members who are the top electronic experts in the country and he got them to come and sweep his office... discovered his office and his switchboard were bugged." (Tony Benn's Diary)

14 July 1974: Kissinger considers in a secret State Department discussion, more covert US assistance to Mobutu's favoured Angolan liberation movement, now that the Portuguese government is abandoning its colonies: "One group has already quit fighting, the second group can't decide whether to continue fighting or not. But the third group, perhaps the strongest, is upping its military activity, ... headed by Holden Roberto, backed by Mobutu, and he has just now brought in 15 Chinese Communist trainers for his military forces, basing them out of Zaire."

15 July 1974: "lunch with Roy Grantham [who] thought Britain would either go Powellite, a sort-of right-wing, working-class Peronist type of organisation, or it would go Left, though he couldn't quite see how.... He's a right-wing pro-Common Market General Secretary" of APEX. (Tony Benn's Diary)

15 July 1974: "Jack Spriggs [IPD trade union convenor], Kenneh Cork, the Liquidator/Receiver, and the consultant Ingrams. Cork and Ingrams thought the factory would sustain 450 people. Jack Spriggs said that all the workers should be employed. So I worked out on the back of an envelope the difference between employing them all and employing parts of them would be roughly – by the time you took the gross costs into account – less than the cost of keeping them unemployed for twenty-six weeks, roughly £390 per job and much below what was expected. I said I'd give them six months to work it out." (Tony Benn's Diary)

15 July 1974: Appointed by Merlyn Rees, Michael Cudlipp begins his role as consultant on public relations over Northern Ireland. Cudlipp, Old Tonbridgian, former assistant editor at the <u>Sunday Times</u> – the youngest ever at age 24, former deputy editor of <u>The Times</u>, and chief editor of Britain's first commercial radio station LBC (London Broadcasting Company) in 1973-4. His father is editor of the <u>Evening Standard</u> allowing another beneficial edge.

15 July 1974: Reinforced by elite divisions from Athens, led by Greek officers, the Greek Cypriot National Guard launches its coup against Makarios. Nikos Sampson is sworn in as President. Within 3 days, well over 1,000 liberals and leftists of various stripes are arrested. Vocal opponents of the Greek junta, former journalist Militiades Christodoulou and journalist Barbara Lysiarides, wife of Vassos Lyssarides are arrested 17 Jul 1974.

16 July 1974: "Dinner with Sir Ray Brookes of GKN at GKN house in Kingsway, with Otto Clarke [former chief civil servant Permanent Secretary at Ministry of Technology] and various other Directors... declared that if I didn't remove GKN from the list of top companies for nationalisation within a month, they would cancel all their investment plans for next year... [Brookes] said everybody in

Europe thought GKN was going to be nationalised. I told him he knew that wasn't true but I pointed out that his company subscribed to a right-wing organisation that went round the country declaring that this was the case – so he was harming himself." (Tony Benn's Diary)

Benn's reference is to GKN funding of Aims of Industry, that has led the anti-nationalisation campaigns of the Attlee years, funding of hard-rightist Conservatives during election campaigns with a £500,000 chest for the Feb 1974 election and the publication of a glossy 8-page attack pamphlet titled 'The Ugly Face of Mr Wedgwood Benn' written by 'Yorick', almost certainly Norman Macrae, deputy editor of The Economist. Macrae being the economic expert who predicted in May 1968 in an analysis of ten years of Gaullism 'Old France in a Hurry' that France was a far superior nation and society to Britain on account of its "great national advantage" because trade unions were "pathetically weak".

16 July 1974: Since all ports are blocked by National Gaurd forces, Makarios escapes to the British military base at Akrotiri and flies to London.

17 July 1974: Antony Part "came in to see me about the Post Office chairmanship. I had in fact been aiming to tell Harold my decision, that we should appoint Lord Peddie, former Chariman of the Prices and Incomes Board, as a non-executive chairman. But, in fact Part hinted that he himself would like to be Chairman of the Post Office." When Benn questions him about the Department of Industry losing personnel, key responsibilities being given to the Foreign Office (over regional policy) and the Department of Trade.

'Well, it's all due to the fact that you are out of step with your colleagues and there is a severe strain in the Government.... Of course they [Civil servants in the Department of Industry] are all very worried about the lack of viability and all that'" (Tony Benn's Diary)

17 July 1974: PCP communiqué gives its approval to Portugal's new administration under Prime Minister Colonel Vasco Goncalves-President Spinola. Spinola's cabinet includes 7 senior military figures. These figures are given Ministries of Interior, Labour and Information. PCP chief Alvaro Cunhal, Major Vitor Alves and Major Ernesto Anlunes are ministers without portfolio. PS chief Mario Soares remains Foreign Minister.

17 July 1974: Northern Ireland Act (1974) is passed officially suspending the Stormont Assembly. It allows legislation to be passed by 'Order in Council' under the Northern Ireland Secretary, who has supreme power.

- 17 July 1974: US State Department announces that because the situation in Cyprus is unclear "therefore, in our view, the question of recognition does not arise now" Nixon sends, on Britain's agreement, Under-secretary of State Joe Sisco to London to hold talks on 18 Jul 1974 with British and Turkish officials.
- 17 July 1974: Total curfew conditions are eased for the first time since the coup in Cyprus and
- 17 July 1974: About 3,000 mass outside Makarios' hotel in Kensington cheering as he declares: "I hope the day will soon come when the people of Greece will themselves get rid of the hated dictatorship oppressing them." The crowd shouts "Resistance! Resistance!".
- 17 July 1974: Joint Intelligence Committee declares "We believe that the Turks are now militarily ready to intervene... but will try for the moment, through diplomatic efforts, to bring about a solution by other means." (Extract of JIC assessment prepared by the Cabinet Office, Wed. 17.07.74, fo.31, DEFE 13/966.)
- 17 July 1974 pm: Turkish Prime Minister Bülent Ecevit, Interior Minister Asiltürk, Defence Minister Işık and their representatives hold talks with Wilson and Callaghan, before flying back to Ankara for effectively a War Cabinet. Makarios follows them meeting Wilson and Callaghan. He prepares to leave on 19 Jul 1974 for UN Assembly in New York.
- 18 July 1974: Anthony Shrimsley, editor, explains in an editorial in the <u>Daily Mail</u> that Tony Benn's aim is to destroy democracy in Britain.
- 18 July 1974: Discussion on Giro bank "Well you know Edmund, the Giro is the only public service bank we have... Of course it is small that's why you don't have to worry about it"
- 18 July 1974: House of Commons votes to end Heath's statutory wage systems on the basis of the Social Contract to replace it. Wilson states "in all our discussions with the CBI, they did not dare to suggest that we could possibly continue with the compulsory control of wages, particularly in the bureaucratic and antiparliamentary form in which it was devised by the Conservative Party." He offers "continuing partnership between the Government and the trade unions carrying into practical action what we discussed before the General Election" the social contract. He celebrates the example of "engineers" who "came to a sensible agreement after sensible negotiations." He commends the 'Royal

Commission on the Distribution of Income and Wealth' which will be set up. The Commission approach - kicking an issue into touch, blocks any form of wealth redistribution. He states "industrial relations are about conciliation, about restoring the authority of some forms of arbitration."

About the TUC Conference: "delegates at the conference said that they would not create such a situation [a similar claim as in 1972].... The union is a democratic organisation and the miners will abide by that decision. [Jim Prior] should not give grist to the mill of the minority [ie the "extremists" who want to retain living standards] who would like to do it. ... Our policy for settlement is by sitting round the table. I do not believe that the dangers we are facing, the problems we are trying to tackle, can be tackled adequately on the basis of confrontation. We can only deal with them by sitting round the table and getting sensible and reasonable men to reach sensible decisions. The easier we can make the pathway to conciliation the better it will be for employers and employees. If it is easier for them, then in the long term it will be better for the nation."

18 July 1974 11.30am: Cabinet. "Jim described the dangers and that there might be a Turkish invasion... Peter said 'Surely when democracy is undermined we should support it' This put Jim on the defensive." (Tony Benn's Diary)

18 July 1974 pm: Wilson and Callaghan hold talks in Paris with EEC ministers over the planned renegotiation discussions.

18-19 July 1974: Talks in London between US, British, Greek junta's and Turkey's representatives over the Cyprus coup.

19 July 1974 am: British Signal-Intelligence reports Turkey's 39th Division is getting ready to move. ('Report by Commander British Forces Near East on the Cyprus Emergency, 15 Jul–16 Aug 1974')

19 July 1974: UNSC hears Makarios give a speech warning that a Turkish invasion is imminent.

19 July 1974: "I went up to Newcastle with Ray Tuite and Martin Vile, my Assistant Private Secretary, in an Andover of the Queen's Flight... I had an hour with the trade union representatives anf the management of Court Line shipbuilders... being in Geordieland, the relations between the management and the workers was pretty good. We ended up by asking 'Will you prepare together a corporate strategy for these yards and then we will have a look at it.'" (Tony Benn's Diary)

19 July 1974 pm: Intelligence reports (received in London just before 3.30pm) note a massive Turkish flotilla heading south.

- (JIC(A) 74 (SA)70, 19 Jul 1974, in Annex Q of 'Report by Commander British Forces Near East on the Cyprus Emergency, 15 Jul-16 Aug 1974' BNFE/1500/24)
- 19 July 1974 pm: Nimrod aircraft sorties track the main armada of 34 vessels throughout the night, this intelligence being fed directly to the US, not the UN.
- 19 -24 July 1974: RN destroyer HMS Fife calls in Jakarta, Indonesia. in spite of requests for its postponement or cancellation: "[Labour Left] Stan Newens asked the Secretary of State for Defence if he will postpone the visit of HMS "Fife" to Djakarta as an indication of the concern which is felt about the conditions under which political prisoners are detained in Indonesia.

[Foreign Office Minister Frank] Judd: No" (HC Deb 15 Jul 1974)

19 -24 July 1974: Prince Charles is recalled from leave at Balmoral to RN Rosyth as part of British readiness plans over the Turkish invasion of Cyprus. He is keen to go: "I was rather keen to be sent to Cyprus I had a yearning for some sort of action -some sort of constructive, useful naval operation where perhaps a medal could be won and I could supplement the one I have (for supreme gallantry at the Coronation!) with a proper one."

RN decides it is not necessary for HMS Jupiter to sail to the Mediterranean. Prince Charles complains, expressing his hope for more armed forces superiors in British government: "Men are not machines and just because people are in armed services, and therefore expected to do as they are told, it is not as simple as that... People are quite prepared to take sensible orders, but patience and willingness wear thin when things are constantly changed, cancelled and then re-instituted. What an extraordinarily good thing it is for me to experience all this on the grass roots level so that I can at least appreciate the things that people have to endure. The trouble is that only a very few of the present government have ever served in the armed forces" (Prince Charles' naval journal, 19-24 Jul 1974)

20 July 1974 am: Cyprus SBA ground stations capture Signals-Intelligence from Turkish aircraft lifting off from southern coast bases on an attack course. This intelligence is also fed to the US.

20 July 1974: Durham Miners' Gala sees "BBC Midweek team [ask] 'Don't the miners now control the Labour Party?'... 'Why do you bother to continue coming?'" (Tony Benn's Diary)

20 July 1974: After a 10-month workforce occupation, Tony Benn finally agrees the Triumph Meriden workers' cooperative deal, slashing the workforce by over half in the process: "The workforce

- at Meriden had originally numbered 1,750. By the time the agreement was finally reached, the number still occupying was down to 250. The projections on which the final deal was based called for a total workforce of about 800. "(Colin Sparks The Cooperative Solution? International Socialism, No.73, Dec 1974, 16)
- 20 July 1974: AFP reports Nepalese Foreign Minister stating Nepal will not accept that Tibetan refugees "should make our border their bases for launching hostile activities against our friendly neighbour-China." Tibetan police begin a large police campaign against Tibetan refugees resulting in mass raid and dispossessions of weapons.
- 21 July 1974: RAF Dhekelia accepts a convoy, of 4,500 civilian refugees from the frontlines of Nicosia. Despite later professions of Britain's keen sense of duty to 'protect civilians', in favour of 'humanitarian intervention' no attempt has been made to place use armed vehicles to actively protect civilians or refugees on the island.
- 21-26 July 1974: Britain conducts an operation of evacuating tourists on Cyprus, often by helicopter to reach the RAF bases and then by ship. Cypriots face the invasion alone.
- 22 July 1974: Cabinet. "Jim reported on Cyprus where we are concentrating on getting our own people out. We have come out of it rather ingloriously" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 22 July 1974: "Antony Part said 'Ah well, the Treasury is in a special position and you can't confide [what the Treasury does] to Ministers'... Treasury is under the personal control of the Chancellor. This means, in fact, that the Chancellor is under collective control of the Treasury, because no Chancellor has broken with its concepts." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 22 July 1974: 2nd Budget. Healey announces limited tax reductions.
- 22 July 1974: Government admits it has blocked entry over 20-21 Jul 1974 at its ports from continental ferries to 11 delegates of foreign 'radical' parties to a conference discussing British behaviour in the six counties. No such measures are taken against Shelepin's Mar 1975 visit.
- 22 July 1974: Government is defeated in the House of Lords on various amendments to the Trade Union and Labour Relations Bill, delaying the return to non-statutory measures of incomes policy. Healey introduces the Budget, cutting VAT by 2%, and doubling the government job premium paid to employers of firms in regional development areas.

- 22 July 1974: "C-in-C Fleet took the precautionary measure of dispatching Ark Royal to a waiting zone off Gibraltar to await further instructions. 'Because we received no warning of the Cyprus situation I only had limited tropical kit on board, some rather ancient. When I walked into the Wardroom wearing my shorts which were actually rather long, one of the young pilots said to me, "Good morning Sir. I am glad to sec the Empire is not dead yet?" Lt Cdr Mike Cudmore. (HMS Ark Royal, )
- 22 July 1974: Glavkos Klerides, rightist speaker of the Cyprus National Assembly, is sworn in as President, leaving Makarios out of the loop for the time being.
- 23 July 1974: Hong Kong's Wellem-Ringdal Offshore secure the contract for a \$50mil deep sea oil rig.
- 23 July 1974: "Meeting to discuss the [Hawker Siddeley] HS-146... When I last saw Arnold Hall, the chairman of Hawker Siddeley, he said they were re-examining it but John Lidbury, the Deputy Chairman wrote to the Deputy-Secretary David Jones, saying Hawker Siddeley wanted to cancel it... David Jones had sent me a minute recommending that we agree to this which would mean the loss of up to 8,700 job losses in the aircraft industry by 1978 saying that the Treasury would agree to recommend to the Chancellor that he acquiesce in the cancellation, and suggesting I might write to the Prime Minister in this vein... [Jones] had already spoken to the Treasury about it without consulting me" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 23 July 1974: "Industrial Development Committee we considered the Workers' Action Committee in Glasgow; I recommended we accept their scheme on certain conditions... I think it is so harsh that they won't survive." (Tony Benn's Diary) Scottish Daily News does indeed collapse. "IPD (Fisher-Bendix) on which I proposed that we acquire the factory for £3million and give them a subsidy of about £300,000 for the unutilised labour about 600 jobs till the end of the year... Harold Lever though this was the economics of Peter Pan... there was some support for buying the factory... there was no support for the other subsidy" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 23 July 1974: British Defence Staff in Washington confirm agreement with US to let US long-rage high altitude SR-71 flights start from RAF Mildenhall to conduct intelligence and surveying flights over Syria stating "The last thing we wanted was repetition of the October War misunderstanding." (British Defence Staff Washington to Ministry of Defence DEFE25/345)

- 23 July 1974 am: 2 McDonnell-Douglas supplied Phantom FGR2 aircraft begin their journey from Britain to RAF Akrotiri to help British forces in their Cyprus patrolling. They provide fire-power deterrence to escort Nimrod reconnaissance sorties. The ultimate aim is to secure the two British sovereign base areas at Dhekelia (and its access to the port of Famagusta) and at Episkopi- Akrotiri.
- 23 July 1974 am: RAF Hawker-Siddeley Nimrods and Westland helicopters assume overall control over the search and rescue operation to salvage Turkish military survivors after a Turkish 'blue-on-blue' incident. (The destruction of the Turkish 2,425-ton destroyer Kocatepe and sister ships Adatepe and Tinaztepe by Turkish aircraft off Paphos on 21 Jul 1974).
- 23 July 1974: British planners sort out what is at stake in Cyprus: "1. General Considerations. In the long run British interests in Cyprus are the same as general Western interests: that the situation in the island should no longer disturb the peace and disrupt the Southern flank of the North Atlantic Alliance. Our particular interests are of lesser priority: [unclassified material] our military bases on the island have usually been more of a liability than an asset We have in any case considered sacrificing them as part of the economies contemplated by the Defence Review and could afford to dispense with them if that would facilitate the attainment of wider objectives. In the short run, however, these bases ... give us a special interest not shared by our allies... It should be a long term objective to eliminate liabilities and resources" responsibilities disproportionate to our Objectives in a Cyprus Conference', Head of Planning Staff and Assistant Under-Secretary James Cable to the FCO & John Killick, Deputy Under Secretary, FCO 49/548, 23 Jul 1974)
- 24 July 1974: HMS Ark Royal leaves for the North Sea once again. "UN managed to organize a ceasefire which appeared to be holding, and thus stabilized the situation in Cyprus enough to enable Ark Royal to be stood down on 24 Jul" (Britain's greatest warship Ark Royal IV, 163)
- 24 July 1974: "Python Business Meeting. What was the meeting about?... what should we do with the Python fortunes when they really start coming in? A pension fund? An office in Tuscany? How to avoid paying ourselves and the taxmen all that money that is going to come in" [as a result of Python records and spin-offs, ie tax evasion preparation]
- 24 July 1974: Government is defeated by an opposition amendment incorporated into to the Housing Bill. It will allow tenants, who make their own home improvements to have rateable values

reduced, subsidising those rich enough to make home improvements whilst tenants.

24 July 1974: US accepts Britain's offer of its NSA intelligence on from Cyprus, abandoning Yerolakkos, just north of Nicosia, the scene of intense recent fighting including napalm dropped from Turkish aircraft, and joins the British inside the secure Sovereign Base Areas. (Admiral Le Bailly (DGI) to Chief of Defence Staff, 'Promulgation of Intelligence in the Cyprus Situation to UKMILREP', 24 Jul 74, DEFE25/345)

24 July 1974: "I went to Carmelite House for lunch with vere Harmsworth, proprietor of the Daily Mail and Evening News, who is the grandson of Sir Harold Harmsworth, Lord Northcliffe's brother... all his top brass, Managing Director of the Associated Newspapers Group and, the two managing editors and the editors of both papers....

[Shrimsley:] 'you want to destroy democracy'

[Benn:] ...we have to make adjustments in our society from time to time. The change I am proposing is no more dramatic than the New Deal, or 1945, and we must discuss it seriously.'" (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 25 July 1974: Industry Secretary Benn provides the limited financial aid to establish the Scottish Daily News, the replacement for Beaverbrook's Scotland operation.
- 25 July 1974: The Pay Board, Heath's clumsy and directly legal industrial relations machinery, is finally abolished.
- 25 July 1974 am: 12 more FGR2-rocket-armed Phantoms arrive in Cyprus. 'Combat' air patrols are held to help the Canberra and Nimrod reconnaissance sorties. Spares and ammunition are delivered by Hercules and Britannias. They secure reconnaissance planes which watch from the military manoeuvres over the island. Phantom air crews return to Britain by 13 Sep 1974 once the frontlines have been stabilised, military movements on both sides are following a predictable pattern.
- 26 July 1974 am: 4 Westland/Aerospatiale Puma HC1 helicopters from the Operational Conversion Unit are flown to Akrotiri aboard two Shorts Belfast transport aircraft. The helicopters later begin on 30 Jul 1974, flying reconnaissance sorties of the original cease-fire lines between Greek and Turkish forces and communications tasks. The detachment ends on 31 Oct 1974 and the aircraft and personnel return to Odiham base between 1-7 Nov 1974.

- 26 July 1974: Roy Jenkins gives a major speech against "extremism" in Labour policies, strongly in favour of EEC membership.
- 26-27 July 1974: RAF Regiment No.15 Squadron is sent to RAF Akrotiri to secure British Armed Forces facilities in Cyprus following the Turkish invasion, working in conjunction with British Army units already on the island. The squadron is replaced by No.26 Squadron RAF Regiment at the end of Sep 1974 and No.26 Squadron is withdrawn in turn at the end of Nov 1974.
- 27 July 1974: <u>The Sun</u> welcomes the uninhibited attack on the Labour Left 'The Most Courageous Speech of His Courageous Career' wildly in favour of EEC membership. <u>Daily Mail</u> 'Jenkins Slams Benn Men', similarly in all major newspapers.
- 27 July 1974: After a renewed bout of recent fighting in Angola, General Spinola announces Portugal recognises the right of its overseas territories to self-determination, including the right to independence: "We are ready from this moment to initiate the transfer of power to the people"
- 27 July 1974: Indonesia's Antara news agency reports Home Minister Lt.-Gen. Amir Mahmud warning extremist groups are planning to take over the country, which will not be tolerated.
- 28 July 1974: <u>Sunday Times</u> lead editorial warns against a referendum on EEC membership on the grounds that it can split the nation.
- 28 July 1974: Prince Charles' ship joins a NATO exercise in Scapa Flow: "A great line of grey ships stretched out ahead, all creaming along at 20 knots on a glorious Orkney morning... It sent an enormous shiver of excitement down my spine (rather like the Trooping does as well) and conjured up all sorts of images of the old Home Fleet steaming into Scapa led by the battleships, battle cruisers, aircraft carriers and followed by the cruisers and squadrons of destroyers..." (Prince of Wales' Naval Journal)
- 28 July 1974: <u>Sunday Times</u> reports the demands that are to be made of the Triumph Meriden 'workers' cooperative' "plans are to turn out 12,000 bikes with a workforce of 450 in the first year, stepping up employment to 750 to double output in 1975. As Meriden never turned out more than 30,000 machines with 1,750 men on the payroll under previous managements, this is a productivity boost of at least 85 per cent."

- 29 July 1974: Old Carthusian and Oxford PPE graduate, Harry Oppenheimer, chairman of Anglo American, addresses a convention of the Institute of Personnel Management in Johannesburg. He warns that strikes by black workers are an increasing threat to South African industry: "Black workers are increasingly aware of the power of the strike weapon, and it is quite certain that if better means of settling disputes cannot be evolved, this weapon will be used more and more," He criticises the rigidities of the bantustan system but not the principle behind it: "This highly unrealistic doctrine was no doubt intended to ensure that these homeland citizens should take no part in determining the political and social conditions in white South. Africa. In practice, matters are turning out very differently, and the homeland policy is making it possible for the [puppet] homeland leaders to intervene effectively in the affairs of South Africa."
- 29 July 1974: Commander of British Near East Forces, Sir John Aiken, decides to temporarily cease British reconnaissance flights over Cyprus for fear of an incident or collision. (Mumford (Private sec to SoS MoD) to CDS, 'RAF Reconnaissance Flights Over Cyprus', 29 Jul 1974, AIR 8/2628)
- 29 July 1974: Responding to Arab League calls to step up boycotts of firms assisting Israeli settlement expansion a spokesman for Marks and Spencer says "We have no comment" Selfridges states: "There is nothing very much we can do about people standing outside the store Inside we have some jurisdiction and our own security staff."
- 29 July 1974: IDF completes its eviction of Sabastiya disused railway station in this village near Nablus today after a five-day sitin. There were no incidents.
- 29 July 1974: "Sir Arnold Hall and John Lidbury of Hawker Siddeley came to see me to repeat the reasons why they wanted to cancel the HS-146 by agreement... group board were unanimous and it was a judgement based on the commercial viability of the plane.... I asked them if they would consult the unions 'Oh' said Arnold Hall 'they have nothing to contribute'" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 29 July 1974: Tony Benn announces the government has agreed to provide £4.95million for Meriden Workers' Co-operative but at interest. Conditions are also placed: "Among the conditions under which the assistance is to be provided the Government will have a first charge on the assets of the co-operative; and my prior consent will be required for substantial acquisitions and disposals; for making wage, salary or other payments in excess of £50 a week to

any employee... for the declaration or payment of any dividends on the co-operative's shares; and for the taking up or making of loans. I will also have the right to appoint a director to the advisory board of the co-operative. I have made it clear to the co-operative that this offer is the limit of the financial assistance the Government are prepared to make available." Only £750,000 is in grants, the rest is a loan for repayment, and over £4mil goes to NVT as a purchase for the factory.

Reflecting on the continuing haggling in Nov 1974 IS states: "the remaining workers at Meriden came out of it with a manager (on £8,000 a year [5 times greater than the maximum salary possible for a skilled shopfloor worker]) straight from Jaguar's boardroom; a drastically reduced workforce; an amazing increase in productivity; a maximum wage well below what they could get elsewhere in Coventry; the DTI as a nanny to monitor every move they made; and the right to subcontract work from NVT, who retained the profitable links with the American market. Leslie Huckfield came out of it with TGWU sponsorship. ... Benn came out of it with a bit of publicity. Sir Dennis Poore came out of it with a reduced workforce and a fistful of money from the sale of the factory.... [Benn] has haggled and argued for months in order to wear down the resistance of the workers still prepared to fight, and to drive some of them into taking other jobs. When the workforce has been worn down and exhausted, an impossible deal was forced on them, imposing massive productivity increases and threatening wage rates. The workers who have then held on in the hope of a better future then find themselves cruelly used as a stick to batter other groups of workers into keeping their heads down. ... Benn is still prepared to hand over large sums of cash to the employers. Dennis Poore got £4.8 million from the Tories, he has got a good price from the Meriden workers for the factory and plant, but he has also had a guarantee for another £8 million from the government to hold up his profits over the next couple of years." (Colin Sparks The Cooperative Solution? International Socialism, No.73, December 1974, 16)

30 July 1974: Minister for Sport Denis Howell welcomes back the British Lions rugby team at Heathrow airport, successfully defying international boycott of apartheid sports teams. He states: "I am grateful to many people for inconveniencing themselves in order to allow me to accede to the obvious wish that I should pay my respects to the Lions on their considerable success. I have informed the Lions organizers and they are delighted that I can join them." He joins Ted Heath in the champagne celebrations in a venue close by. A few protesters are blocked from being anywhere near the arrival of the team on the South African Airways jet.

- 30 July 1974: Segregated general elections in Rhodesia see Ian Smith's Rhodesian Front win all 50 while parliamentary seats.
- 30 July 1974: Government reports progress on weapons sales to the Shah.
- "Q: What results have been obtained from the recent exhibition sponsored by Her Majesty's Government in Iran of British defence material.

Defence Secretary: It is too early to measure results in terms of contracts actually achieved, but some of the exhibitors have been asked to supply quotations."

- 30 July 1974: Geneva Accord between Greece, Turkey and Britain sees Cyprus's division by invasion officially accepted. A security zone for a UN peacekeeping force is announced. On 1 Aug 1974 UN
- 30 July 1974: For 'church' voluntary-aided schools (5,000 in England and Wales) "the government has decided to raise the rate of grant payable on building work at aided and special agreement schools from 80 per cent to 85 per cent." Control still rests with a complex system of church superiors and governors. Catholic education Council explains the effect of financial firms: "Much voluntary school building is financed by long-term borrowing, and with interest rates for long-term loans 25 or 30 years at their present level of 15 per cent, the loan charges ... are nearly double those common eight years ago. This means that where building is financed by long-term borrowing, each school place costs in annual loan charges nearly four times as much as eight years ago twice as much for building and then nearly double again because of the cost of borrowing."
- 31 July 1974: Paris sees talks between EEC and Arab foreign representatives decide upon a permanent general commission featuring EEC Commissioners and Arab League members to meet in Nov 1974.
- 31 July 1974: Bill Colby, recently appointed Director of the CIA, writes personally to British officials to express thanks for the detailed sharing of intelligence over the Mediterranean. (Colby (DCI) to Le Bailly (DGI), Folder 5, Box 21, Le Bailly papers, CCC)
- 31 July 1974: Tony Benn announces publicly 13 naval repair firms and 6 naval engine firms, uniformly unprofitable, bringing little benefit to major business interests, will be brought under NEB Ministry of Industry control. "shipbuilding production has been absolutely stationary for twenty years. World orders have gone up

five times and our percentage of world orders has dropped from 28 per cent to 3 per cent." (Tony Benn's Diary)

31 July 1974: Trade Secretary Shore, on his week-long Australia tour, in Canberra says "If we can't get those [EEC renegotiation] terms we shall not be recommending to the British people that we stay in... by [12 months] the question will have been put to the British people." He confirms Britain will look to Australia as a major trade partner. He has held talks with the Prime Minister Whitlam, Deputy Prime Minister Cairns, Treasurer Crean, Transport Minister Jones and Dr. Patterson, Minister for Northern Development and for the Northern Territory, where uranium mining is of interest to Britain.

31 July 1974: [On regional policy with EEC] "I simply said we should coordinate, consult and harmonise but that the ultimate power would remain with the UK Parliament and I quoted the Manifesto. Jim said 'Well, if we are going to blunder on like this and be obstructive, I don't know where we are'... Jim was livid. The Committee broke up and as we went out he said to me, white with anger, 'I'm absolutely fed up with you, absolutely fed up. You have split the Party in two." (Tony Benn's Diary)

31 July 1974: UN spokesman reports that in contravention of the Geneva ceasefire, Turkish troops have occupied 2 Greek villages, Karavas normal population of 2500, Lapithus 3000, near Kyrenia after shelling from Turkish warships.

31 July 1974: Rhodesia's election results, with turnout of the eligible at 90%, sees Ian Smith's Rhodesian Front securing all 50 seats. Ian Smith: "The Rhodesian electorate proved it has an above average mentality and is able to assess things. Future generations will look back and be thankful that the voters of 1974 made the right decision." Bishop Muzorewa, African National Council head, whose party triumphs over the African progressive Party in the black reserved seats states: "They have voted to recruit African youths for guerilla warfare, which we have been trying to prevent... Let it be known by the electorate that by voting Rhodesian Front in order to avoid black government coming to power they have in fact voted for it to come sooner than it would have if there were better policies and race relations."

August 1974: British firms escalate their profit opportunities in Dubai, even though Britain is now no longer colonial master. Halcrow (William Halcrow & Partners) invite tenders from multinational contractors for a major expansion of Port Rashid,

Dubai's artificial deep water harbour, to provide in total 37 deepwater berths. Costain-Taylor Woodrow are constructing a dry-dock as a joint venture under Halcrow's supervision. The British firms will provide repair and maintenance facilities in addition to three dry-docks for 1000000, 500000, and 300000 ton tankers. £91m is the price paid for the contract. A £26m Dubai cement plant is under construction from Costain Civil Engineering in partnership with Halcrow (William Halcrow & Partners) as consulting engineers. Much of the unskilled construction labour is undertaken by Pakistani labourers, sourced by middle-men, whose previous destination of Britain has been shut off by the various Immigration Acts since 1968. \*\*

August 1974: NFSE (National Federation of the Self-Employed) begins in response to a call from Norman Small, former officer of the National Union of Small Shopkeepers, for a more militant body. By Jun 1975, it has a membership of 40,000 and close to £500,000 in subscriptions. Its membership is mostly small businessmen shopkeepers, small, independent building bosses, garage owner, hoteliers, owners of small manufacturing establishments and others sorts of self-employed individuals. Its headquarters in Lytham St Anne's, Lancashire, are fed with reports from 37 regional groupings. It fights against income tax rates, powers given to Customs and Excise inspectors, Employment Protection Act (its advice to members is to "get rid of surplus labour now"). It opposes the system of small business licensing which requires those in the building industry who wish to be classified as self-employed, to obtain the 714 certificate - bearing a photograph and issued only after the Inland Revenue has been presented with satisfactory accounts covering 3 prior years' business, and strongly defends 'the lump'.

August 1974: <u>Architectural Review</u> issue:"It is easy to imagine the Klondike situation which has started at Nigg spreading back along the whole of the Cromarty Firth.... Apart from the fact of industry fouling the whole waterside of the Cromarty Firth, there is therefore a very real risk that the unspoilt landscape will bloom with a rash of unrelated buildings, the glens will be filled with bungalows.... Today only the tip of the iceberg is showing and the real question is what happens if and when the developers take up their options and start enlisting men."

August 1974: Scottish Free Kirk's <u>Monthly Record</u> sees another plea for a return to capital punishment: "What needs altering is the penalty for the offence. Capital punishment must be restored for the capital offence."

- 1 August 1974: "Part [attacked] the idea of a popular version of the Industry White Paper... because it was near an Election and it would be controversial, we probably wouldn't be able to do it. 'I can only tell you that it would not be possible'... The next thing he objected to was my letter to the TUC in which I had offered them £30,00 to carry out research on job problems instead of giving the money to Cardiff University 'You can't do that... The Department has decided to conduct a different sort of programme... You can't give money to a trade union'... In so far as he has said anything, it has been completely obstructive. I think it all began when he asked me 'Are you seriously going to try to implement your programme?'... Sir Douglas Henley of the Treasury [had said to Francis Cripps and Frances Morrell] 'he [Benn] has put up a huge fight and refused to do what the officials recommend; the Civil Service can't cope with a Minister who won't accept recommendations. It puts great strain on them. Officials who try to be loyal to their Departments can't be loyal when they have a Minister like that'" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 1 August 1974: CBI reports "a striking collapse in business optimism" This is as a result of the profitability crisis and concerns over the government's nationalisation proposals to be published later in Aug 1974 as a White Paper. Wilson in a television interview states of the nationalisation Industry white paper: "Our paper will provide for a mixed economy, for an extension of public ownership, and for a private sector which we want to see much more enterprising, much more responsible, and accountable to the country and profitable. I believe these things are essential."
- 1 August 1974: South Africa expands its defence potential by enrolling blacks for defence services. This policy has the support of 'homeland' leaders.
- 1 August 1974: Australia's <u>The Age</u> reports in Bougainville's profit booming: "Bougainville Copper is booming. On figures released yesterday the company appears certain to have doubled its profit for the first half of 1974 to \$100million. Output from its mine on Bougainville Island rose only slightly in the six months to June 30, directors reported. But soaring free world prices for the company's products copper, gold and silver have boosted its income substantially. Despite this boom performance, the company's outlook for the full year is clouded by the Papua New Guinea Government's Insistence on a renegotiation of the agreement under which it mines....spiralling metal prices will more than compensate for higher costs. These rises ensure a massive profit boost for Bougainville, which operates the world's largest copper mine. ... Under the present copper agreement, Bougainville enjoys a three-year tax holiday which expires next April. Details of the

renegotiation talks with the PNG Government have not been revealed but the Chief Minister (Mr. Michael Somare) has hinted that an excess profits tax clause will be included in the new agreement."

- 1 August 1974: Under libel and contempt of court laws, High Court Judge Justice Talbot issues an interim injunction on behalf of Distillers Company (Biochemicals) Ltd. prohibiting the <u>Sunday Times</u> from using or disclosing the contents of certain documents on the subject of thalidomide.
- 1 August 1974: Japan's Self Defence Force forms its first ever post-1945 tank brigade with 222 tanks and 127 armoured personnel carriers. By contrast to other major economic powers, Japan has in total only 650 tanks across its entire defence forces.
- 1 August 1974: Wilson, interviewed by Robin Day on BBC's Nationwide, is asked whose voice is the authentic Labour Party view on nationalisation: Harold Lever's, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster or Tony Benn's. Wilson: "With all due modesty, the authentic voice is me" No reference is made by either to the Manifesto.
- 2 August 1974: Cabinet on Industry Bill White Paper. "Shirley's general contribution was that confidence was very low, things has changed since we published our policy a year ago and were elected to govern. Politics meant we had to take charge of the situation so we couldn't be tied by what had gone before [ie pledges]... she herself has no confidence in our policy. But she is being built up as the great heroine: 'Shirley keeps the food prices down, Shirley protects our shopping baskets' and so on when she is, in fact, doing nothing beyond broadly doling out money to industry. Clever Tony Crosland knows it all, very much disliking the policy of course. He pretends it is meaningless; it doesn't matter; it has got nothing to do with anything. [ie attempts at nationalisation fritter away middle-class support for no purpose Next to Tony is Jim Callaghan, deeply conservative... absolutely insistent on the issue of not nationalising by Statutory Instrument on constitutional grounds.... [On planning agreements] Harold even wrote in a special pledge

that regional development grants would continue to go to the big companies, and not be a matter for negotiation in planning agreements.... Harold said if you do use [planning agreements against major national firms] that way, you would have 18 per cent unemployment in Merseyside.' It was a very bitter struggle and an important defeat for me.

[On the NEB and nationalisation] It was finally agreed that acquisitions would be voluntary except in compelling urgency,

where the Government would bring the issue before Parliament and any action would require specific parliamentary approval...
[In conclusion] what I have got is far better than I expected."

- 2 August 1974: <u>London Evening Standard</u> cartoon 2 figures in front of a door marked A. Wedgwood Benn "Tony's not well. He hasn't nationalised anything all day" suggesting, in inverted ironic fashion, some form of mental illness.
- 2 August 1974: The Guardian, the only major national daily to do so, covers the findings of CPGB-aligned Sam Aaronovitch and Malcolm Sawyer who report: "If we look at the 324 industries for which figures are available and examine the extent to which the five largest firms dominate the sales of those industries, we find the following:-At one end there are only 8 industries in which the 5 largest firms account for less than one-fifth of the sales, but there are 155 industries, (accounting for nearly one-half of all industry sales) where the 5 largest concentrate more than 70 per cent of those industries' sales in their hands. The average level of sales concentration in the hands of the five largest firms was nearly 69 per cent in 1968. ... If concentration increased from 1968 to 1974 as it had done between 1958 and 1968, then the average level of five firm concentration would be 78 per cent in 1974."
- 2 August 1974: British Sugar Corporation estimates that 1974's profits will be about £14m double the 1972-3 figure.
- 2 August 1974: Supermarket group, Fitch Lovell, report pre-tax profits 7% higher at £6.7mil.
- 2 August 1974: Profits at Redlands, building materials group, are 18% higher at £24.26m, and sales are at £138mil.
- 2 August 1974: J.B. Eastwood reports pre-tax profits up from £4.8m to £6.03m despite higher interest charges.
- 2 August 1974: Reed International's first quarter results show overseas profits up by over 100% from £5.3m to £12.4m, and home profits 27% higher at £ 13.6m.
- 2 August 1974: Turkish armed forces expel south the remaining women, children and elderly from the Greek Cypriot villages of Aylos Giorghios, Trimini and Karmi.
- 3 August 1974: As part of the drive to give a 'national' sheen to otherwise exclusive Sadler's Wells Opera begins its 1974-75 season under the new name of the English National Opera.
- 3 August 1974: <u>Daily Mail</u> 'Wilson goes cold on Benn' and other national newspapers with a leak from Number 10 against Benn describing Wilson's opposition to Benn's policies after the Cabinet on 2 Aug 1974.

- 3 August 1974: "Roy Williams, Ray Tuite, Caroline and I were flown in a Beagle to Fairford for the Concorde test flight, where we met Brian Trubshaw, the chief test pilot, who is an old friend of mine... a couple of American Air Force colonels from Edwardes Airforce Base on board." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 3 August 1974: Admiral Sudomo. Chief of Staff of the National Security Agency announces Indonesian security authorities have arrested communists in east and central Java provinces attempting to revive the banned Communist Party.
- 3 August 1974: Police arrest 100 members of the Dalit Panthers, before Prime Minister Indira Gandhi arrives in Poona in western India.
- 3-5 August 1974: A lightning strike by TGWU fuel workers at Heathrow Airport to reinstate a suspended worker, who has refused to operate a hydrant vehicle, succeeds in reinstatement. At the end of the action Frank Young, TGWU area full timer, states "We asked the management some time ago to start negotiations on the problems of the hydrant vehicles and to discuss a productivity rise but they refused. But after the meetings at the weekend [with the strike in progress] they have agreed to get the negotiations underway."
- 4 August 1974: A UN communiqué confirms that Portugal will relinquish control over Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Angola, Cabo Verde Islands and Sao Tome & Principe. The MFA government is ready to sign agreements with Guinea-Bissau for the immediate hand-over of power, the first colony to be recognised as independent by Portugal. Portugal is to support its admission to the United Nations. It also pledges immediate steps to start negotiations with FRELIMO and the nationalist movements in Angola.
- 4 August 1974: UN spokesperson exposes Turkish occupation forces deporting Greek population from its territory, before the UN peacekeeping force has settled in.
- 4 August 1974: Wilson: "No one should expect any measurable increase in living standards for a year or two ahead. It is a problem we can only settle by all of us mucking in".
- 4 August 1974: Johnson, Derby South MP, Labour Whip, writes to the chairman of British Airways for the firm to appeal to British firms to use the national airline for their international business travel. He states: "We are about the only country In the world which does not promote its own airline in this way...When British Airways say there will be a shortfall and that they may have to borrow money to pay their staff after September, this seems the

- logical cause" Firms using British Airways for 'national' reasons will mean less profitability for them, resulting in payments crises on similar lines to what British Airways is experiencing.
- 4 August 1974: *Ordine Nuovo* explosion on the Rome-Munich Italicus Express kills 12 and severely injures 48.
- 5 August 1974: Tony Benn is happy with the state of the Industry Bill White Paper: "The National Enterprise Board is an absolute dream... Eric [Heffer] was just beaming" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 5 August 1974: Lord Chalfont, former Labour minister, writes in <u>The Times</u> 'Could Britain be heading for a military takeover?' He mentions Aims of Industry, National Association of Ratepayers' Action Groups and "strange groups of people" meaning the rightist private armed forces as potentially dangerous alongside the "genuine" leftist "subversives". He urges a "return to strong effective parliamentary government. It needs an Administration which represents and protects the interests of those the great majority in this country -who owe allegiance to neither extreme." He states "the spectacle of a minority government confronted indecisively by an apathetic Opposition" is emboldening leftists and "as a result, serious political activity is in danger of passing out of the hands of Parliament and government."
- 5 August 1974: Prince Philip watches and presents prizes for the Tall Ships racing events in Portsmouth.
- 5 August 1974: Head Wrightson sign a licence agreement with US firm Automatic Drilling Machines Inc. to market and manufacture resistant automatic drilling machines for the oil and gas industry.
- 5 August 1974: Over 300 staff at a psychiatric hospital, Erdington stage a 24-hour unofficial stoppage in protest of the delay in the interim pay award.
- 5 August 1974: Kenneth Denley, Society of Radiographers, says it will wait for Lord Halsbury's interim report before any action.\*\*
- 5 August 1974: Princess Alexandra & the Duke of Edinburgh visit a fun sailing festival in Cowes.
- 5 August 1974: UN officials report that over 1,000 military age Greek Cypriot males moved out of villages near Kyrenia by Turkish forces are unaccounted for.
- 5 August 1974: Department of Environment releases figures highlighting the recession in the construction sector. 2nd quarter (Apr-Jun) 1974 private sector home starts are 15% down compared to the previous quarter (that included the 3-day week) and 47%

- down on the same period in 1973. Private sector completions are 27% lower than the previous quarter and 30% on the previous year. Public sector builds shows little improvement meaning the slums will remain, public sector completions are marginally down compared to the same period in 1973, meaning that overall home completions are 19% down.
- 5 August 1974: Edmund Williamson, bursar of Leeds University, says the university is £500,000 in debt and will owe £850,000 next academic year, meaning research work is being cut and slowed throughout all departments.
- 5 August 1974: Hamish Grant, secretary of the Confederation of British Industry CBI (Scotland), says a Scottish Assembly will likely be superfluous or a hindrance upon business. He agrees with greater devolution of powers but states a political assembly cannot deal with problems of inflation, international monetary pressures or the harmonisation of economic and industrial policies of the West.
- 5 August 1974: Northampton football club announces the construction of wire fences around its football field and wire pens for young spectators paying half price, for the new season.
- 5 August 1974: Old Academical (former pupil of Dollar Academy) Lord Heyworth, former chairman of Unilever, although he has transferred much of his wealth prior to death aged 97, leaves a fortune of £200,000 in his will.
- 5 August 1974: UK Offshore Association agrees the Offshore Pollution Liability Agreement for 6 years where oil firms operating in the British continental shelf will be liable for compensation only up to £6.5mil for pollution damage caused by their operations.
- 5 August 1974: Sports Minister Denis Howell reports that restrictive measures will be introduced on British Rail after discussions including increasing the cost of chartering trains for a club's fans for away matches, since "evidence repeatedly comes to us that the more we succeed on the pitch the more we seem to have the problem transferred outside the ground".
- 6 August 1974: "Fraser and Dunlop rang with an offer of £4,000 to do a Stone's Ginger Wine commercial. One day's work. My hands went clammy and I told Jill I'd think about it" (Michael Palin's Diary) 6 August 1974: Wilson: "We want to help not only small firms, many of whom have been hard hit by inflation and the liquidity problem, but also to see a privately owned area within a mixed economy "We want to see it enterprising, responsible, alert, and

profitable.. I think that will help to dissipate some of the uncertainty caused by too much public debate.... Let us stop talking and get the policy clear." He states his opposition to a "pussy-footing" coalition. "We believe the country wants a strong government – a Labour Government in our view, or a strong Conservative one ... At a time of grave world economic crisis and our national share of this, things we believe necessary were difficult to get through, and there has been a lot of monkey business late at night on essential tax changes. I think the general expectation is that we will get a satisfactory working majority, despite all the manoeuvring with the Ulster Unionists and everybody else."

Wilson's essential commitment is for measures for profitability to be enacted in majority government (whether Conservative or Labour) rather than a coalition. The manifesto pledges are irrelevant except as inducements for voters to imagine themselves participating in 'the nation'.

6 August 1974: Universities' Central Services Unit releases a booklet on university graduates' destinations. The total number of university graduates from 1973-4 is 50,300 compared to 51,200 in 1972-3. There is a big increase in the proportion of graduates entering the professions. Also, more graduates have gone straight into jobs in industry from university, rather than going on to further study or research 42% compared with 38%.

6 August 1974: Saudi Oil Minister Yamani declares in an interview Saudi Arabia is opposed to the bloc in OPEC calling for an increase in oil prices, instead believing there should be a fall. He states: "We are convinced that forcing up oil prices will Shatter the world economic order and cause a world-wide recession." States like his which want industrialisation with Western power "cannot endanger them at the same time."

He appeals: "Germany, Japan, Britain, and France will find a rich field for operations" in Saudi Arabia. He states firms must invest in Saudi Arabia and receive oil at favourable rates: "It is obvious that the producing nations do not want dollars for their oil. Industrialisation is today the price for oil, and whoever wants oil must pay this price. Here the solution offers itself."

7 August 1974: 26 ASTMS radiographers go on a well-planned and executed 24-hour unofficial strike at the Southern General and hospitals, Glasgow, meaning all but emergency treatment is cancelled.

7 August 1974: "with Frances Morrell... we hammed out how to present the industrial policy to the public... It is essential that during this crisis Britain re-equips itself with new plant and equipment to make it competitive. It is essential that we end

completely the confrontation between the unions and the community; therefore they must have much more democratic control... If we get these three things right, we can emerge from this period of difficulty with our factories and our nation reindustrialised and re-equipped and Britain will be a major industrial power once more, with its own oil reserves." (Tony Benn's Diary)

7 August 1974: Andy Keir, Ministry of Labour civil servant from 1947, current Controller of the Department of Employment in Scotland is appointed chief of the new ACAS service.

7 August 1974: Queen Mother transported to Kirkwall in an Andover aircraft of the Queen's Flight, has lunch at the residence of Col. Robert Macrae, Lord Lieutenant of Orkney, then attends a service, returning in the evening on the same private (though publicly funded) flight.

7 August 1974: British Army assassinates Patrick McElhone at point blank range. "He was inclined to be backward and sheepish in conversation. He had absolutely no interest in politics... In recent weeks a new regiment has been very active and provocative in the Pomeroy area. Sinister movements like spying on certain houses and harassment of the people have created a climate of foreboding and fear. On Wednesday searches were made in the Limehill district. The soldiers went to a number of small firms and harassed the people with their foul language and threatening behaviour. They spoke to the deceased, Paddy McElhone as he was cutting hay in a field. Later that evening at six o'clock as McElhone waited at home for his tea two soldiers called at the door, saying: 'Come out here... We want a word with you.' The young man went out and the soldiers closed the door on his father and mother. The mother had a view of the road and she saw a number of soldiers gathered around Paddy. She heard one of them say: 'You're not doing much to help the army'. She then saw soldiers shaking him severely. They then took him further down the road. Mrs McElhone asked her husband, Peter to go out and see what was happening to Paddy. Then Peter heard a shot and saw his son fall in the hay field. Peter screamed: 'Why have you shot my son? He has done nothing.' The soldier replied: 'Get back into the house you f\*\*\*ing whore or we will shoot you too'. [After the death] One [soldier] in particular was constantly pacing up and down the road, talking to himself and shaking his head... The local people were terrified of him... [people are] fearful and terrified and want the soldiers removed from Pomeroy immediately" (Investigation Report of 2 local priests, Frs Michael McGirr and Denis Faul)

"Fr Faul has heard from a confidential army source that the whole affair was supposed to be a bluff planned by a group of soldiers.

According to this, they were going to tell Patrick McElhone that they would execute him if he did not give them whatever information they were seeking... it backfired when one of the soldiers accidentally shot him. It is not plausible that a trained soldier could take deadly aim and then accidentally pull the trigger." (Martin Burke's report)

- 8 August 1974: "it was recommended I should appoint for a knighthood a banker from Scotland, followed by Monty Finniston; Rupert Nicholson, the Rolls Royce receiver, on the grounds that he had done such a good job of selling off Rolls Royce last year; Gilbert Hunt, the Chairman of Chrysler; and an English industrialist" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 8 August 1974: Sir Keith Joseph, shadow Home Secretary, makes another important backlash speech in Edinburgh attacking the "fruits of three decades of semi-socialism" as being an anti-business climate "fuelled by socialists, unions, media, universities". "Ever since the war, industry has been debilitated by well meant but damaging political policies... People who could not tell a lathe from a lawnmower and have never carried the responsibilities of management never tire of telling British management off for its alleged inefficiency.... considering all the obstacles placed in its way by governments and unions, British industry has done remarkably well and deserves combined congratulation and commiseration".
- 8 August 1974: Former PIDE and DGS agents execute a breakout from Lisbon Prison.
- 9 August 1974: <u>SA Digest</u> reports Simonstown has reached more than double its naval capacity compared to 1955, when the Treaty with Britain was first established. British officers have sped up training on the newest ordered submarines, almost entirely from NATO sources, in anticipation of the ending of the relationship.
- 9 August 1974: <u>Hibernia</u> reports the case of William Hutchinson, a prison guard in HMP Crumlin Road aboard the helicopters ferrying the internees rounded up by militarists in Operation Motorman, currently interned as a UDA member. His wife and 2 children forced to live on £11.30 a week without a wage. His wife comments: "We've had our eyes opened. We never believed the Catholics had to put up with half the things they said they did. We never really cared, but we believe them now."
- 9 August 1974: An RAF Phantom jet recklessly flying low over farmland crashes into a crop-spraying aircraft near Downham Market, Norfolk. 3 are killed.
- 9 August 1974: Sinn Fein in Dublin calls for a united front from Ulster Workers' Council and NICRA (Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association) to force the Labour government to end internment without trial.

9 August 1974: Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visits RN Faslane base. A military helicopter flies throughout the day. Only authorised journalists and Navy photographers are allowed to enter with cameras onto Faslane base. Over 2000 base personnel and families gather to watch the royal party inspect a guard of honour of junior naval officers. She visits HMS Neptune. She takes a guided tour of the Polaris training school. She visits to a nuclear submarine, HMS Resolution, one of Britain's 4 Polaris nuclear tipped submarines. Amid restrictions which allow only a handful of the Royal party to see classified equipment, the crew simulates the launching of the submarine's 16 Polaris missiles in a readiness exercise. She inspects the nuclear buttons and looks through the periscope of the submarine. She asks a 29-year-old wife a M.O.D. civil servant formerly based at Portsmouth: "Is it more expensive to live up here?" Being told that prices are higher in Scotland than in the south "The Queen seemed a bit surprised at that".

9 August 1974: After Faslane, the royal party travels to the Royal Northern Yacht Club, celebrating their 150th anniversary.

9 August 1974: Shipbuilding firm Vosper Thorneycroft launches a major campaign against Benn's nationalisation ideas. Chairman, Sir David Brown, has written to shareholders outlining their case. He explains that in the last 15 years the group have received, against world competition, orders worth £250m and sales in the last 8 years have risen from £6m to £50m. Exports represent 80% of its shipbuilding wing, its number of employees has risen by 20% since 1968. Since the Vosper and Thorneycroft merger in 1968, apart from financial assistance available to industry as a whole, such as export credits and investment grants, it has received £929,000 from shipbuilding grants and £600,000 for hovercraft development.

9 August 1974: Sir Alistair Pilkington, chairman of Pilkington's, attacks the nationalisation plans yesterday. Though he expects his company's investment at home and abroad to total £150m in the next 3 years, he tells shareholders at its annual meeting: "The final decision to go ahead with any scheme must depend on all the conditions, including the political risk at that time." He warns of the danger of a drift to nationalisation, but affirms he is not opposed to nationalisation in sectors like gas and electricity, that supply manufacturing industry.

9 August 1974: Government names Sir Bryan Hopkins, economics professor at University College Cardiff, as economic adviser to the Treasury and head of the Government economic service. He succeeds Sir Kenneth Berrill who will be appointed head of the Central Policy Review Staff 1 Oct 1974. Sir Bryan Hopkins was deputy chief economic adviser from 1969- 1972 during the Heath era, before his professorship in Cardiff.

- 9 August 1974: CPAG issues a report noting that thousands pf families have been denied free school means and families refused free meals are not being reimbursed even when rectification is made.
- 10 August 1974: 62 football supporters are arrested after the Hibernian v Rangers League Cup match at Easter Road.
- 11 August 1974: ICI Chairman Sir Jack Callard speaks to shareholders: "I see great dangers in Government intervention in the management and day-to-day running of our business and in the State owning part or the whole of the company ... In the field of industrial relations we have pioneered and developed a system of consultation between employees and management right up to board level.... We remain ready to work with Government in looking for ways to develop this country's wealth and to achieve agreed national objectives [but] I am convinced that State control or ownership would be detrimental not only to the performance of the company and to your own personal interests, but also to the national economy."

ICI management later sends a letter to all 199,000 ICI employees in Britain and shareholders, urging resistance to the prospect of nationalisation. ICI retains significant investment in South Africa and allows secret police to monitor its plants to impede unionisation of its black workforce openly paid at vastly different rates to its white workforce. It also spearheads the efforts against ASTMS by increasingly segmenting

- 11 August 1974: A host of P.S.F. supporters in Hyde Park are arrested by Special Branch police. Of them 18 are later convicted and fined under the Public Order Act 1936 for wearing a 'political uniform' sunglasses and dark hats. Police then break up those waiting at Paddington Green police station Mr Frank O'Brien, of the Irish Civil Rights Association in Britain, says: "The majority of those waiting were women and children." An eyewitness states "police were fighting about 30 people."
- 11 August 1974: A shipment of 600 Gurkha soldiers, many of whom have seen service during Confrontation, begins the move to SBA Dhekelia. 3<sup>rd</sup> Fusiliers, No.40 Commando Unit and 19th Brigade of Signals also stay to protect the British bases.
- 11 August 1974: Foreign Secretary Callaghan, Tugrul Gunes and Georgios Mavros meet over dinner in Geneva. The talks have been delayed on Tugrul Gunes's request for the Turkish cabinet to be given warnings/instructions by the National Security Council meeting.

- 11 August 1974: Deposed Cypriot President Makarios is greeted by a rally of 7000 outside All Saints Greek Orthodox Church in Camden Town, London.
- 12 August 1974: European Human Rights Commission announces Britain has agreed to pay £37,500 to the wife of a dissident Moroccan air force Lt Col (whom British authorities deported from Gibraltar to royalist-militarist Moroccan authorities, where is promptly executed the following day) in order to stop the case coming before the ECHR. It brings an end to the 2 year saga where Britain's lawyers argue all the way against their having any case to answer.
- 12 August 1974: AP records: "Reports from Angola told of airliners being chartered to fly out thousands of whites and Cape Verde islanders who feared anarchy following a week of riots in the slums of Luanda. Travel agents said they had been swamped with requests about travel to Brazil and other countries in South America. Whites have also been asking the South African consulate about emigrating to that country."
- 12 August 1974: Irish civil servant, Martin Burke, official of the Department of Foreign Affairs visits Pomeroy to speak with local people about the shooting dead of Patrick McElhone. Following Burke's report, Irish Ambassador in London, Dr Donal O'Sullivan, is instructed to press Dublin's concern at Britain's military practices "which have given rise to considerable disguiet and resentment on the part of the minority. There have been many complaints... Bishop Daly of Derry spoke of their 'intimidation and terror tactics'... in addition, complaints had been made regarding the behaviour of certain specific regiments such as the Black Watch in west Belfast and the Royal Marine Commandos in Newry....The behaviour of the latter meant there was a wide measure of support for the IRA in Newry." There are repeated incursions into the Republic. British Army "had displayed great insensitivity to local feelings and may be said to have contributed to increased sympathy for the activities of the IRA."

"British army activity in border areas is such as to cause a degree of resentment among the local people, gardai and army which can only benefit those intent on illegal activity."

"These incidents, taken in conjunction with the activities of the army in Northern Ireland, could prove detrimental to cooperation in security matters." It is this pressure that results in a trial in Mar 1975 of a Lance corporal for manslaughter. He is found not quilty.

12 August 1974: <u>Financial Times</u> reports on Callaghan waiting for Mozambican independence rather than implementing boycotts

against South Africa or closing the Rhodesia re-export loopholes: "Callaghan... believes that a new British initiative on Rhodesia could best coincide with the granting of independence to Mozambique. ... Callaghan has concluded that an independent Mozambique could create new problems for the Rhodesian economy, especially if supplies were cut off from the Mozambique port of Beira.... time would then be ripe for a new attempt at a Rhodesian settlement, though the precise form it would take would depend on circumstances at the time."

Throughout 1974 and 1975 the South Africa Embassy in London actively helps recruit emigrants for Rhodesia. It gives information and slips with the name and address of the Rhodesia Information and Publicity Service.

- 12 August 1974: FTSE index hits another new 15-year low at 229 points. Significant falls have been recorded in the aftermath of the publication of the White Paper on nationalisation. Triumph Investment Trust, being unable yet again to realise any profit, as well as Hugh Scanlon's threat that the social contract's provisions must be honoured before it is enforced by the AUEW mean further losses.
- 12 August 1974: Queen, Duke of Edinburgh, Viscount Linley, Princes Andrew and Edward, Lady Armstrong- Jones, amongst others take a pleasure cruise on the Britannia yacht to visit the Queen Mother at the Castle of Mey, Caithness, alongside Lord Thurso, Lord Lieutenant of Caithness.
- 12 August 1974: A meeting of the London Equity branch with over 200 attendees votes overwhelmingly to take up the right to strike for the union, which had been forfeited at the start of the war in 1939.
- 13 August 1974: Andrew Drummond, a travellers' leader is fined  $\pounds 150$  for an illegal encampment not far from the A1 in Tweedmouth, Berwick. Hugh Smith, president of the National Gipsy Council, state that although travellers will move from the site close to Tweedmouth, there are no licensed sites in all of the Berwick area.
- 13 August 1974: FTSE Index falls 5 points reaching close to a 19-year low at 224.3 points (July 1955 recording 223.9 points).
- 13 August 1974: Babcock & Wilcox announce they have obtained a £6mil contract to build 2 steel-making converters for BSC plant at Ravenscraig.
- 13 August 1974: Israeli gunboats shell Rashidiye refugee camp, 2 miles south of Tyre, populated by Palestinians.

- 14 August 1974: A stunning Détente triumph sees Western including British exhibitors, begin displays of their police technical equipment as 'Krimtexhnika '74' Soviet police trade exhibition begins.
- 14 August 1974: World Bank announces yesterday it has borrowed US\$500million in Venezuela to recycle petro-dollars there.
- 14 August 1974 am: Negotiations in Geneva end with the Turkish delegation walking out, Turkey refusing any other solution other than effective partition on the basis of a contiguous 6-Turkish Cypriot canton area covering a third of the island (where only a fifth are Turkish Cypriots).
- 14 August 1974 am: Turkish aircraft strafe and then begin aircraft bombardment of southern Nicosia, followed by artillery fire across the Green Line. Later bombardment of Famagusta and surrounding villages begins. Turkey's 40,000 armed forces on the island begin an all-out assault.
- 14 August 1974 pm: Greece withdraws its military forces from NATO's integrated command in protest but remains a member of the alliance. This nonetheless leaves the cohesion of the alliance weaker than even during the de Gaulle events of 1967. Major war between between Turkey and Greece becomes a serious possibility as close to 100,000 soldiers are positioned up against the Greek-Turkish border. Coupled with Portugal's "instability", this fixes minds in the Foreign Office to 'solve' the Cyprus problem to produce an acceptable pro-NATO modus vivendi between rival nationalisms. War has not been desired, in large part because it would seriously damage NATO's credibility, similar to US preoccupations. Greek-Turkish discussions are later held under Britain's "good offices" in Geneva are noticeable for how little the voices of Cypriots living in Cyprus are heard.
- 14 August 1974: An evacuation of close to 14,000 British civilians via RAF Akrotiri begins. Priority is given to families and dependants of the personnel on the SBAs. A Labour Left view: "The self-appointed task of holding the bully's coat suffered a slight reverse last August, when all the British guarantees to Cyprus under a 1960 treaty were abandoned and trampled upon to suit Kissinger's manoeuvring between Ankara and Athens, with results so catastrophic... domestic preoccupations have kept public attention off foreign affairs, and the sell-out of Cypriot independence was never a public issue." (Britain in Between, Matthew Blaire, Ramparts Magazine, August 1975, pp10-13)
- 14 August 1974: UK-West Africa Joint Service conference: "At a meeting in January of the lines, the Clyde Port Authority, and stevedores, assurances were given that action would be taken to improve both the productivity and the labour supply. However, over

the past months there has been a substantial deterioration In productivity, as well as delays to vessels caused by uncertain availability of labour" but since this has not happened goods shipped from Glasgow to West Africa face a surcharge of £1.50 a freight ton. TGWU instead of organising action against the CPA welcomes its refutation of the naval transport groups "once the dockers start work, their productivity is among the best in Britain, if not in Europe" The Clyde Port Authority wants to reduce the number of dockers per gang increasing the number of gangs available, and a revision of the piecework scheme, more flexibility in working to quarantee extra labour at necessary times.

- 14 August 1974: Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visit oil platform construction work at Nigg. Lord Lieutenant Capt A. Mathieson, Energy Minister Eric Varley, William Ross. Secretary of State for Scotland, Sir Philip Southwell, chairman of Highlands Fabricators, Herb Nelson US managing director at the firm all attend. They tour housing developments and launch an oil rig. Afterwards the royal party drives back to Invergordon to board the royal yacht Britannia to sail to Aberdeen to begin their Scottish holiday.
- 14 August 1974: Lord Inchcape, shipping magnate, chairman of investment firm Inchcape & Co, announces the firm has increased profits by 102%, but is not looking for the same rate of growth for the future. He refers to investments in "commodity markets" and "diverse activities in widely-spread areas...Latest information indicates that the pre-tax results for the current year should be at least as good as those now reported, which would be no mean achievement in present world conditions." The group's interests are wide spread with foreign operations cover 64% of the total spread through South-East Asia, Australia, Canada and Nigeria.
- 14 August 1974: Court Line (Horizon) and Clarksons Holidays declare themselves bankrupt. Close to 1,500 lose their jobs. Well over 100,000 who have pucrhased cheap holidays loss their service but are reimbursed. 5,000 are affected on holiday in the Caribbean and southern Europe. LIAT (Leeward Islands Air Transport), acquired in 1971, and South Africa-based Court Line Helicopters, parts of the octopus that find investors because they might be more profitable, survive the bankruptcy. Assets are later distributed to other private firms: Cathay Pacific, Dan-Air, Monarch Airlines among others, giving them a boost. The cost to other tour operators of flying back stranded holiday people is such that they decide inaugurating themselves the Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA) to set up an insurance fund/compulsory bonding scheme in case of future failures of British firms.

15 August 1974: Etst Aria Navigation, part of shipping magnate YK Pao's empire, yesterday reported profits of almost U\$26mil for the FY 1973-4, an increase of 40%.

15 August 1974: Labour Left Tony Benn and Eric Heffer's White Paper, The Regeneration of British Industry, (Cmnd 5710) is released. It is the culmination of five months of backlash effort but praise for possible efforts at reordering unprofitable firms: "it has been a remarkable five months in office. I have achieved most things I wanted, no doubt about it, except for one or two minor points... with the publication of the White Paper... a new era begins in which I have to get it across and win support. Eric and Michael are very competent, Frank Beswick does an extremely good job, Gregor MacKenzie is a dab hand and keeps at it. My three advisers, Frances Morell, Francis Cripps and Ken Griffin are all excellent." (Tony Benn's Diary, 8 Aug 1974)

It promises the National Enterprise Board, NEB that will allow private firms to become firms with government-appointed-management and with Planning Agreements, agreed by trade unions, management and government on overall objectives and operation – a process described as 'nationalisation'. Rolls-Royce (1971), International Computers (ICL), George Kent, Nuclear Enterprises are announced as the prime targets for this process since they have most visibly benefited from direct state assistance in recent years.

The White paper also covers land which proposes to see as 'development land' for industry when required. This land is poisoned and unsuitable land left by private industry. The state is effectively cleaning up, pump priming and then releasing it once again for industry (state and private). The environmental externalities of industrial production is being borne by the state not the shareholder (who keeps the higher returns). Actual investment or compensation plans for any firm are not discussed.

15 August 1974: Commander British Forces Near East reports: "At 14.26 hours one of a group of seven Turkish tanks, which had approached to within a few hundred yards of the NW corner of the Ayios Nikolaos perimeter, fired three shells into the Sovereign Base Area" ('The Turkish Advance on Famagusta – As Seen from Ayios Nikolaos' 15 Aug 1974', BNFE/1500/24) These are lost stray units acting in the wrong place.

"At 4 pm, Colonel Hugh Johnstone, Commander of 9 Signals Regiment, the main sigint operators at Ayios Nikolaos, accompanied by Colonel Ian Cartwright, the commanding officer of the Fusiliers, walked out from the base towards the Turkish forces. An hour later they encountered three squadrons of tanks and some armoured

personnel carriers, which appeared to have stopped for a 'brew-up'. A happy accommodation was reached after the British officers explained the demarcation of the boundary. Magically, the local Turkish commander then appeared and gave assurances that there would be no further trouble" (Richard Aldrich, GCHQ)

15 August 1974 pm: Britain's largest package holiday firm Court Line collapses leaving well over 40,000 tourists stranded across the Mediterranean and Caribbean, with another 100,000 losing flights and holidays that have been paid for.

It means immediate loss of employment for Clarksons Holidays, Horizon Holidays, Halcyon, OSL and Court Line Aviation – in total more than 3,000 directly employed.

Within a few days reports emerge of stranded tourists having to pay up to  $\pounds 10$  a day to Spanish hotels that claim the company has not paid them their costs. Its 2 hotels in St. Lucia, 1 in Antigua and Antigua-based airline, LIAT, continue operations without charging, as a liquidator is named.

"The overall management was throughout inadequate and it was in any event never supported by the necessary financial control. This meant that as Court Line expanded, it became progressively vulnerable to any substantial setback in any of its areas of activities. When a serious setback occurred, triggered off by the oil crisis of autumn 1973, it immediately affected the shipping, aviation, and leisure divisions. The group was so highly geared, so structured and having such inadequate financial control, that it might well have been brought down by a substantial reverse in any of its major activities. As it was the cumulative effect on all three divisions, when all the cash resources which would otherwise have been available had been invested unprofitably in the Caribbean, meant that the position progressively deteriorated and rendered the collapse in August 1974 unavoidable." (Court Line Limited (Final Report), Department of Trade, HMSO, 1978)

- 15 August 1974: Having returned from talks in Geneva Callaghan states an impossible to resist Turkish invasion will follow: "I do not think the UN force, which went to Cyprus to keep the peace will regard it as their task to stand in the path of an army that is advancing"
- 15 August 1974: Reuters reports 15 Chileans seeking asylum via Britain's embassy in Santiago have been refused asylum, but offered backing in securing exit visas from the Chilean militarists. Reginald Seconde: "I was unable to help them"
- 15 August 1974: South Africa Finance Minister Dr. Nicholaas Diederichs says it will increase defence spending by about 50%.

- 15 August 1974: It is announced that the ultra-fundamentalist Hindu monarchy of Nepal has detained 4 Buddhist priests for building a mini-tower.
- 16 August 1974: Trade Secretary Peter Shore, reveals, in a press conference, that in the week before its final collapse it had been hoped only to continue operations until the end of September, the holiday season.
- 16 August 1974: <u>Daily Express</u> attacks Tony Benn's wife for "rescuing the two people and not telling the coastguard so they could call off the helicopter search as if she could possibly have known... she had helped two people ashore, given them a cup of tea, they had phoned their friends, and she had driven them home." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 16 August 1974: In protest at US assistance to Turkey, Greece prohibits all US military aircraft from landing or taking off anywhere in the country. It eases the order the following day after diplomatic pressure, allowing flights only from at USA's Athens base with 6 hours' notice.
- 16 August 1974: Turkey accepts the ceasefire agreement, after rejected it on 14 and 15 Aug 1974.
- 17 August 1974: Amnesty international makes a press release publicly asking Bahrain to free workers detained for over 2 months without charge, and 9 prominent trade unionists in Jordan.
- 18 August 1974: <u>Sunday Express</u> 'Court Line Was it a Labour Plot?' accuses Labour of attacking the middle-class by draining their wealth on undelivered holidays
- 18 August 1974: A 16-year-old is stabbed to death by a group of youths in Newquay, Cornwall.
- 18 August 1974: Israel states it "rejects Jordan's call for an Israeli withdrawal along the Jordan River."
- 18 August 1974: Greece announces it hopes to enter EEC as soon as possible.
- 18 August 1974: Ecevit announces that Turkish armed forces will remain in Cyprus until a regime with confidence has been established.
- 18 August 1974: Venezuelan armed forces shoot dead 7 prisoners in a mass protest in San Cristobal prison.
- 19 August 1974: UN Population Conference in Bucharest begins. Dr. Ray Ravenholt, population director of USAID, says on 24 Aug 1974,

population control is essential because overpopulation is a major threat to world stability. \*\*

19 August 1974: Protest outside US Embassy in Cyprus compound, the crowd shouting "Kissinger, Murderer" It sees armed units open fire and snipers from the crowd retuning fire shooting dead the US Ambassador and his secretary in the commotion.

20 August 1974: Labour Party proposes 2 chief aircraft firms, British Aircraft Corporation and Hawker Siddeley, should be merged and nationalised as the British National Aerospace Corporation (BNAC) under the control of the NEB. A US Embassy internal report concludes: "Present minority government would stand little chance of implementing the working group's proposals. Publication of the report could exacerbate the differences between Labor's left and right wings over the nationalisation policy which were papered over in the skilfully drafted White Paper on industrial policy. Its appearance may also give the Opposition another opening to attack Labor's nationalisation policy." (21 Aug 1974)

Aims of Industry quickly begins in Aug 1974 a major press campaign, a sample advertisement: 'Isn't it time we looked where we're going?' It states: "We could be about to stop into a situation where our whole standard of living could be put severely at risk. We will step into that situation if this government decides to take over or control many of our bluest and most efficient firms. A whole range of household goods in the shops come from these threatened firms. We get foods from abroad because firms like these earn the money with their exports. And State control of many of our most efficient firms will threaten our living standards and endanger our economy. Already the threat to control or nationalize big sections of industry is undermining business confidence and investment that could mean unemployment. What can I do? Demand that the Government should stop interfering with efficient and well-run companies And tell your local Member of Parliament exactly what you think about Labour's threats to British industry. Say NO to the Elephant!" [which is a civil servant type figure in the shape of an elephant, with a bowler hat labelled 'State control'] It features a woman dropping her two bags of shopping.

20 August 1974: A wide-ranging draft bill to nationalise Venezuela's oil industry, including British-owned firms, recommends compensation payments "not higher than the book value of the oil companies' properties on the date of the formal expropriation request" is announced. It is later enacted in 1975.

- 20 August 1974: Trial of Desmond Trotter and Roy Mason, 2 Dominica suspects of political murder, accused of belonging to a rastafarian guerrilla group 'Dread' begins in Roseau.
- 21 August 1974: Trade Secretary Peter Shore announces the government will hold a full public inquiry into the Court Line firm. Eldon Griffiths, Conservative Party spokesman on trade, says the government has financially aided overseas airlines, which has led to the collapse of the firm.
- 21 August 1974: Health Under-Secretary Owen meets leaders of hospital radiographers, members of ASTMS on strike, but says no demands can be met until the 'independent' report's interim part is published.
- 21 August 1974: Plans for organisation of specialist volunteers for strikebreaking duty are revealed in the press release of Great Britain 75 (GB75). Col. David Stirling, founder of the SAS known as "the Phantom major", announces helicopters will be used to overcome picket lines to move supplies and strikebreakers to factories and ports. He states the full launch, requesting more volunteers as engineers, computer experts, scientists, technicians, helicopter pilots, HGV drivers and other specialist skilled, will be in 1975: "I believe GB75 and the impact of its nationwide campaign to identify with ordinary people represents the only course open to us to help restore parliament's authority over the unions." Peace News has recently published documents from GB75 members.
- 22 August 1974: <u>The Guardian</u> publishes a letter from Michael Ivens, head of Aims of Industry, comparing the NEB to Mussolini's schemes in the 1930s to resurrect Italian industry.
- Aims of Industry published Reds under the Bed during the miners' strike Jan 1974 to suggest the NUM Left controlled by CPGB and Moscow was engaged in a revolutionary coup-bid for power.
- 22 August 1974: Turkish military assisted Rauf Denktas forms an entirely Turkish-Cypriot cabinet that later evolves into the de facto government called the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus and ultimately in 1983 the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. Around 250,000 Greek Cypriots unemployed, around 90% of the adult workforce.
- 22 August 1974: New Scientist examines Labour's nationalisation plans noting "one fundamental dilemma which will clearly confront the NEB sooner or later. We are told that it will have to "compete with companies in the private sector and be expected to operate in accordance with suitable financial objectives". And yet, in the same paragraph, the report goes on: "When the government require the NEB to depart from this objective on social grounds, the subsidies will be administered by the NEB, and will be separately accounted for." Although all holding acquired by the NEB will be only by

agreement with the companies concerned, the White Paper notes that "to act decisively in its role of creating employment and creating new industrial capacity, the board will need a number of companies where it holds 100% of the equity capital, in order to avoid conflict between its objectives and the interests of private shareholders". It is precisely this emphasis on intervention to save jobs which has panicked such right wing groups as Aims of Industry ... But the real crunch seems to be that if the NEB gets the tough entrepreneurial outsiders it needs to do its job effectively, they will hardly take kindly to having every socially worthwhile lame duck dumped on them in the name of unemployment Who's to say that the Shotton ironworks that Dr Monty Finniston wants to close as part of his £3000 million modernisation programme for British Steel Corporation could ever be made to pay. It certainly couldn't under the terms that Dr Finniston has to contend with. But, given a direct "social subsidy" and managed by the NEB, it might at least keep 7500 people in work. Similarly, a number of the other nationalised industries— so often criticised for being unprofitable and then prevented from raising their prices to a competitive level by a government bent on fudging the cost of living index— might at last find a formula for off-loading their unprofitable services."

23 August 1974: A £150m deal involving Massey-Ferguson and the Polish state's tractor industry is signed. It is the largest ever deal between Poland and a Western industrial firm. Trade Minister Shore commends it: "It is the largest single contract won so far by British industry in Eastern Europe and provides for extensive cooperation between the two companies in the marketing and production of tractors. Thus it not only gives practical expression to the long-term co-operation agreement concluded with Poland last year but also it will make a significant impact on future trade and economic relations between the United Kingdom and Poland — a market which is already the largest market in Eastern Europe, for British goods."

The deal envisions the production in Poland of Massey-Ferguson tractors and Perkins diesel vehicle engines. Most of the £150m is for the transfers of components and machine tools to be provided from Britain over 1975-1980. Barclays Bank head the consortium providing the long-term funding backed by the government's ECGD. The main factories that are replaced are in Ursus, a restive industrial suburb of Warsaw. The technological improvements are successful and many are forced out of work via various ingenious Communist methods. Ursus sees large protests in 1976 and full factory occupations in 1980.

- 24 August 1974: A 14 year old stabs a 17 year old to death during the half time break of the Blackpool-Bolton fixture at Blackpool at a clash between rival supporters.
- 24 August 1974: Greece accepts a Soviet proposal for an international conference, involving the whole Security Council and all Mediterranean nations, if possible, over Cyprus. Fearing Soviet success in the endeavour, Britain, USA and Turkey oppose the move, blocking it dead. \*\*
- 25 August 1974: <u>Sunday Times examines a report</u> by London Business School professors Jim Ball and Terry Burns. Its main point is that there will be a million unemployed by winter 1975. It warns Britain is entering a 3-year-period of extremely slow growth with a high rate of inflation later dubbed stagflation. It argues against a major devaluation as worse than useless and argues against reflation or public investment. They are able only to recommend minor controls on prices to ease the pain.
- 25 August 1974: Australian Prime Minister Whitlam attacks rank and file ACTU strikes: "Employees who want lo keep a Labor Government .should measure the possible consequences of their actions, not only upon the fortunes of the Government, but upon their fellow-unionists"
- 25 August 1974: Portuguese radio reports that 10,000 soldiers have begun their return from Guinea-Bissau, about half of the total in action there.
- 25 August 1974: The skip of a dumper truck at a building site collapses crushing a worker to death in Erskine, Renfrewshire. A Spanish worker is killed in an accident in oil drilling barge in the north Sea off Aberdeen.
- 25 August 1974: Dundas Hamilton. London Stock Exchange deputy chairman, states the weakness in share prices has been caused by political uncertainty, doubts about "rewards" for investors that "risk capital" and the question of whether any investment is secure against inflation.
- 25 August 1974: Ethiopian armed forces committee announces the nationalisation of the National Resources Company, which operates the hot mineral springs and bottling plants, where the Emperor is the major shareholder. It also declares the Emperor's Jubilee Palace in Addis Ababa and summer palaces are people's property (meaning he cannot live there any longer).

25 August-3 September 1974: Brazil's main international agricultural event the Porto Alegre Agricultural Export Show sees Fred Peart, NFU president Sir Henry Plumb and British Agricultural Export Council Lord Glencoe attend alongside land British landowner farms' representatives including Wales' Brechin Farms, Aberdeen Angus Ayrshire, and Beef Shorthorn, North County Cheviot. "Brazil is a rich market, with a population of more than 100.000.000. There are unique opportunities for British agricultural exporters" These exchanges help set further entrench the cattle and sheep ranching system into Amazonia.

Recently expanding in Brazil are "huge, inefficient cattle ranches encouraged by the Brazilian government with a variety of tax concessions and other incentives as part of its scheme for colonising the Amazon. One study in the 1970s showed that each ton of beef received \$4000 in subsidies, yet earned only \$1,000 on the international market... an inflation-proof investment by companies or individuals." (Duncan Green, Faces of Latin America, Latin America Bureau, p43)

27 August 1974: Commander of British Near East Forces, Sir John Aiken reports stability and security of the SBAs is "firmer than it has been for some time" in particular the listening posts: "the longer-term security of the signal unit and Ayios Nikolaos would seem to be better guaranteed by the close presence of the Turkish Army than it had been under the Makarios administration. The Turks understood – and approved! – its function in the NATO context." (Biles [Chief of GS staff], 'Notes of an Informal Meeting Between A/CDS (CGS) and CBFNE', 27.08.74, DEFE 24/578)

27 August 1974: Australia's The Age special report on Cyprus: "the main street of Nicosia... was comforting to have a large Queensland policeman in his light-nine UN bonnet at my elbow. A Greek had been shot dead in the street the day before, but the sight or the UN was enough to ensure temporary peace. "When they start shooting... we rush out and just walk between them. We don't carry arms. It'll feel funny wearing a gun again in the Brisbane CIB."... those parked tanks in Istanbul, was warning enough of the danger ahead. The stencils said NATO and they also said U.S. ... The Turks have used NATO weapons in Cyprus once before, to "take out" a couple of Greek villages and their populations. The markings were on the napalm casings, but the incident was brushed aside. Better not cause trouble in the alliance.... The Turkish tank columns have already wrecked Cyprus, occupied twice their share of the land, turned half the Greek population into refugees, killed the economy, and seem hell-bent to occupy the whole republic in the name of liberation."

- 28 August 1974: Lei da Greve.
- 28 August 1974: UN's Special Committee on Decolonisation calls for Britain to allow self-determination and full independence for St. Helena.
- 29 August 1974: A mass police raid closes down the third and last Windsor Free Festival. Over 600 police, who have been training in Thames Valley Police facilities launch an early morning raid on a festival with 2,000 participants, with truncheons pulling away participants into vans. Phil Russell: "I saw a pregnant woman being kicked in the belly, and a little boy being punched in the face. All around the police were just laying into people. I went to one policeman who had just knocked out a woman's teeth and asked him why he'd done it. He told me to fuck off or I'd get the same. Later on, I did." (Stonehenge, A People's History)

Naturally, counter-culture festival goers are deemed responsible: "some of the festival organisers appealed over the microphones to the fans to resist. That was a highly irresponsible act. Both children and pregnant women were in the crowd. Even if there had only been adults, festival organisers who call on crowds to defy the police should be dealt with sternly. It is one thing to turn a blind eye to an illegal festival; it is quite another to ignore festival organisers who encourage people to defy the police" (The Guardian, 30 Aug 1974)

- 29 August 1974: BBC broadcasts the Windsor Great Park Charity Event, featuring members of the royal family, on behalf of specific charities. Noel Edmonds attends.
- 29 August 1974: Edward Youde begins his term as ambassador in Beijing, China. He is later appointed Governor of Hong Kong where he appoints Old Chigwellian Michael Thomas as Attorney-General of the colony and appoints Thomas' wife Lydia Dunn, director at Swan, brokerage firm for shipping, storage, transport and agriculture, as Senior Unofficial Member, a position to represent the interests of the native mass of the colony on the LegCo. He begins tapping up PRC's voracious appetite for imported plant and machinery, currently largely fulfilled by Japan. He is promoted to knighthood for his efforts in 1977.
- 29 August 1974: <u>Glasgow Herald</u> City editor: "It should not be forgotten thai Governments do not earn money abroad nor do they finance public expenditure and pay wages.... Mr Benn and his faceless men will destroy industrialists' confidence at the peril not just of Mr Benn. We will all suffer."
- 29 August 1974: Southampton All-Union Alliance's head declares that the decision to perform repairs on the Q.E. 2 in Rotterdam must be resisted "it was a bombshell when we heard that ship was going to Rotterdam. The shop stewards at Vosper and the

- Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions were not consulted."
- 29 August 1974: A British lorry driver is sentenced to 4 months' prison and 700 forint fine for attempting to smuggle a Hungarian woman girl across the Hungarian border into Western Europe. British Consul Eddie Urquhuart, attending the proceedings declares: "It was a very fair trial indeed." and takes no further supportive action.
- 29 August 1974: Iceland's new Prime Minister, Geir Hailgrimsson says the new Socialist government plans to extend its fishing limit to 200 miles."We will continue protecting the 50-male limit and work for the preservation of the fish stocks. For chat purpose my Government will immediately begin preparations, so that the extension of the fishing limit to 200 miles can take place not later than 1975". He also states Iceland is committed to NATO and cooperation-with the United States, disassociating entirely from the Left Party's pledge to close the USAF base in Keflavik.
- 29 August 1974: New Scientist publishes a 2.5-page article 'Science for men only?' by Alison Kelly, lecturer at the Edinburgh University Centre for Educational Sociology whose final paragraph concludes: "Thus women are dissuaded from science in Britain not primarily from lack of ability. The most important factor is the attitude of society, which does not expect careers, certainly not demanding careers such as science; little help or encouragement is provided to enable women to combine a demanding career and family life." It summarises the department's report 'An unfair profession: a review of the position of British women in science'.
- 30 August 1974: Turkish troops burn out a Greek Orthodox Church on the Green Line. On 29 Aug 2 Greek language schools were burnt out in night-time arson attacks. The effect is to force a Greek Cypriot retreat from main street Nicosia,
- 30 August 1974: National Institute of Economic and Social Research forecasts mounting inflation and 675,000 unemployed by the start of 1975.
- 30 August 1974: Airey Neave leads elements of the harder-right in calling for an unarmed, uniformed auxiliary warden police force, with rights as accorded to Special Branch, he states: "I think there is widespread anxiety in the country about the question of public order... what we're suggesting is a new volunteer force to work hand-in-hand with the police." Harry Gurden adds "We should perhaps experiment with a volunteer force in one city and see how it goes. 'Throughout the country I think we could easily get 10,000 volunteers, and probably many more. They would be used on a part-time, unpaid basis... they could use radios to contact the police" he explains: "I'm sickened by the growing violence in this

- country today". Monday Club associates, including Jill Knight and Norman Tebbit, support the call. They also propose a junior service of informers to fight "juvenile crime".
- 30 August 1974: Hugh Scanlon announces AUEW may use a block vote against the Social Contract at the TUC Conference. Len Murray states he expects affiliated unions to accept a majority TUC decision.
- 30 August 1974: Vatican on the grounds that it "explicitly or implicitly condones contraception, abortion and sterilisation" rejects a very timid declaration at the Bucharest Conference on Population. Britain joins the Western block in refusing to accept any mention of underdevelopment as the prime target to combat to reduce 'overpopulation'.
- 30 August 1974: Failed assassination attempt on a leader of the Socialist Party and advisor to Makarios.
- 31 August 1974: A 14-year-old US girl allowed out of a tobaccofarming village, Yialousa, occupied by Turkish forces, returns to USA, after her release secured by US State Department pressure. She describes various acts of brutalisation conducted by Turkish soldiers on the Greek population, rifle butts against adults and children a
- 31 August 1974: AUEW Executive votes 36-15 not to withdraw a TUC Conference Motion conference expressing reservations about the contract.
- 31 August 1974: Elizabeth Sandys, daughter-in-law of Duncan Sandys, Defence Minister during the Kenyan Emergency, director of Lonhro announces that an organisation of 100 Conservatives are prepared to vote Liberal or Labour in order to defeat Heath and replace him with Powell. "We would like to see Mr. Enoch Powell lead the party. He has the honesty, consistency and credibility needed."

September 1974: Tony Blair, a St John's Oxford undergraduate, moves into a student house in Argyle Street, Oxford, for his final student year at Oxford. Laura Mackenzie, a housemate there, notes that Tony Blair spends a lot of time with the IMG. Colin Meade, an IMG member at the time recalls of this year: "He would dress up in silly clothes and hang around with lefties, [but] he always went to dinners with visiting judges." Blair deepens his relationship with Peter Thomson, a chaplain at an Australian private school Geelong

Grammar (he later becomes its headmaster) studying as a mature student. Several students, including Blair, listen to Thomson describe the theology of John MacMurray. Blair is confirmed into the Church of England at St. John's Chapel.

September 1974-June 1979: David Cameron attends primary school in Heatherdown private prep school, near Ascot Berkshire. It is an Eton feeder and is described as "the most select school in the country" by former teachers. "The teachers themselves were mostly products of English public schools... much respected Maths and Geography teacher, Monty Winthers, had been at Harrow, the science teacher, Frank Wilson, had been at Sedbergh, the headmaster [James Edwards] was a Radleian and Christopher Bromley-Martin, the French master, an Old Etonian.... 'The parents all new each other of course' says Daniel Wiggin, a former pupil.. 'It was quite smart very much one of the grandest. The Kleinworts, the Hambros, the royals, the St Andrews... They were there because their fathers had been there themselves.' When Prince Andrew was sent to Heatherdown, it was partly on the recommendation of Lord Rochester, the Queen's racing manager, whose two sons had flourished there. Evidently satisfied, the Queen sent [Prince] Edward there as well. David Cameron was two and a half years younger but the prince and Alex Cameron contemporaries and friends. The Queen could occasionally be seen driving a green station-wagon, dropping her sons off at the end of a weekend at home... Among the eighty or so sets of parents of David's contemporaries [were at least] eight honourables, four sirs, two captains, two majors, two princesses, two marchionesses... one earl, one lord... At the school's annual sports day, two or three helicopters... would land on the playing fields. Instead of the customary signs for Ladies and Gents, Heatherdown had Ladies, Gentlemen and Chauffeurs. 'It was deadly serious - the drivers were not supposed to mix with the other quests" says a former teacher.... At Heatherdown it seemed part of the natural order of things that it would go on doggedly churning out boys who got into Eton (and less often Harrow).

September 1974: Royal Navy Task Group 317 is deployed to the Indian Ocean, featuring full warships, helicopter ships, submarines and frigates.

September 1974: Pye TVT, a British sound and visual engineering firm, completes a £8mil contract to provide the state of Oman with a new studio for news and propaganda broadcasts which are regularly full of black propaganda, a technique perfected and taught by Britain's SAS operatives over the years.

September 1974: Edward Short, leader of the House of Commons, visits Israel on an official visit. On his return he says relations with Israel are so good that they "could not possibly be improved". September 1974: 7 are arrested in mass police raid on a West Indian nightclub 'the Swan' on Seven Sisters Road, Tottenham, London. A Defence campaign later begins for the innocent 'Swan Disco Seven'.

- 1 September 1974: General Secretary Trades Union Council of South Africa at the opening of the TUC Congress in Salisbury warns of changes in the mood in South Africa since the collapse of Portuguese control: "It is my duty to point out to you that a growing body of opinion in South Africa is saying that South Africa can no longer afford this support. They are saying this in terms of political, economic, and military involvement which South Africa has with Rhodesia. The open question being asked in South Africa is whether a much stricter policy of neutrality, as distinct from a policy of identification, would not be more in South Africa's interests.... wooing surrounding independent black states, including Angola and Mozambique once they attained independence. I think it is realistic to realise that while your country has until now acted as a buffer zone in blunting terrorist incursions from black Africa, your importance to South Africa for that purpose has now declined. Black Africa has now crept closer to us, and terrorists will probably soon have operational bases in Mozambique and direct access to South Africa's frontiers."
- 1 September 1974: Jack Jones announces that its executive has voted 77-3 to back the social contract says the majority of TUC will still be "for the joint policy of the TUC and the Labour Party to hold down prices, to help the. lower paid, and to get ahead with housing policies, things like that, the social contract is not just about wages" 1 September 1974: Celtic manager Jock Stein attacks fans singing "rebel songs" and chanting republican slogans: "The so-called Celtic supporters who were in the enclosure at Fir Park on Wednesday night [Celtic v Motherwell, League Cup] and normally stand in the centre of the Celtic Park enclosure had better mend their ways. We want nothing to do with people singing songs of a religious or political nature and chanting obscenities... The culprits are being warned—behave yourselves and control your tongues at matches or we will take action to end this embarrassing behaviour."
- 1 September 1974: Sir Max Aitken announces Alistair Burnet, graduate of Headmaster's Conference private school The Leys and Oxford PPE, former editor of <u>The Economist</u>, BBC Panorama host and current affairs chief, main anchor for BBC's 1974 February election coverage, as editor of the Daily Express.

- 2 September 1974: "Jack Spriggs, Dick Jenkins, Eric Heffer, Kenneth Clark [liquidator], Frances Morrell and a host of other people, including the consultants... we had a look at the proposals that Spriggs and Jenkins had put forward for IPD. It was a marvellous meeting and the transformation in these people from the time they first came here is extraordinary. They arrived as militant trade unionists, bitter, hostile ad suspicious, and gradually they have been won over... we want them to take responsibility for their own future... impressive to see Jack producing his management chart, his marketing estimates and capital needs. We went through it together and we cut it down to about £4.5million." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 2 September 1974: United Arab Emirates signs a nationalisation agreement with oil firms. The state purchasing 60% of the share totals of any firm using resources in the principality.
- 2 September 1974: Farnborough Air Show "by helicopter where I was met by the Deputy Director of the Society of British Aerospace Comoanies [SBAC]. Met the Duke of Kent and the King of Jordan who had decided to turn up with twenty-seven members of his retinue"... I watched the flying display and talked to the Duke of Kent" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 2-5 September 1974: An unusual TUC Conference is held. The tone is drastically different to 1973's Conference. TGWU General Secretary, Jack Jones, speaks in favour of the Social Contract reminding all of the importance of an increase in the state pension. Lawrence Daly, recently elected as General Secretary of NUM on a platform of support for lightning pit walkouts stresses pay differentials between sectors of workers. He states some sectors have reached substantially higher wages by industrial action compared with the likes of nurses hamstrung by their roles. On this basis, he declares only a centrally administered, governmentplanned growth of real wages can lead to desired results. The social contract, he claims, promises fairness between workforces and allows the government to increase expenditure on housing and education. Frank Chapple does not address delegates at all, because his position and open endorsement of the social contract is seen as needlessly provocative.
- 2 September 1974: Anne Scott James interview with Arthur Scargill in <u>Evening Standard</u>.
- 3 September 1974: Callaghan makes an appeal to TUC unions at TUC Conference to back the Social Contract.
- 3 September 1974: Joint routine military exercises between RN and the South African Navy, begin under the Simonstown Agreement.
- 3 September 1974: FCO concludes "it is unlikely that the Sultan will be able to dispense with SAS help for several years" (FCO 8/2239,

- no4 FCO Defence Review Steering Committee 3 Sep 1974) With rising oil prices the Shah is able to expand his contingent of 12,000 highly trained commandos, allowing SAS forces to be officially withdrawn at the end of Sep 1976.
- 4 September 1974: Sir George Lewis Bolton, former Director of Bank of England and later Chairman of the BOLSA (now merged with Barclays International), writes privately to his friend Enoch Powell of how "fear of a total collapse of the system is an all-pervading emotion" in the City of London, because so few investments now guarantee any returns.
- 4 September 1974: TUC votes to back the social contract.
- 5 September 1974: A team of engineers from Rolls- Royce flies to Tokyo to investigate engine faults that have caused Nippon Airways to ground all 6 of its Lockheed-Tristar aircraft, following emergency landings by 2 planes after oil leakages.
- 5 September 1974: Task force of 9 RN vessels begins joint exercises with the South African Navy and Air Force.
- 5 September 1974: Labour Party announces plans for the assemblies in Scotland and Wales in a 3,000 word document aiming "to adapt the British Constitution to the needs of the remainder of the 20th century-to avoid fragmenting the United Kingdom, bringing the spotlight of democracy to bear on the Scottish, Welsh and English levels of Government which already exist... nationalist parties of Welsh. Scottish and Cornish varieties have ail tried to exploit geographical remoteness from the centre of government, by playing upon the genuine fears of the people that government in London is English and therefore alien."
- 5 September 1974: Labour Left MP Jim Sillars, launching a new book. "Hongkong: A Case to Answer', describes Hong Kong as "a disgrace to the British Government. A place where despair, indignity and exploitation are the order of the day for the vast majority of people" noting "the disparity b e t w een rich and poor In Hong kong is indecent to the point of obscenity" It warns "in an age of general decolonisation. Hong Kong stands out as a bastion of 19th century colonialism... the regime is not elective. The population lacks almost all basic human rights... The colony has by far the worst drug problem in the world." Its authors are anonymous to avoid persecution by Hong Kong authorities.
- 6 September 1974: Sir John Newsom, Labour educationalist, organiser of 1945 comprehensive education in Hertfordshire, author of the 1963 curriculum report, explains the importance of keeping working-class females as passive wives and mothers:"We try to educate girls into becoming imitation men and as a result we are

wasting and frustrating their qualities of womanhood at great expense to the community. I believe that in addition to their needs as individuals, our girls should be educated in terms of their main social function - which is to make for themselves, their children and their husbands a secure and suitable home and to be mothers."

- 6 September 1974: Australian Prime Minister Whitlam meets President Suharto in Bonsobo, Yogjakarta, Indonesia, and tells him 'Portuguese Timor should become part of Indonesia' and 'this should happen in accordance with the properly expressed wishes [of its population] for the domestic audience in Australia. Suharto agrees and attempts to use Apodeti to further this aim. (Record of Meeting Between Whitlam and Soeharto, State Guest House, Yogyakarta, 6 September 1974, 10 a.m.)
- 6 September 1974: A rigger is killed at the British Aluminium plant in Falkirk.
- 6 September 1974: An all-party subcommittee of the House of Commons Expenditure Committee concludes that funding cuts imposed by the previous government have not been reversed and that the NHS remains underfunded, restricting social services.
- 6 September 1974: Britain claims continental shelf rights around the island of Rockall, extending its area for natural resource investigation.
- 6 September 1974: Metropolitan Police announces it is forming a new mobile squad to protect foreign embassies to start operation from Nov 1974. Half the men in the squad are to be trained in using firearms, they will operate maroon BMC 1800 saloons with their own radio telephone channel.
- 6 September 1974: Lusaka Accords between FRELIMO and Portugal sees Portugal announce independence will occur in 1975.
- 7 September 1974: Portuguese armed forces and settlers loyal to hard-right settlers movement FICO (Frente Integracionista de Continuidade Ocidental) seizing offices and transmitters of the Rádio Clube de Moçambique and begin an attempt to take over the port and strategic points of Lourenco Marques to institute a settler regime. In opposition mass protests and FRELIMO guerrillas organise a counter-action. In the course of the following days, blacks and whites are killed. British press largely reports events on the lines of 'savage Lourenco Marques shanty town supporters round up whites'.
- 7–8 September 1974: US, British, Federal German, French, Canadian and Italian finance ministers and central bank governors meet in Champs-sur-Marne, France. ('Note of a Meeting at the Chateau de Champs' FCO 59/1097)

- 7-16 September 1974: Britain participates in NATO war-game exercise SeaComex featuring submarine warfare, electronics warfare, formation steaming and communication drills.
- 7–17 September 1974: A strike at ITV's Grampian TV by ACTT members secures the readmittance of a sacked producer.
- 8 September 1974: Wilson uses his private RAF jet to fly from London to Edinburgh and Balmoral Castle.
- 8 September 1974: At the end of the Western economic summit in Paris, USA, Federal Germany, Britain, France, Italy and Japan fail to coordinate reflationary state investment measures but instead agree on inflation as a priority problem.
- 8 September 1974: <u>The Observer</u> reports Geoffrey Rippon's call for a volunteer reserve unit for action during strikes and emergencies, echoing with a different emphasis calls from Airey Neave for a citizens' police force. Rippon, Environment Secretary under Heath, states: "at a time when the foundations of our society are being shaken by violence and extremism we must take steps to ensure the maintenance of order. A Conservative government must provide for an adequate level of reserves and for the strengthening of the Territorials, and strengthen the police and create a Citizens' Voluntary Reserve for home defence and duties in aid of civil power."
- 9 September 1974: Wilson holds talks with Jordan's King Hussein.
- 9 September 1974: Bankruptcy of another British travel firm, Discovery Holidays, (specialising in trips to southern Europe) collapsed and receivers to sell on profitable parts to other firms, have been appointed.
- 9 September 1974: First deployment of US SR-71 reconnaissance aircraft to RAF Mildenhall, as per the agreement of Mar 1974.
- 9 September 1974: Prince Charles begins his 14 week training as a Royal Navy helicopter pilot.
- 10 September 1974: "I asked the Committee to note that the workers' cooperative at IPD was coming along well, and to authorise money for the Receiver to keep it going until the end of November." Benn boasts of "a "£20 a week wage cut as is happening in Coventry now to work for the cooperative." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 10 September 1974: Ford and Kissinger hold talks with Heath and Peter Ramsbotham, British Ambassador to USA.

- 10 September 1974: At the Liberal Assembly in Brighton: "An all-party coalition involves the suspension of effective parliamentary opposition and would not be justified by the current economic and political situation. The objectives of a government appealing to national unity could more acceptably be achieved by a minority government tailoring its own programme to the will of Parliament."
- 10 September 1974: Having been thwarted by strikes by Mozambican railway workers, and the uncertainty over a FRELIMO government, Rhodesia completes its new and more dependable land route to the sea. 145km of railway from Rutenga to Benbridge, South Africa, is completed in 93 days, 21 months ahead of schedule.
- 11 September 1974: British Chamber of Trade in Santiago, its President Reginald Seconde, the British Ambassador, takes out a full-page advertisement in <u>El Mercurio</u> congratulating "the honourable Junta" on its first year of reforms.
- 11 September 1974: Greece withdraws from NATO's committee of defence planning, meaning NATO cannot coordinate activities with Greece, leading to the concept of a 'Southern Flank breach'.
- 11 September 1974 pm: Meeting of the Burnham negotiating committee offers ILEA teachers a £12.5m pay offer for 65000 teachers. It is an increase of £4m compared to the Pay Board proposal as a London weighting allowance.
- 11 September 1974: Completely ignoring the Conference decision of a day earlier Jeremy Thorpe, Liberal leader announces "we would be prepared, for a limited period, on an agreed programme, to join an all-party government of national unity" to overcome the effects of the economic crisis. "Fellow Liberals is it really thought to be in the national interest to say less? Are we going to say that there may be four million unemployed, there may be a collapse of the currency, there may be bankruptcy but we wish to have no responsibility? That we wish to play no part in trying to rescue the nation" He declares Britain is facing its most serious economic situation since 1931. He urges self-denial and stresses the need for statutory policy on incomes with tough sanctions against infringements.
- 11 September 1974: <u>Investors' Chronicle</u> describes the effects of a growing property 'boom': "In the summer of 1973, the government was allowing the amount of money for use in the country to expand rapidly in the hope that industry would use it to invest in new plant to produce more goods and earn more foreign exchange by

exporting. It did not work out that way, because industry was not confident that it could sell enough goods profitable enough to cover the money for new plant. So the extra money being pumped into the economy found other uses. At first, some of it found its way into buying shares where it helped to force prices up. More important, vast amounts of money were being lent by the banking system to buy property. Since property is in limited supply, the main effect was to force prices sky-high."

- 11-12 September 1974: Both Wilson and Ted Heath meet with Liam Cosgrave on Irish assistance in negotiations over EEC, prior to the EEC Heads of government meeting on 14 September 1974.
- 12 September 1974: Cabinet. "Jim reported and said it was pretty clear that the Turks wanted the whole north east of the island... there didn't seem much that could be done about it. 'the Turks got away with it by force and we have just got to accept that fact. Anyway there's no point taking it to the United Nations; they've got no powers.' Michael said 'Surely the whole point is that the United Nations is there for people who don't have power.' Jim emerged disgracefully from the exchange." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 12 September 1974: <u>The Times</u> in its report on the Liberal Conference applauds Thorpe who "showed today his real qualities of leadership and got wide support for his insistence that the Liberal Party must put the interests of the nation first and must go into the election campaign telling the truth about the grave economic situation looming ahead."
- 12 September 1974: Brian Clough is dismissed from his post as manager of Leeds United, after just under 7 weeks in charge. He receives a golden handshake in the region of £100,000.
- 12 September 1974: British planners accept the idea of joint US-British-French-Federal German-Canadian front on oil prices against the OPEC block. ('Note of a meeting in Sir Derek Mitchell's office al the UK Department of Treasury on 12 September 1974.')
- 12 September 1974: Empowered by a growing social movement of strikes for over 6 months, the Provisional Armed Forces Coordinating Committee, a grouping of younger military officers establish the Dergue Provisional Military Administrative Council, placing Emperor Selassie under house arrest in the Imperial Palace, with Lt-Gen. Aman Andom becoming temporary head of state.
- 13 September 1974: "visit... Polish ministers, the Vice Premier Mr Olszewski, and the Minister f Machine Building Olszewski said 'Yes

- decentralise up to a point with economic reforms, but of course workers just want more money and less work'
- 13 September 1974: NUSAS is banned under the Affected Organisations Act (1974) silencing spokespeople attached to it on pain of immediate indeterminate detention.
- 14-15 September 1974: Argentinian guerrillas attack 36 property targets including British-owned banks, wealthy apartment gardens that feature foreign businessmen.
- 14 September 1974: Caroline Benn "feels that, being under the shadow of a Cabinet Minister, everything she does is dismissed." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 14 September 1974: Sunday newspapers report Jordan selling on British military equipment to South Africa including a Tigercat seato-air missile system and Centurion tanks.
- 14 September 1974: Cambodia announces new IMF-imposed reforms, that remove subsidies for grain, increasing its prices by 250% in the space of a few days. Very soon, petrol price prices from 100 to 350 riels/litre and import rice from 65 to 165 riels/kilo. (Reuters)
- 14 September 1974: Mobutu and Portuguese President General Spinola hold talks in Sao Tome over plans for Portugal's decolonisation of Angola and Mozambique. In secret Holden Roberto, chief of FNLA, and a delegation from Chipenda's pro-Mobutu MPLA splinter faction. Spinola's African allies broadly approve his plan for a provisional government in Angola to include the FNLA, UNITA and MPLA but to exclude elements of economic democracy within the MPLA. Spinola's plan is for a 12 man provisional government including 2 representatives from each nationalist movement, 'tribal' chiefs and leaders of groups for the white minority. (Sunday Times, Oct 20 1974). Spinola's list for coalition partners in the provisional government includes Fernando Falcao head of FUA, an Angolan Portuguese settlers' party Holden Roberto, Jonas Savimbi and Daniel Chipenda. (Diario de Lisboa, Oct 12, 1974), however the African leaders question the incendiary presence of settler representatives.
- 15 September 1974: Tunisia's dictatorial President Borguiba announces the purging of 5 ministers.

- 15 September 1974: Police attack a rally of over 2,000 at Kowloon Park, Hong Kong, against inflation, unemployment, political oppression and mass poverty.
- 15 September 1974: In response to the events in hong Kong associated with Peter Godber trial and police charging protesters in Hong Kong. The World This Weekend devotes (albeit limited) attention. Walter Easy, chairman of the Hong Kong Research Project, former Hong Kong policeman states onthat the colony is "a paradise for the rich.... All this in the colony which is one of the top 20 trading nations in the world." Walter Easy as a former policeman between 1962-8 who has seen and participated in the forcing of bribes, requisitions and favours under the threat of trumped-up charges, and the harassment of the poor and largely illiterate of the Chinese population, is the spokesperson. As an honorary accorded a listen, unlike the thousands of Chinese who have complained of Hong Kong's post-war policing for close to 30 years.
- 15 September 1974: "Ferranti is in financial difficulties and I issued a statement that after discussions with the Department of Industry and the Ferranti Company, the Government have agreed to provide the company with support under the 1972 Industry Act." (Tony Benn's Diary) Ferranti is in trouble because its other profitable competitors and banks do not want to assist it or purchase it.
- 15 September 1974: Government confirms its purchase of shipbuilding and repair interests from Court Line have been completed.
- 15 September 1974: A circus trapeze performer is killed at Blackpool Pleasure Beach Ice Drome, when a safety rope fails.
- 15 September 1974: Liberal Party head Jeremy Thorpe calls for a coalition government of national unity rather than minority government after the Oct elections.
- 15 September 1974: IMF annual report is released, it states that worldwide recession cannot be ruled out yet nonetheless in member states "policy decisions must now place more emphasis on controlling inflation and maintaining a climate of financial stability [and] correspondingly lesser emphasis on growth and employment objectives" It warns "persistent application of this approach, despite the setbacks that could occur, would be a very demanding task, requiring strength and continuity of political will over a period of years. In order to change inflationary expectations, policies would have to show results so as to earn and retain the confidence of the public."
- 16 September 1974: NATO announces Gen Alexander Haig will be its next SACEUR, overall military chief in Brussels.

16-27 September 1974: A major NATO exercise is conducted in the North Sea up to the Baltic, Norwegian Sea, Channel and adjacent land areas. Land, sea and air forces from Britain, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Federal Germany, Holland, Norway and USA participate "exercising participating NATO forces and headquarters in operations during a period of rising tension, followed by full scale hostilities."

It has 3 major NATO military commanders reflecting the tightness of Anglo-American cooperation. RN's Admiral Sir Terence Lewin, Commander-in-Chief Channel (CIN-CHAN); SACLANT's Adm Ralph Cousins (of US Navy) and SACEUR Gen. Andrew Goodpaster. It features electronic warfare, anti-submarine and submarine warfare, land and carrier-based air operations, mine-laying and anti-mine measures, anti-aircraft warfare, the co-ordination of air operations from aircraft carriers and land bases in UK, Norway, Denmark and Federal Germany.

A full-scale landing invasion rehearsal is carried out at night at Barry Buddon, army training area near Carnoustie, Scotland. An amphibious force invasion takes place onto West Jutland, Denmark, over 4 days featuring British assault carriers HMS Hermes and HMS Fearless. Aircraft carriers HMS Ark Royal, USS America, and smaller ships including USS Newport, USS Strickland, operate between them more than 80 assault aircraft in addition to some earlywarning and reconnaissance planes. These planes provide air support alongside the 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force, and supported the joint British-Dutch amphibious landings in Denmark. Nimrods, Orions, Atlantics, Neptunes and Arguses operate from air bases in Kinloss, Machrihanish, St Mawgan. Valkenburg, Nordholz, Stavanger and Bodo under the direction of Air Marshal Sir Douglas Lowe, Commander (Air) Eastern Atlantic controlling the planes from NATO operational headquarters at Pitreavie, near Dunfermline. Shackleton aircraft, Lightnings and Phantom fighter aircraft, Vulcan and Canberra reconnaissance aircraft and Victor tankers are also used.

- 16 September 1974: Asia Region representative of UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), Dtoseoro I mali, says Asia's food supply is severely threatened by increasing prices of fertiliser and other inputs that Third World countries cannot afford.
- 16 September 1974: US announces the sale of helicopters and reconnaissance aircraft to South Africa. Britain has recently cancelled a Westland helicopter sale. Inevitably, the centre-right argument that Britain's competitors will benefit, reducing arms sales means 'giving British jobs away' to others etc is strengthened. No action is announced against the US decision.

- 16 September 1974: The fifth Scott Lithgow-built RAN submarine is launched in Greenock as HMAS Orion. Australian Hiah Commissioner, Australian Naval Representative Commodore Loach. other senior Royal Australian Naval and Royal representatives and families are welcomed as guests to a lunch of Scottish pink salmon and Australian white burgundy at Greenock Council's buildings. Sinclair-Scott, chairman of Scott-Lithgow, expresses his wish for continuing friendship between the firm and Australia.
- 17 September 1974: "A huge delegation arrived representing Ferranti workers from all over the UK led by the CSEU, the STUC and the individual unions and stewards. They all said much the same thing even the senior management namely, that they wanted the company kept in its present form, that they didn't want to see jobs lost, that they rejected a takeover by others (in their minds was a Weinstock take over), and that they wanted Government support which they should carry accountability with it. The senior management identified themselves as employees which is what they are, and I promised to give consideration to their requests." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 17 September 1974: A.Q. Khan writes a letter to Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, explaining his expertise in centrifuge-based uranium enrichment technologies, and urges the Prime Minister to take the uranium route. Bhutto, responding favourably, directs the Chairman of Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC) Dr. Munir Ahmad Khan to meet A.Q. Khan. Later that year A. Q. Khan begins working with the Pakistani government to help develop plans for setting up an ultracentrifuge uranium enrichment plant.
- 17 September 1974: NCB announces a large increase in the price of industrial coal by an average of 28%, beginning from the start of Oct 1974. NCB states: "Coking coal will generally increase by more than the average because of the higher production costs and the NCB need to invest heavily over the next few years in coking coal production and preparation facilities"
- 17 September 1974: In London, Milton Friedman argues that while extra unemployment is a necessary result of controlling inflation, unless monetary control is enforced it will mean the "end of British democracy". A cryptic warning, which becomes a favourite idea to be repeated amongst the centre-right.
- 17 September 1974: Representatives of 200 radiographers in Glasgow hospitals meet for an hour to discuss the report and emerged and say they are "bitterly disappointed" with the outcome. "The interim award is much less than we had been looking for and the period we have to wait for the final report is too long".

- 17 September 1974: Grand Orange Lodge of Scotland approves of the NF candidacy of Michael Brooks, a Belfast Lodge-supported Independent Unionist councillor, in Govan, Glasgow. "We feel that the strong stand that his .party has taken regarding the IRA and the fact that we have been' told that Mrs Margo McDonald, Scottish National Party candidate, and Harry Selby, the Labour candidate, have both indicated their desire for an all-Ireland republic, will probably gain considerable support for Mr Brooks"
- 17 September 1974: The Queen sends a message to General Pinochet for Chile's National Day. He is addressed as "President of the Governing Council of Chile". The monarchy has previously celebrated New Year of 1974 in a telegram again addressed to "the President of the Governing Council of Chile".

## 18 September 1974:

- 18 September 1974: Government announces date of the General Election as 10 Oct 1974, then issuing a Manifesto.
- 18 September 1974: "Although it is tree that City confidence has been unnerved by the policies advocated by Mr Benn, there is nonetheless a feeling that the realities of the economic situation will cause even a strong Labour Government to keep a tight rein on Mr Benn's Left-wing idealism"
- 18 September 1974: Launch of HMS Alacrity at Scotstoun. Sir Eric Yarrow, chairman of Yarrow Shipbuilders, confirms that negotiations are taking place with the Ecuadoran government. A guest of honour is General Andrade, head of the Ecuador military mission in London. Yarrow believes accurately the best way to avoid nationalisation is to secure orders no matter the militarist destination. Admiral Sir Anthony Griffin, Controller of the Royal Navy, also attends the launch of HMS Alacrity, Yarrow's third Type 21 Amazon class frigate with RN orders for 5 more. He states irrespective of what happens over nationalisation the yards will still retain the confidence of countries across the world when placing orders for war ships at Scotstoun.
- 18 September 1974: Irish Justice Minister Pat Cooney and Northern Ireland Secretary Rees hold talks in Dublin which "dealt with the arrangements to be made for the introduction in Dáil Éireann and the United Kingdom Parliament of legislation to implement the recommendations of the Common Law Enforcement Commission Report." (Agreed Statement)
- 18 September 1974: The largest ever state-backed promotion of British consumer goods to be featured in an American department-store begins across 38 large department stores of US firm Broadway. It is entitled 'Great Britain' and features a variety of imported goods. Lord Remayne, chairman of the British Overseas

Trade Board's North Americas advisory group and a deputy chairman at Sir Hugh Fraser's House-of Fraser and Harrods, later attends an opening evening in Los Angeles.

- 18 September 1974: Lazard Brothers announces a financial agreement for £30mil with Algeria's oil firm Societe Nationale Sonatrach, in support of a contract awarded to British firm Willbroe (Overseas) for compressor stations to increase carrying capacity on an existing gas pipeline. Export Credits Guarantee Department guarantees funds which are ultimately provided by Lloyd's Bank.
- 18 September 1974: CBI chief Campbell Adamson warns at a London Press conference of the cash flow problem in firms: "With the present inflation, if a company wants to carry on the same volume of business they will probably need 20% more cash at the end of a year to pay higher wages, higher prices for stocks, and for hire purchase. If the Government took cash away from companies without increasing their business, they could not operate that means fewer jobs and a fall off in investment.
- Ralph Bateman CBI President clarifies that criticisms about inflation are not party political and applied to Heath government as well, he urges a national solution: "We've got to go back to a united nation. At the end of the election we will still have to work with the government.... We are very concerned about the maintenance of the social services, which can only be achieved if industry is profitable and can carry the burden of taxes thrust upon it... to keep its place in the export market."
- 18 September 1974: "I had a word with Len Murray about the Scottish Daily News. He was very negative about it... He said the print unions were in trouble and he can't recommend to his members to help the paper... count us out." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 19 September 1974: Flight International reports "Flight learns from Turkey that the unit flyaway price of the Jaguars being offered to the air force is £1.7 million, but that interest in the aircraft (previously said to be warm on the part of the air force) has waned somewhat in conjunction with the cooling of diplomatic relations between Turkey and Britain and France over the Cyprus situation."
- 19 September 1974: Reports are filed of mass soldier, police and civilian looting of grain stores in Phnom Penh, Kompong Speu and elsewhere, in response to IMF-imposed price increases in basic essentials including grain and rice the perfect bedrock for ultra-xenophobic revanchist Communism in the form of KR militia to take over the territory in due course.
- 19 September 1974: Israel begins the trial of Archbishop Hilarion Capucci, religious chief of the Greek-Catholics in Jerusalem and

- occupied Palestinian territories on charges of assisting Palestinian guerillas.
- 19 September 1974: Britain restates it is willing to house Haile Selassie. It also announces it will soon begin diplomatic recognition of the new regime in Ethiopia.
- 19 September 1974: Fearing militarist pressure, Thailand's National Assembly rejects a draft electoral law that would reduce the voting age to 18 and allow an-all-elected assembly.
- 20 September 1974: Wilson asserts "all one can say about inflation is that it is beginning to move downwards" and attacks the Conservative record that there were nearly a million unemployed in 1972: "If you include the wives and children there were three or four million in 1972 living in families afflicted by unemployment."
- 20 September 1974: Tony Benn worries "Ken Coates rang to say he was launching some sort of appeal to Labour leaders about the CIA intervention against Allende in Chile... The other consideration is the extent to which the CIA might engineer a run on the pound or provoke some crisis... if that were to happen, then the whole situation could go very bad in a very big way." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 20 September 1974: Hong Kong Financial Minister Philip Haddon-Cave begins talks with bankers and financial experts in the City of London. He states Hong Kong intends to develop a loan programme with the ABD Asian Development Bank and also intends some other borrowing to cover a HK\$2000mil (£160mil) deficit. He explains "We have no intention of going heavily into debt" stating Hong Kong will cut back on its expenditure "Our ability to spend has caught up with our spending".
- 20 September 1974: FTSE 30 Index falls to a 16-year low dropping 1.4pts, reaching 199.4, the lowest level since the post-Suez fall in Oct 1958. It reflects major industrial firms' concerns about Labour nationalisation plans.
- 20 September 1974: Joint FRELIMO-Portuguese government begins operating with 3 Portuguese and 6 FRELIMO ministers.
- 21 September 1974: <u>Protestant Telegraph</u> continues the Catholic-Communist conspiracy: "Ulster, Vietnam, South Africa, Biafra and Israel what's the connection? The interference of the agents of the Vatican. In all these trouble spots Roman Catholic activists have been involved."

- 22 September 1974: William Shawcross and Bruce Page profile of Tony Benn in the <u>Sunday Times</u>, full of meaningless innuendo and virtually zero examination of the record of the Department or its future plans.
- 22 September 1974: Lord Chalfont announces his departure from the Labour Party.
- 22 September 1974: Soares holds talks with Indonesian Foreign Minister Adam Malik over the future of Timor, in New York.
- 23 September 1974: Delta Metal Co. announces plans for a major expansion in Brazil, having acquired a precision machining company in Sao Paulo, Industria & Commercio. Over a quarter of Delta Metal Co.'s investments are abroad.
- 23 September 1974: Vaux Breweries based in Sunderland makes its first overseas purchase of Belgian brewery firm Liefmans.
- 23 September 1974: BBC begins Ceefax service. Its brief news report system is later extended 24-hours. It is full of distortions about industrial action.
- 23 September 1974: Goodman & Price, a London firm using dozens of workers in each demolition, are convicted under health and safety laws over asbestos. They are fined in total £75 for the breaches. The fine for not providing any respirators is £5. Respirators cost £5 each. The fine for not providing any protective clothing is each. Protective clothing per person costs at least £5. It is significantly cheaper to break the law against workforce health and safety. (Sunday Times, The Low Cost of Factory Workers' Health, 23 May 1976)
- 23-26 September 1974: A number of firms report profits for the first 6 months of 1974. In spite of the 3-day week some larger companies' profits are up compared to the same period of 1973. Bridon secures a pre-tax profit of £10.3mil up from £4.3 million. GKN £47.6mil up from £31.4mil, Vickers £9.4mil up from £7.4 mil, Burmah Oil Co £28.1mil up from £17.4 mil, Hector Laing, chairman of United Biscuits (Holdings), claims price controls are destroying the firm's ability to invest noting only a modest increase in profits £4.3mil up from £4mil.
- 24 September 1974: It is announced Sir Alf Ramsey, former England team manager, has taken up an appointment as director of a building firm, Ramsey declaring: "This does not mean I shall have to curtail my interests in football in any way."

- 24 September 1974: Wilson describes the social contract as "the most imaginative attempt ever made in this country to solve our economic problems in a sane and rational manner."
- 24 September 1974: Chancellor Healey says inflation could fall to 10% per cent by the end of 1975 and "into single figures" at some point in 1976.
- 24 September 1974: Pentagon spokesman William Beecher confirms an approval to increase the number of Minutemen III intercontinental ballistic missiles with multiple warheads.
- 24-25 September 1974: Israeli Air Force planes launch an assault over refugee camps in South-East Lebanon.
- 25 September 1974: Prices Secretary Shirley Williams at Labour Party Transport House conference states if Referendum results in a vote for EEC withdrawal she will resign as an MP. "I had a message from Transport House saying Shirley had made a remark directed at me at the press conference today 'Please act as a member of the team" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 25 September 1974: A letter, later copied to, among others, Major Nicol of Intelligence in MoD and the Cabinet Office, describes Greek suspicions about US complicity in the anti-Makarios coup:

"Gounaris ... had attended all the significant meetings between the Foreign Ministry and the Greek military during the period of the Sampson coup and the Turkish invasion. He had "indications" which did not amount to proof, but which satisfied him that the Americans had allowed the Greek military to believe that the Sampson coup would be acceptable to them. They had made no protest after the fact and the Greek military had thought themselves safe from Turkish retaliation because of some implicit or explicit American assurances. ...

This view of American complicity is, of course, widespread outside the Greek Government Gounaris admitted that his view was entirely personal and that he had got a very quick and hostile reaction from his Director, Metaxas, when he had spoken in these terms. ... While one could not exclude the possibility that the junta believed themselves to have received some form of assurance through misunderstanding, I could not believe that the events of the summer (even without the Turkish invasion) had been planned by the US, and I was shocked to hear that he was himself so convinced....

What Gounaris said does, nevertheless, fit in with other impressions we have formed here. In particular, John Denson recalls the calm way in which the Greek military and some Americans in Athens

played down the risk of any Turkish response to the Sampson coup...

The picture which emerges, we think, is that the intelligence-gathering aspect of the CIA's work was misunderstood by the Greek junta and liaison maintained by the CIA was taken for US government assent to the coup of 15 July and an assurance that the US would restrain Turkey....

it is of rather more than historical significance here. If Gounaris is convinced of US complicity, then so, I think, must be the great majority of well-informed thinking Greeks and virtually all the rest. It will not be easy for Karamanlis to continue to mitigate anti-American feeling in the face of a Cyprus stalemate and one must doubt whether anyone other than Karamanlis could do as much as he has done. It need hardly be said that, from this parochial point of view, the recent revelations of CIA involvement on Chile are particularly ill-timed." (William Tomkys, Head British Embassy in Athens to Robert Cornish FCO, 25 Sep 1974)

- 25 September 1974: A teacher, convicted of an assault fined £10, after striking a pupil with a strap, has his conviction quashed at the Justiciary Appeal Court. His lawyer: "It would be most unfortunate for the furtherance of proper education in Scotland and to maintaining reasonable discipline in this day and age when it is perhaps more necessary than ever if the Court should take the view that what was done here was an assault and not just the proper exercise of a teacher's discretion."
- 25 September 1974: A group of heavily armed government soldiers seize money and foodstuffs including rice in a raid on Pochentong market.
- 25 September 1974: Hong Kong begins its water rationing, again with differences in life experiences for the colonial elite versus the majority population. The colonial elite live in flats with well-supplied water tanks meaning tap and toilet water will remain, without the need for storing or economising on water. Since the rationing measures have been announced bucket prices have increased from HK\$15 to HK\$60.
- 25 September 1974: 2 workers are killed after a steel frame simply collapses, in the World Bank-funded Singapore port, operated by the Port of Singapore Authority.
- 25 September 1974: Following Lord Chalfont another Labour peer Lord St Davids resigns from the Labour Party to become a crossbencher.
- 26 September 1974: Medical Research Council's 'Working party on genetic engineering in microorganisms' meets. "Lord Ashby's introductory remarks to each witness indicated that the committee remit was 'narrow' and not interested with 'ethical considerations or

the detailed drafting of codes of practice'. He also prefaced witness testimony with the announcement that 'a lengthy moratorium would not be satisfactory and that the situation must be resolved quickly'"

- 26 September 1974: Wilson's falsehood: "price rises in the shops are slowing down".
- 26 September 1974: Chancellor Healey states it is "certain we can get through the whole of next year with well under a million unemployed" and explains the prevalence of unemployment in terms of "there is a collapse of business confidence in Britain" (People and Politics, ITV)

Healey falsehood: "I don't believe myself it is necessary for the people as a whole to have their living standards lowered in order to conquer inflation" (BBC Radio 4, Election Call)

- 26 September 1974: <u>The Times</u> warns of competitors winning export markets: "The apparent fecklessness of the British worker and his delight in wringing the once golden goose's neck is matched in continental eyes by the reluctance of British management to get to work first, roll up its sleeves, share responsibility more and fight strenuously for wider export markets." (Europe views Britain's prospects with gloom)
- 27 September 1974: Catholic Herald reports that fee-paying Catholic preparatory school Ladycross can continue: "After a period of uncertainty, Ladycross is to remain at Seaford, Sussex, where it has been for the past 65 years. Fr Dominic Gaisford, OSB, a governor of the charitable trust which has been set up to take Ladycross over, and continue it in existence, said last week: "Plans had been made to sell the Seaford site as building land, for the school to move to a new site in mid-Sussex and for the ownership of the school to be sold to a charitable trust.... In order to save the school the charitable trust organised an appeal to parents, former pupils and other well-wishers. The appeal raised no less than £230,000, which has enabled the trust to take over the ownership of the school. This remarkable achievement in difficult financial times shows how much people care for freedom of choice in the education of their children." The deepening recession however means the school closes at the end of 1977.
- 27 September 1974: John P. Mackintosh, Labour candidate for Berwickshire, in the <u>New Statesman</u> tries to explain the SNP's rise with suitably national oriented concepts: "The decline in the self-esteem and self-confidence of the British is something with which we are all familiar.... Anthony Eden could not see the country relegated to the status of a mere European power in 1958 when the Common Market was formed. Soon after, we were asking for permission to join, only to be rebuffed. Then the question was

whether Britain would be a liability to the new Europe; we sank behind France and Germany as European powers and now Chancellor Schmidt says he is too busy to waste his rime on 'the misery of England and Italy'. ... the forecasts are that Britain in the 1980s will have fallen behind till her standard of living is no higher than that of Greece or Spain. A once strong imperial power, Britain has not merely abandoned almost all of its colonies but failed where the Israelis later succeeded in an invasion of Suez in 1956. A handful of white Rhodesians defied the Government in the late 1960s and it seemed as if all Britain could do was recapture the island of Anguilla from some non-existent Mafia elements. In general a gloom hangs over the country, a sense of failure. ... the performance of British leaders has been so unimpressive in recent years. Could anything Scotland do be worse than the recent conduct of British foreign policies that has filled our friends abroad with a mixture of despair and disgust? It may take a little while for an impressive leadership to appear but Eire has now its Conor Cruise O'Briens and its Garret Fitzgeralds and the more successful the SNP is the more its numbers are augmented by reasonable, able people, who simply want some hope for the future."

27 September 1974: <u>Business Week</u> examines the business perspective on the 10 Oct 1974 general election: "some British industrialists believe that for the immediate, short-term economic future of the UK, a Labour Government may be preferable, because it would avoid a political-industrial clash with the unions. In view of the openly made threats by left-wing union leaders against ... non-Labour Government... this is not such a bizarre attitude"

27 September 1974: Financial Times reports on the export priorities of British aid to East Africa: "East African Community, which controls the essential common services of Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda, is facing another crisis. Trouble has hit the East African Harbours Corporation which runs the two main ports in East Africa, Mombasa (Kenya) and Dar-es-Salaam. The import-export trade of the whole East African area, including landlocked Uganda, flows through these ports. Besides, Mombasa is increasingly used by the Sudan, and Dar-es-Salaam by Zambia for its copper outflow. With the opening soon of the railway linking Zambia and Tanzania the pressures on the port of Dar-es-Salaam from Zambia's huge traffic will increase enormously. Thus the economic health of a very large area of Africa depends on the East African harbours...

Services in both ports are becoming less efficient, largely because of the desperate need for new equipment such as cranes, forklifts, lighters, tugs and warehousing. Ships are held up by congestion and berthing delays. There are huge backlogs of goods waiting to be cleared, especially in Dar-es-Salaam, where thousands of tonnes of

Zambian goods have been piling up for months. There are not nearly enough storage sheds to cope with the increased traffic. Shipping companies and agents are naturally concerned about the deteriorating situation. With the application of aid money from the World Bank, Canada, Britain and others... equipment is on the way, new berths are being built, new cargo sheds are going up in both ports. They are even planning a huge second port in Kenya." (Ports in a Storm)

- 27 September 1974: AP reports on hard-right organisations attitudes to general elections. Spokesman Stephen Winkworth for Civil Assistance, headed by retired General Sir Walter Walker, calls on all to vote for candidates opposing trade unions. Colonel David Stirling of GB75 (Great Britain '75'), says "our supporters will not be given any advice on voting and we will simply stay well clear of the issue." Corporal Paul Daniels of the British Military Volunteer Forces states: "No politician gives a damn about the real root of all our ills the left-wing pornography conspiracy"
- 27 September 1974: "The advantages of being dressed as a policeman are that I was able to stop four lanes of traffic on Westminster Bridge at rush hour, walk back across the road, hit Terry, grab his armchair and walk back across the road with the cars still respectfully at a standstill!" (Michael Palin's Diary)
- 28 September 1974: Wilson gives a speech in Cardigan, Wales declaring the 'social contract' deal as the "boldest experiment in civilised government that Britain has ever seen"
- 28 September 1974: A number of US ships including USS Adams and USS Stribling after having participated in NATO war games begin shore leave from Portsmouth for up to week. Virtually all the officer class on the 2 vessels have assisted the aerial bombardment of Indochina.
- 29 September 1974: <u>The Observer</u> reports from Labour leaks Tony Benn will be dropped as Industry Secretary and nationalisation policy will be re-drawn after the election.
- 30 September 1974: "Appledore Court Line shipyard... I told them we wanted them [workers at the public meeting] to work with their management and produce a corporate plan, the covered yard had all been equipped by the Shipbuilding Industry Board when I was Minister and was now in the public sector... We went the canteen and talked to women who did a twenty-five hour week for £10: they had no union." (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 30 September 1974: A hostile interview from Robert Kee of Tony Benn attempting to answer John Pardoe's claim that Labour is bankrupting British industry on purpose and Heseltine's claim that Benn is meeting industrialists as an undertaker to them.
- 30 September 1974: Sir Christopher Soames, EEC's Britain appointed Commissioner for External Affairs, meets Marcos in Manilla, to try and secure favourable terms for Europe in projects in the Philippines and organise some measure over its primary product exports.
- 30 September 1974: "There have been several hundred changes to the Beetle during the years, and there are few parts in today's cars which would fit those early Beetles. But the car still shows its age, and by the end of the decade VW must surely have taken it off the European market. Until then, however, it continues to be made at the rate of about 4,000 a day in Germany, Belgium, Mexico, South Africa, Brazil, and shortly in Nigeria, as well as being assembled in Australia, Costa Rica, Indonesia, Ireland, Malaysia, New Zealand, Peru, and several other countries. It seems that for the future the company will concentrate on selling the Beetle in developing countries where its mechanical simplicity, longevity, and lack of sophistication are considered to be virtues rather disadvantages. The Beetle in Britain is no longer a cheap car: even the most basic car costs over £1,000. This year's inflation and the movement of the Deutschmark against Sterling has hit British VW sales hard, and in spite of innumerable marketing gimmicks such as selling Beetles with seats upholstered in jeans material, the attraction of the model seems to be waning. The Beetle's American success was slowed down by safety campaigner Ralph Nader, who accused the company of building unsafe cars. The early Beetles were indeed inherently unstable, very susceptible to sidewinds, and generally ill-handling cars. More recently, the suspension has been given a major redesign and the result is a great improvement - but the car still lacks any great feeling of security. It is not a car to be driven fast."
- 30 September 1974: HQ offices of ZANU in Lusaka are completely destroyed, almost certainly by undercover Rhodesian militarist-planted explosives.
- 30 September 1974: OECD (International Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) issues a report noting that tourism has sunk in all member countries because of the worsening economic crisis, with IATA recording a drop of over 10% in passenger numbers across the Atlantic Jan-Jul 1974.
- 30 September 1974: A new stiff set of anti-terrorist measures come into force in Argentina that introduces prisons sentences to cover

wildcat strikes and 5 year terms for newspapers that publish guerrilla communiques.

30 September 1974: In spite of Britain's opposition, UN General Assembly rejects for the 5th consecutive year credentials of South Africa's delegation.

UN General Assembly also votes 125-9-1 with Britain, France, Canada, Federal Germany and USA abstaining to review South Africa's status within the UN (which requires Security Council endorsement).

30 September 1974: Lonhro admits it has called South African police, who have shot dead at least 2 in a protest at a Lonrho platinum mine, Marikani, in Western Transvaal, 80 miles west of Johannesburg.

30 September 1974: General Carlos Prats, predecessor to Pinochet as Army Commander-in-Chief, and his wife are killed in a car bomb in Buenos Aires by DINA operatives, as authorised by Pinochet.

eOctober 1974: Sewage workers for Glasgow Corporation begin a strike to increase pay from £30 for a 40-hour week.

October 1974: Much of the press comment is fixed on the need for a "national" government or coalition between the central wings of both parties to overcome "national crisis".\*\*

October 1974: Labour manifesto promises in N.I. "it will be the aim of the Labour Government to encourage the whole community to support the police service". Labour promises "some form of power-sharing and partnership because no political system will survive, or be supported, unless there is widespread acceptance of it within the community" but states there will be a unionist veto: "any pattern of government must be acceptable to the people of the United Kingdom as a whole and to Parliament at Westminster." It offers its "intention to phase out detention for all sections of the community in Northern Ireland when, but only when, the security situation permits".

October 1974: CPGB's Eric Hobsbawm in the month's <u>Marxism Today</u> analyses what militarist interventions mean for the CPGB's strategy in Britain: "So let me conclude. What light does all this throw on the prospects of a transition to a socialist society under peaceful and constitutional conditions? 1 believe it underlines the importance of maintaining both unity and the broadest possible front of support. This may mean what the Italian Communists now call an "historic compromise"—i.e. governing down the pace of social change to what is acceptable to the potential allies or the potential neutrals among the middle strata." (The Labour movement

and military coups, E J Hobsbawm, Marxism Today, Oct 1974, pp302-8)

October 1974: <u>Labour Research</u> election special reports the average waiting time for a tonsillectomy is over 18 months for NHS patients, but less than 2 weeks for private patients.

October 1974: The month's <u>Rhodesian Financial Gazette</u> reports on the basis of a study into the Poverty Datum Line, that over 90% of all black workers outside the low-paying white farm sector receive less that \$70 a month, considerably less than the relevant PDL. It also notes a family unit will need more than its PDL before it can meet, in minimum quantities, items listed as essential.

October 1974: CIA backed ISC publishes Peter Janke's work *Ulster,* consensus and coercion: Return to direct rule describing armed forces apparently hamstrung by disloyal politicians.

October 1974: Chemicals firm, Laporte Industries, announces half-year pre-tax profits of £7.2mil, close to 140% up on the same period in 1973. Chemical industry profits have increased substantially as new export areas outside Europe are targeted. (Textiles, Zed Press)

October 1974: Sir Arnold Weinstock's GEC acquires the television rental business of Comet Radio-Vision Services for £1.7mil alongside its pre-existing Spectra rental firm. It begins a more aggressive rental advertising strategy. It places adverts in newspapers suggesting that those without television are squares missing out on life etc.

\*October 1974: Carib Club, Cricklewood, Broadway. First-night of a soundclash between Sir Lord Koos and the Sufferahs Hi-Fi (which includes oppositional reggae group Matumbi). Police launch a mass raid searching for drugs. 12 are arrested including Matumbi members, many more are beaten with truncheons. A Defence campaign for the Cricklewood Twelve or Carib Twelve begins. Dennis Bovell is sentenced to 3 years in prison before his sentence is overturned after 6 months.

\*October 1974: 10 arrested in a mass raid outside Stockwell Underground Station. A defence campaign for the Stockwell Ten begins.

- 1 October 1974: Makarios gives a speech at the General Assembly denouncing Turkish armed forces' population transfers.
- 1 October 1974: Kevin Barry, former international manager at George Wimpey, supervising projects in Latin America and the Middle East, begins as managing director of Highlands Fabricators Ltd where some of the platforms for BP's Forties field are to be constructed.

- 1 October 1974: Australia announces significant cuts in its immigration quotas, but underlines it will continue to recruit from Britain. Australia remains something of an option for skilled and professional workers made redundant in Britain. Unskilled quotas are basically ended, closing the doors to Asian and sub-continent immigration. Unemployment continues to rise.
- 1 October 1974: Lord Shawcross, board member of various firms including Hawker-Siddeley, Shell, and Times Newspapers and a special adviser to Morgan Guaranty Trust, New York, begins his term as new chairman of the Press Council. He has previously been president of the Royal Commission on the press under the Macmillan government.
- 1 October 1974: All visits to HMP Maze are cancelled after protests against beatings by prison officers.
- 1 October 1974: A group of republican women in protest at internment and conditions in HMP Maze hold a sit down protest at Lower Clarendon Street before being attacked off the street by RUC unit.
- 1 October 1974: President Thieu of South Vietnam announces it is "practically penniless" and in desperate need of further financial assistance. "We no longer have our allies here any more, which permits North Vietnam which now Is not bombed, to build in peace, while wt have to struggle alone against aggression. The reduction in foreign aid, the Inier-niiional monetary situation, the lack of money even for food for the people, and the government itself is practically penniless this is the situation facing us." He warns of Viet Cong guerrillas "If we don't deal with them as we should there will be an all-out offensive at the beginning of 1975."
- 1 October 1974: ROK President Park Chung Hee warns against those "indulging in polemics on democracy or freedom" in an adress marking 26 years since the creation of ROK armed forces in 1948.
- 1 October 1974: Venezuela, the world's 3rd largest oil producer, announces US\$440million worth of retroactive windfall oil taxation on multinational oil firms including Shell and BP.
- 1 October 1974: Multinational firms announce that new Kuwaiti measures including an increase in tax and royalty rates on equity oil the oil produced by BP, Gulf and others will mean increase in oil costs.
- 2 October 1974: Antony Part "sent me a minute opposing my doing anything more at this stage ... he said I'd need the support of the

Common Market, which is quite untrue" to approve a research grant for Wales TUC. (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 2 October 1974: Visitors to HMP Maze, arriving for scheduled visits find the gates to the prison locked with visits suspended. Visitors tear down part of the fencing and cause damage to huts before they are attacked and seized by prison guards.
- 2 October 1974: Jack Jones declares "A large part of our inflation is directly or indirectly attributable to Britain's entry into the Common Market". He states the national competition-based arguments for nationalisation: "control of the ports, shipbuilding and aircraft is essential if these vital industries are going to get the investment crucial to their efficiency in a competitive world. This is very true of our ports industry. Britain is an island nation and we need the most efficient ports system possible. That means that ports must be inter-linked within an overall strategy. Otherwise we will go on in a fragmented way that will weaken and divide our port system when it is under severe competition from the heavily subsidised European ports. "
- 2 October 1974: EEC foreign ministers announce in Luxembourg that the Common Agricultural Policy will be revised. The following day Minister for Agriculture Fred Peart announces a £34mil input for 60,000 hill farmers in Britain. What proportion goes to business(land) owners and what proportion to productive farm workers and worker-owners is not disclosed. \*
- 2 October 1974: Australian Women's Weekly publishes another investigation symptomatic of the continuing monarchy craze. 'Prince Charles's choice in girls What does he look for?': "A pretty blonde by the name of Davina Sheffield must now be considered to have joined a "beauty contest" which offers the most important crown in the world - Queen of Britain. Miss Sheffield, 23, was at the side of Prince Charles .... Balmoral Castle ... in August. Charles... has to find someone who will not only be a suitable wife but also an acceptable Queen when he ascends the throne. ... Like any other young man. Prince Charles has quite definite tastes when it comes to choosing his girlfriends. Already, the pattern appears to be set. Of course, one girl is not a mere carbon-copy of the others but all have certain qualities of looks, background, intelligence and education in common, and can broadly be classified as the Prince Charles Type. ... Here are six of those girls, and a computerised analysis of their personalities and talents, on the opposite page, produces a prototype of the sort of girl Charles likes best. Character emerges as more important than looks - though these must obviously be pleasing... whatever else she lacks, the girl Charles marries must have a sense of humor."

- 3 October 1974: Against Britain's abstention, UNESCO Executive agrees to invite a PLO representative to its General Council Meeting as an observer.
- 3 October 1974: "interviewed by Robin Day for Midweek. He was most offensive" coming from the rightist backlash approaches. (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 3 October 1974: Labour Party moves to end discussion that telephones in Transport House were bugged in 1972, its spokesman declaring in typical nationalist fashion: "This is London. We don't have Watergate politics in Britain". It does not seek to uncover the culprits. Newspapers have accurately reported experts looking for bugs in ICI's headquarters next door have discovered evidence of bugging.
- 3 October 1974: A 31-year old unemployed man walks into an employment exchange in Torquay, shouting "I am sorry, I am sorry, but I can't go on any longer". He then shoots dead 2 men and a woman employed by the DoE and finally shoots himself.
- 3 October 1974: Idi Amin, playing up to his title as King of Scotland, begins the recruitment of Scotlish ex-military bodyguards. Those with bagpipe-playing abilities are preferred. Several dozen are eventually employed in Uganda.
- 3 October 1974: A Shelter report bemoans the failures in tackling Britain's 1,380,000 slum condition houses. It accuses 8 Labour-controlled city councils of leaving tenants waiting endlessly for rehousing after slum clearance has occurred. People in many cases are left, sometimes for years, in clearance areas in rat-infested, damp and crumbling property, surrounded by rubble in some cases, as clearance programmes face cuts and reorganisations. Labour's failure to cancel the fines imposed upon the Clay Cross 13 means no Labour councils do not adopt serious, necessary spending on housing.
- 3 October 1974: NUM Executive votes to oppose an NCB productivity scheme based on bonuses to be calculated on the potential of each coal face. NUM Executive calls for a *national* scheme of bonuses to be calculated on the basis of output per manshift.
- 3 October 1974: A tactical 24-hour strike across British Rail's Southern region's signalmen in support of 1,200 workers' claim against inflation, halting transport for part of an afternoon.
- 3 October 1974: EMI reports profits of £35.09m. Virtually all the increase comes from abroad particularly Capitol, the US records offshoot. Its music division, that includes records, tape and publishing, sees profits increase by £9.5m to £26.2m. Total North American trading profits jump from £3.56m to,£6m. European profits rise £2.1m to £8.27m, other overseas record an increase from £5m to £7.5m. Overall profits include about £1m from currency movements. The total interest bill declines from £6.4m to

- £5.7m due to a bigger surplus abroad. Property development fall with a contracting market fell- sharply from £1.84m to just £402,000. Electronics firms owned by EMI increase profits by £2m to £7.08m.
- 3 October 1974: Grampian Health Board votes to retain the 8 exclusive, priority-service private beds at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary. In September, it has closed 148 standard NHS beds at the hospital, and three operating theatres at that hospital, Fosterhill Hospital and Woodend Hospital because of shortages. All 5 NHS unions have pressed for the ending of pay beds but no particular action is taken over the decision.
- 3 October 1974: Performing Right Society, with Cliff Richard's blessing, conclude a deal for Conservatives to pay back-royalties for the use of his hit record 'Sing a Song of Freedom' at campaign events. Heath has recently declared himself a "freedom fighter".
- 3 October 1974: Edinburgh Town Council agrees 34-28 to block the request to rent a meeting hall by the Edinburgh University Students' Association because it supports the International Congress on Gay Rights in Edinburgh in Dec 1974. (No Gay Guests, Scotsman 1974, 4 Oct 1974)
- 4 October 1974: Former CIA agent Philip Agee publishes the names of 37 CIA agents working with U.S. embassies, consulates and attaches.
- 4 October 1974: In Tribune Jack Jones's 'Forward to democratic socialism': "Labour and the trade unions are completely united in striving to build up a Conciliation and Arbitration Service... with the support of the Confederation of British Industry. A major aspect of the social contract is to seek to develop and restore respect for collective bargaining but if deadlock or difficulty arises to make available an alternative to the use of the strike weapon. There is no doubt that if the confidence of workers can be built up in voluntary conciliation or mediation or, in some circumstances, arbitration, a great many industrial difficulties could be avoided. Work-people don't like strikes." He gives "an example of a successful mediation recently. A major dispute was threatened in the cabin staff of the overseas division of British Airways, a difficult mediation was attempted and led to a solution. Dozens of similar examples could be guoted. We in the unions are trying very hard indeed to build up peaceful approaches in industry; most managers and industrialists want that too."

He claims Labour will solve the problem of "oil" multinationals and multinationals "in other industries": "One hears a lot about multinationals being more powerful than sovereign states. That is not true. Multinationals can be made subject to the law. But if people elect a government which promotes the Interests of big

business rather than that of the community generally, then the people would only have themselves to blame. A Labour Government is needed to extend public ownership and public planning so that free enterprise under the domination multinationals doesn't have it all its own way". His basic claim "multinationals can be made subject to the law" means little given "the law" produced and endorsed the formation of multinationals. Moreover "the law" differs from nation to nation. presenting a platter of pick and choose loopholes... Multinational firms can (more easily than national firms) switch production from one country to another when threatened with national labour militancy in one country but labour defeat and quiescence in another. Even within the time-frame of a national strike, production can be increased in country X not on strike to compensate for losses of production in country Y.

4 October 1974: Labour Left Michael Meacher announces the Left approach to shipbuilding "under public ownership": "UK shipbuilding therefore requires substantial investment if it is to be made competitive at the international level. The Booz-Allen Report commented particularly that the industry needed much more capital, and that to match new and reconstructed yards abroad, it would have to reduce total costs by some 10-15 per cent. The hard fact has to be faced that the finance necessary for the scale of the capital reconstruction required, if the industry is to avoid a drastic shrinkage in size, is not available from the private sector or from the companies themselves ... Most market forecasts show that there will be excess capacity in the industry which will intensify competition for the greatly reduced flow of orders. consequences on world trade, and particularly on the oil trade, of the quadrupling of oil prices has not improved the prospects; and the emergence of substantial low-cost developing countries such as South Korea and Brazil, India and Taiwan and others, as important shipbuilders will add to competitive pressures. Modernisation and improved performance are needed urgently if UK shipbuilding is to retain even its present position... Several shipbuilding firms have, in recent years, been criticised for not seizing the opportunities presented by North Sea oil developments, and while some have recently shown a more active interest, the criticism remains wellfounded. The industry missed the opportunity to diversify during the general gloom in 1971-72, despite the fact that the market is by no means confined to the North Sea but is world-wide, extending to parts of West Africa, Indonesia, South America, the Aegean, China Sea etc. We certainly intend a much more vigorous policy here too under public ownership."

4 October 1974: Latin America reports on "the case of the left-wing weekly Porque? which was closed last month, while its owners, the brothers Roger and Hernan Menendez, were held by police for a fortnight. Porque? was apparently closed because it was about to publish a story refuting the government's own account of the dramatic rescue of the kidnapped senator Ruben Figueroa near Acapulco in the southern state of Guerrero. According to this story, Figueroa was not, as the official account would have it, released during a military assault on a querrilla camp; he was in fact being set free after a ransom of 40 million pesos had been paid, and he and his companions were being returned in the care of a group of local peasants, when these were attacked by the army... contrary to earlier accounts, the army is alleged to have suffered few if any casualties — hardly likely if there was a genuine battle with the notoriously effective querrillas of Lucio Cabanas... The regime's present pose is that of a stern upholder of law and order which, through firmness, discipline and popular support, has overcome threats to public safety."

5-15 October 1974: HMS Ark Royal docks at the RN Malta base, from where RAF aircraft are rolled on for flying exercises beginning 16 Oct 1974 in the Mediterranean.

5 October 1974: John Braine, working-class-origin Yorkshire novelist former Labour Left but then supporter of the assault on IndoChina, endorses the Conservatives in spite of Heath. Responding to what is the greatest problem facing the country: "Inflation. Sorry, you know, there isn't any other answer. With great reluctance and sorrowful heart I have to vote Conservative just to defend the horrible against the absolutely disastrous." (Spectator 5 Oct 1974) In 1984 he states: "As an artist, I've got to be writing about life as it is. If the world's going to survive, then let's get rid of the intellectuals and the theorisers. Let's not have any theories. Let's start finding out what the truth is."

5 October 1974: IRA bomb targets an army pub, full, on a Saturday night, of servicemen, many of whom have returned from duty in the six counties. 4 soldiers are killed. Minister David Ennals, declares "I thought I'd seen the last of this in Belfast. It's quite clear that we must hunt down the maniacs and the animals who would do this kind of thing." Ennals is a prominent 'supporter' of the AAM and ANC, whose military wing has begun targeting civilian installations used by military forces.

5 October 1974: Enoch Powell gives a speech in Manchester, again effectively endorsing a Labour vote, encouraging like-minded Conservatives to do the same, noting that Labour will be as

successful as Conservative in tackling inflation: "If inflation presents the most imminent threat to Britain's society as well as its economy - as I believe it does - the present Conservative Party offer no more rational prospect than any alternative Government that they will either know how to avert the threat or be able to rally and inspire the nation to meet it... Rarely at a General Election has a. clearer and more far-reaching alternative been placed before the country. It would be shameful if, through wilful blindness and self-deception, the electors allowed an answer to be given by default which was contrary to their deepest instincts and wishes for their country and which entailed upon them the lasting loss, without their true consent, of what they and their fathers valued... The temptations are powerful. For many electors the decision they have to make now for or against Britain's future as an independent self-governing nation brings them into a conflict which they fear and would like to avoid, with deep party prejudices and loyalties. I ought to know, for I myself am exiled from my own party by its flagrant and persistent defiance of the pledge that only the full-hearted consent of Parliament and people could authorise taking Britain into the Community."

5 October 1974: The Observer displays how the culturally Irish part of the six counties is seen in the mainland: "Over the whole city [Belfast], littered as it is with ruins, there hangs an air of desolation and decay that adds to the natural charmlessness of the place. It comes as a surprise to notice that It Is still well Inhabited and that its citizens look no different from those of less afflicted cities. In Northern Ireland the general election is, of course, only about Northern Ireland and has nothing In common with the election in the rest of Britain. Here there reigns an irrationality that is a sort of berserk assault upon logic. When talking to a colleague who works in the Province he said: 'If you are going to ask intelligent questions you may as well go home.' The IRA line is unfortunately now in effect the cause of the Catholic minority. It runs something like this: 'We are at war with the British, but Britain may not react in a warlike manner. Internment without I trial Is intolerable, but It is treason for a Catholic to gave evidence in a criminal court. The British should leave, but should continue to subsidise the health service, pensions and the social services that the Irish Republic cannot begin to match'."

There is zero analysis of why Ireland has limited social services or pensions, just a general chauvinism in favour of the British system. There is limited analysis as to why a significant majority of the culturally Irish so see themselves at war against Britain.

6 October 1974: A coffee plantation near Medellin Colombia that supplies foreign markets, succumbs to the dangers of capitalconservation (for legitimate profits) prevalent across much of Third World's extractive industries. Its worker-dormitories built on an unstable hillside are engulfed by a landslide, close to 40 are killed, others injured.

6 October 1974: 3 are killed at home overnight in Edinburgh, as a result of a gas leak from a water boiler.

6 October 1974: "Um dia de trabalho para a Nação" 'work day for the nation" rightist propaganda effort is supported by PCP.

7 October 1974: British press enthusiastically reports the new propaganda drive by the Portuguese right as an effort for "the nation". Catholic Church gives dispensation for its congregation to work normally on a 6 Oct 1974 and avoid Sunday Mass. It holds several large Mass celebrations on Sat 5 Oct 1974. Responding to Prime Minister Vasco Goncalves's call, shops, factories and businesses stay open on the day. Schoolchildren are given brooms to sweep rubbish and buckets to wash away slogans from buildings. Students and young citizens are instructed to tear away wall-pasted posters, a "symbolic act of public service". The cutting away of placards is reported with glee and enthusiasm. The voluntary aspect is constantly stressed: "We are all volunteers. We have not to get this place cleaned up. It is a real mess". The social reality behind the movement for voluntary action is left unanalysed.

7 October 1974: Shirley Williams, Minister of Prices, misleads the public claiming "there is no evidence of price increases stored up in the pipeline"

7 October 1974: A Glasgow police officer is fined only £10, in contrast to civilians, for sexually assaulting a 19-year old woman in a pub.

7 October 1974: 250 clerical workers of APEX/APECCS employed at AUEW's head office begin limited industrial action over ongoing delays in dealing with their demand for a London allowance.

7 October 1974: Over 2000 teachers at secondary schools in Glasgow, Renfrewshire, Lanarkshire, and Dunbartonshire begin an unofficial strike yesterday in support of a demand for an interim monthly increase of £15 pay.

8 October 1974: General Hendrik 'Lang' van den Bergh, BOSS chief holds secret talks at President Kaunda's State House with Zambian Foreign Minister, Rupiah Banda, Zambian intelligence head, Mark Chona and Dr. Marquand de Villiers, a South African, representing Lonrho and Tiny Rowland. South Africa's 'Détente Scenario' is hatched for Zambia to regard ZANLA, ZIPRA, FAPLA, PLAN fighters of ZANU, ZAPU, MPLA and SWAPO respectively as enemies to be banished, in exchange for Western Lonrho and South African investment.

- 8 October 1974: Referendum in Switzerland, backed by overseas business interests, is voted and accepted which will block all new or increased government spending, effectively introducing cuts with the rate of inflation.
- 8 October 1974: Lord Trenchard, president of the Institute of Grocery Distribution and director at Unilever, in a speech to 700 food industry executives says the threat of food shortages, bankruptcy, and wholesale sackings hangs over the British food industry unless government directives are not ended. He says there is no prospect in the foreseeable future, of less than 20% food price inflation. He states the collapse of the food industry will generate even worse general inflation. It is a general warning against government attempts to keep food prices down
- 8 October 1974: Labour Lord Advocate, Ronald King Murray, urges an inquiry into geriatric care in Scotland. He states staff in wards are often under great strain and pressure and there is also a great shortage of geriatric beds in some areas. In one area of Edinburgh there are 97 beds for a catchments area of 460 very elderly people, representing a shortage of 100 beds, according to a consultant gerontologist. "In the older hospitals conditions are really deplorable. Some cases are quite appalling."
- 8 October 1974: Labour councillors including Labour Left meet with strike reps to end an unofficial Glasgow Corporation municipal sewage workers strike. The council states: "We made it plain there can be no local negotiations because we as a corporation are tied to national negotiations and are not prepared to depart from that practice."
- 9 October 1974: FTSE Index falls 9.3 points to 191.9 a drop of 5% on news of opinion poll pointers to a Labour general election. Government securities fall on reports of the PSBR deficit.
- 9 October 1974: Rev. James Currie, minister of Dunlop Church of Scotland, makes a statement opposing some Glasgow Presbyterian priests calling on Rangers Football Club to say publicly whether or not there is a bar on the hiring of Catholics. He states the calls will increase sectarian feeling.
- 9 October 1974: Willie Hart, executive member of Rank and File, the left caucus within the EIS, states that teachers should not consider setting up a new rival trade union as some members of Rank and File within the West of Scotland Teachers' Action Committee have proposed.
- 9 October 1974: South Africa hands over machine carbines, pistols and ammunition to UNITA representatives in Rundu.
- 9 October 1974: South Africa Publications Act, its new censorship law, comes into force, rescinding any right of appeal within the system for illegitimate articles.

- 10 October 1974: AP reports British Leyland's intention to set up a plant in Kenya with Cooper Motors Corp.
- 10 October 1974: Under an agreement signed in Havana by a London travel agency Cuba is to accept private British tourists from 1975.
- 10 October 1974: A 3-week dispute at various ITV firms ends with various pay increases and management agreement to review some journalists' work grades.
- 10 October 1974: Prince Charles takes a salute from Fijian military forces at a trooping of the colour ceremony in Suva in celebrations marking 100 years since Fiji's addition to the 'Commonwealth'. Fiji has been independent for 4 years but its new rulers line streets with Union Flags to celebrate its colonisation.
- 10 October 1974: New Scientist agonises over British computer engineers assisting the Turkish military: "To be sure Britain has not banned arms sales to Turkey and Greece...The Univac project is a commercial contract it surely would not come under a ban on military aid and probably not even under an arms sale ban. But even if such work were banned, Univac's action shows how easy it would be for a multinational to transfer it from one country to another... The contract has a long history, Turkey is still nominally a member of NATO, and every country in this group is supposed to improve its logistic capability and manpower planning to create the strength of the alliance. But to act now?"

Sperry Rand Univac has recently sent 9 computer engineer specialists to Ankara to provide the Turkish General Staff with a functioning Univac computer system for logistics and to train a future generation of engineers to help maintain the system in Turkish universities, largely controlled by the military. Two separate Univac systems are being prepared for universities in Ankara and Istanbul. The Chief of business planning and marketing for Univac, Desmond Pitcher, is Institute of Electrical Engineers Faraday Lecturer for the year 1974. He comments to assert the contract is a legal one and engineers selected for the contract are volunteers from within the firm but do receive bonuses.

10 October 1974: Michael Palin explains his support for Labour, the Labour government "have been a strongly heard voice in Washington and the Common Market, and they have actually produced the 'Social Contract', which seems more than just another economic formula for trying to save the British economy (again) – it is an attempt to use and build on a sense of corporate responsibility among the working classes." (Michael Palin's Diary)

- 11 October 1974: IRA launches a short fuse bomb through a basement window from street level at Victory, the ex-servicemen's club in Marble Arch, London. Another is thrown at the ground floor bar of the Army and Navy Club, St. James's Square.
- 11 October 1974: Ian McDwain, secretary of the West of Scotland Teachers' Action Committee, says "We intend to show our contempt of the union and management attitude to our claim for a £15-a-week increase. We are also discussing a series of selective strikes."
- 11 October 1974: Reuters reports on the US government's reaction to the election result: "they were obviously pleased that Britain once again had a majority Government that would presumably be able to take stronger steps on problems such as inflation. Official circles in Washington believe a Labour Government with a small majority will be good for international economic negotiations. There is high regard in the U.S. for Mr James Callaghan, Mr Denis Healey, and Mr Harold Lever, leading Labour Party figures who one official said were viewed as "pretty enlightened despite the economic difficulties Britain now faces." NF's 90 election candidates poll an average of 1,265 votes each.
- 11-17 October 1974: 3,500 engineering inspectors take part in a work-to-rule at British Airways in Heathrow. Flights to European destinations are blocked and rescheduled.
- 12 October 1974: <u>The Economist</u> calls for Tony Benn to be dismissed from Industry Secretary post.
- 12 October 1974: First branch of McDonald's in Britain is opened in Woolwich, South-East London.
- 12 October 1974: 14 South African student leaders, from SASO and the BPC, are arrested and detained under the Terrorism Act.
- 12 October 1974: Financial Times is not displeased with the election result: "Some Tories were already arguing yesterday that a narrow Labour win was probably the best outcome given how hard it would be for a Conservative administration to govern through the economic crisis without the closest cooperation of the trade unions... A slender, whippable, Parliamentary majority is ideal for keeping the Left in order. A Government elected on a minority vote and with a bare overall majority in Parliament is less likely to pursue extreme policies and more likely to take the practical steps needed, however unpalatable, to meet the economic situation [of unprofitability].... Labour spokesmen now seem to have acknowledged... the need to ease liquidity and profitability of industry... and the need to keep both wages and personal consumption under strict control, a role Labour has assigned to the Social Contract."

- 12 October 1974: FNLA signs a cease-fire agreement with Portugal, allowing FNLA to be the first nationalist movement to open an office in Luanda.
- 13 October 1974: 2 Rhodesian SAS operatives armed with pistols kidnap a ZAPU official named Ethan Cube from a home in Francistown, Botswana, leaving a trail of blood to the car, where he is bundled into and then transported back to Rhodesia.
- 13 October 1974: Prisoners in HMP Maze hold an aborted mass protest against internment and prison conditions.
- 13 October 1974: "It seemed to me we had two objectives: one was to get Britain out of Europe in the next twelve months and the other was to get our industrial policy across." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 13 October 1974: <u>Sunday Times</u> and <u>The Observer</u> call for Tony Benn to be dismissed from Industry Secretary post.
- 14 October 1974: Another RN and South African Navy exercise begins.
- 14 October 1974: UN General Assembly votes to invite the Palestine Liberation Organization to participate in deliberations. Britain again votes against this entrance of a Palestinian organisation into the UN.
- 14 October 1974: About 50 Edinburgh University students begin an occupation of Aberdeen House, used for entertaining guests of the university about forty times a year but otherwise empty. It is in protest against the lack of student housing. Some students, who are homeless at the moment, claim if the building is converted into a residence, 40 students could be housed there. Ian White, vice-president of the Students' Representative Council, says there are at least 200 students sleeping rough in the city. Others are in cramped, shared bedsits. In Dundee students are forced to live in villages outside the city, relying on intermittent country bus services to attend their studies.
- 14 October 1974: Len Murray, meeting Wilson at 10 Downing Street, says: "I believe that this country, jointly, the unions, employers, and Government can do a very good job to get over these economic problems". It is the first stage of discussions for the social contract.
- 14 October 1974: Princess Anne, Chief Commandant of the Women's Naval Service, agrees to become president of the Women's Royal Naval Service Benevolent Trust.
- 14 October 1974: Wilson gives a televised call to the nation: "Moderate polities which appear to tone down the Socialist content of the Labour Government's programme were put to the nation last night by Mr Wilson in the first television broadcast of his fourth term as Prime Minister... He went out of his way to pay a passing

compliment to the City of London for its export earnings, and, when stating the intention for an extension of public ownership, he made it clear it would be within the context of a mixed state-market economy In contrast to the appeasing words for business and management, Mr Wilson said it was vital the country did not imperil the improvement in the balance of payments by a loss of output through unnecessary disputes or by pricing ourselves out of world markets. This made clear his immediate worry over strikes and high pay claims" (Glasgow Herald). Wilson calls for "united action over the economy": "Britain is facing the gravest crisis since the war... Our first overriding task is to make progress in paying our way abroad... It is vital that we do not imperil this improvement of our balance of payments, by a loss of output through unnecessary disputes [ie trade union activity] or by pricing ourselves out of world markets [ie pay vis-a-vis competitors] Our central problem in conquering this crisis is inflation... Fighting inflation is a matter of national survival. It is the main threat... So we are all agreed- on our national priorities... There can be no opting out. That is what the Social Contract is about."

He announces that food subsidies and reduced food prices ought eventually to be ended: "Subsidies have to come out of taxation and we are well aware that tighter price controls are causing increasing problems not only far the retail trade but also for industry." He lists the 4 economic aims of the government, in order: 1.a fight against inflation, 2.a fight for exports 3.a need for more investment and 4. a need for jobs, especially in "hard-hit" regions. Implicitly, the struggle against inflation is considered more important unemployment.

- 14 October 1974: Portuguese soldiers open fire on a black slum in Luanda, Angola, shooting 6 and injuring others.
- 15 October 1974: Foreign Secretary Callaghan sets out a timetable for the renegotiation of terms of entry into the EEC, he is strongly supportive of an EEC agreement with Canada (a major British trade partner) giving it generous terms to Canada, at the EEC Council of Foreign Ministers meeting.
- 15 October 1974 am: Separate meetings between Wilson and full negotiating teams from the TUC and CBI take place to outline the terms of the social contract at 10 Downing Street.
- 15 October 1974: "Len Murray who criticised me for giving the £20,000 to the Welsh TUC" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 15 October 1974: Cabinet. "Jim Callaghan spoke 'there is the balance of payments debt fear; we are being classed internationally on a par with Italy; the oil economy measures must be taken in a more draconian form; public expenditure must be cut... the Social Contract must be made to work ... there is a great fear of the power

of the unions; they have got too much influence on all Governments and we must rectify and remedy the situation'... Crosland 'I won't dwell on the sacrifices because they are inevitable. Rents will go up on 1 April next year by more than under the Tories' Housing Finance Act. Rates will go up by 65%. Nationalisation is irrelevant... As to the trade unions, he said most people feared them, they were too powerful and whenever you had a strong trade union, equality was set back." (Tony Benn's Diary)

15 October 1974: Joint TUC-CBI Meeting at Number 10. "Sir Donald MacDougall, Lucien Wigdor, Dick Marsh, John Partridge from Imperial Tobacco, Ralph Bateman, Campbell Adamson, Adrain Cadbury and Lord Plowden [who] said he's never known confidence so low in all his years half as a civil servant and half as an industrialist, and the uncertainty about the Industry White Paper and about the Common Market was affesting investment, profitability and cash."

15-16 October 1974: Republican internees in HMP Maze refuse to allow inspection by prison officers and set fire to their cells in protest at the failure to end internment. 18 out of 21 compounds, as well as other prison buildings, are burnt Army units are brought in and fire CS gas first and use a generalised baton charge to contain the disturbances. Faced with internees openly congregating with one another feeling some freedom within the surrounded perimeter fence, during the night army units are brought in to mount a total assault. Again using gas to weaken the resistance many hundreds of soldiers storm the site arresting the prisoners with heavy baton rounds placing them in guarded vehicles to transfer them to other prisons. Just under 100 prisoners are injured in the suppression.

16-17 October 1974: On news of the assault at the Maze, at Armagh women's prison, the Governor and 3 prison officers are seized as hostages. They are kept in a top floor cell for 14 hours, experiencing cell life for the first time. They are released unharmed 14 hours later after the intervention of 2 prison chaplains. They are released when assurances are given that those who took part in disturbances in the Maze will not be tortured.

16 October 1974: "Part was furious when I said we must safeguard jobs; he said 'Well that's why you have a reputation for being a conman" (Tony Benn's Diary)

16 October 1974 pm: At HMP Crumlin Road, remand republican prisoners barricade themselves communalising 2 floors during the afternoon Army units alongside prison officers, with the aid of CS

gas, baton rounds and rubber bullets, break the barricades. At Magilligan Camp, near Derry, some prisoners burn the kitchen and a number of huts, and are subdued and transferred by prison officers and RUC support.

16 October 1974: Reuters reports A British space satellite carrying X-ray test equipment from UCL and Imperial College, constructed by Marconi for over £2.5mil from the British Science Research Council is launched on a US produced Scout rocket from the Kenyan coast.

16 October 1974: <u>Financial Times</u> reports "the CBI told Mr. Wilson that there was absolutely no room for compromise or negotiation about further state intervention in industry and further nationalisation" and further moves in this direction would effectively bring an attack on sterling and a generalised investment halt.

16 October 1974: SWAPO issues a press statement condemning joint British-South African naval exercises from Simonstown naval base.

17 October 1974: An important meeting about aid to Vietnam and the region in Paris under the auspices of the World Bank (IBRD) and Asian Development Bank (ADB) numbering 15 states. Under the pressure of Western leaders including Britain and USA, creditors agree to apply the US strategy on aid to states in Indo-China – open and unchecked for South Vietnam and Cambodia, closed for North Vietnam. In 1975, it is almost wholly foreign aid that keeps the Saigon clique in power with over 86% of the national budget foreign economic aid, not including the \$700mil of military aid from USA (in spite of the 1973 Peace Treaty).

Britain's loyal assistance to the US is later noted by Kissinger: "European public opinion, at least as represented by the media, opposed the war. But European leaders registered no objection. During the entire period of the war, I can recall no criticism by a European leader even in the most private conversation. Brandt and Wilson volunteered no comment and made sympathetic noises when Nixon outlined our Vietnam strategy." (White House Years, Henry Kissinger, p424)

"Our postwar diplomatic history is littered with Anglo-American 'arrangements' and 'understandings,' sometimes on crucial issues, never put into formal documents... The British were so matter-of factly helpful that they became a participant in internal American deliberations, to a degree probably never before practised between sovereign nations. In my period in office, the British played a seminal role in certain American bilateral negotiations... In my White House incarnation then, I kept the British Foreign Office better informed and more closely engaged than I did the American State

Department [For example] in my negotiations over Rhodesia, I worked from a British draft with British spelling even when I did not fully grasp the distinction between a working paper and a Cabinetapproved document." (Henry Kissinger. 'Reflections on a Partnership: British and American Attitudes to Postwar Foreign Policy.' RIIA, Chatham House, London May 10, 1982)

17 October 1974: Cabinet discusses the outlook report from Kenneth Berrill's Think Tank: "Sir Kenneth Berrill, the former chief economic adviser to the Treasury and new head of the Central Policy Review Staff, stated bluntly: "The situation confronting ministers is dangerously precarious."... The country was, he said, facing an epidemic of bankruptcies, rising unemployment and a large balance of payments deficit which might result in a run on the pound. Public expenditure was also in danger of spiralling out of control. Sir Kenneth told Wilson that tackling inflation through tight price controls, while subsidising food and nationalised industries, would damage private industry and future investment." (Cabinet ignored economic warning, The Telegraph, 1 Jan 2005)

"Britain, Berrill said, faced an epidemic of bankruptcies, rising unemployment, balance of payments deficits spiralling out of control, anti-inflation policies that were doing more harm than good, the risk of a run on the pound, and a "well-nigh hopeless situation" in the nationalised industries." (Obituary: Sir Kenneth Berrill, The Telegraph, 17 May 2009)

"Jim Callaghan concentrated on international aspects – which were graver than at any point in our lifetime. 'The international monetary mechanism might break down'. He was still afraid we would be classed with Italy... What we needed was the Dunkirk spirit, although he himself found it embarrassing to refer to it because it has become such a cliché.

... 'It isn't that people have lacked confidence in democratic institutions – as the report says – but that democracy is being progressively squeezed out in a society where power is becoming more and more centralised.' Everybody laughed at my contribution" (Tony Benn's Diary)

17 October 1974: "IPD (Fisher-Bendix) had put in a proposal for £3.9million and predictably my officials were totally obstructive; it isn't viable... the manning is too high." (Tony Benn's Diary)

17 October 1974: Wilson plays the anti-Communist/intelligence agencies card against Judith Hart. "Harold had called her in at 2.30 and had said, 'I can't appoint you back to your department because I understand you have got Communist connections... I understand you have been contacted.'

She said 'Well, my son Steven is a Communist' 'It's nothing to do with that' said Harold.

"Well, I did ring John Gollan, the Secretary of the Communist Party, in September to say I couldn't speak at the Chile meeting in Scotland because Jimmy Reid (a leading Communist Party member) would be there.'

'Oh' said Harold, 'that's getting nearer the mark.'" (Tony Benn's Diary)

17 October 1974: British Caledonian announces rationalisation plans including 830 job cuts and pruning of operations.

18 October 1974: Alfred Herbert has gone to the brink and the whole question is do we let it go or keep it going like Ferranti... Richard Bullock and the Industrial Development Advisory Board want to let it go, as does the Treasury.... Bullock... suggesting that 10,000 workers should be thrown out of work." (Tony Benn's Diary) 18 October 1974: CSEU represented by Ken Gill [TASS General Secretary, CPGB member], Jack Service [AUEW], Roy Grantham [APEX], Bob McKusker [ASTMS chief], Bill John [AUEW Executive, rightist], and shop stewards meet Tony Benn over HS-146

18 October 1974: Royal Marine Commandos shoot dead 16 year-old Michael Hughes, Derrybeg estate, Newry, Co. Down.

"Later that evening the British army's Press Office issued a statement about the shooting from their Lisburn HQ. The statement claimed 'three soldiers in an observation post saw three armed men stop a bus. When they brandished weapons at the bus driver the soldiers fired one round at the hijackers. One armed man fell to the ground. The other two men ran into the Derrybeg estate and people from the estate dragged the wounded gunman away.' Residents in the Derrybeg estate rejected the British army's version. The residents were adamant that none of the youths involved in the hijacking were armed. An evewitness told the local Press the youths had just approached the bus when the Marines rushed from a concealed position in the field opposite their estate. 'The youths turned and fled, and as they ran one soldier opened fire hitting Michael Hughes, who was at the rear of the crowd.' The witness also said when a local woman tried to place a Crucifix on the dying youth and breathe a prayer into his ear she was ordered away by the British soldiers. Residents had to use a car to take the wounded youth to the local hospital."

18 October 1974: Paisley calls for the release of detained loyalists belonging to those loyalist groups on ceasefire. Unlike republican voices, his opposition to internment extends only as far as the culturally loyalist.

18 October 1974: 3 High Court judges find Paul Foot, editor of Socialist Worker guilty of contempt of court and demand a fine of £250 from him and £250 from the newspaper publishers.

- 18 October 1974: Britain's "left-wing trade union leader" Jack Jones of T&GWU makes "a strong appeal to union members to tone down wage demands and improve industrial relations in the interests of stemming unemployment and helping the country's economy" (Financial Times)
- 18 October 1974: Government announces 2 new minister posts and a special high-band civil service unit to prepare legislation for devolution in Scotland and Wales. This extra public spending is not cut throughout the course of the government but instead increased.
- 18 October 1974: Civil servants urge extreme caution against ideas for scrapping or cutting SBA facilities: "The American Intelligence Community is a powerful lobby in Washington. So our eventual decisions on Cyprus may affect not only the continuance of the present valuable Anglo–American intelligence relationship but also the general American reaction to our overall Defence Review proposals." (Defence Review: International Consultations', note by the Secretaries, 18 Oct 1974, OPD (74) 35, CAB148/145)
- 19 October 1974: Frank McElhone "believes the whole devolution policy will be designed to strip the Department of Industry of its powers by spreading them among the Scottish and Welsh Offices, leaving me with the Department of Industry in England."
- 19 October 1974: Printers at the <u>Sunday People</u> plant go on strike in support of the pay claim. Its 20 Oct 1974 issue is not printed. 19 October 1974: Keith Joseph applauds Mary Whitehouse: "Let us take inspiration from that admirable woman. Man Whitehouse, I do not accept all her ideas, she will not accept all mine. Yet we can see in her a shining example of what one person can do single-handedly when inspired by faith and compassion. An unknown middle-aged woman, a schoolteacher in the Midlands, set out to protect adolescents against the permissiveness of our time. Look at the scale of the opposing forces. On the one side, the whole of the new establishment, with their sharp words and sneers poised. Against them stood this one middle-aged woman. Today, her name is a household word, made famous by the venal assaults on her by her enemies. She has mobilised and given fresh hearts to many who see where this current fashion is leading ... We too can take courage from her and dedicate ourselves to fighting back on issues which will decide the nation's future far"

He goes on to urge "the remoralisation of Britain" demanding the reduction of childbearing amongst the poor since they are unfit for the duty of parenting.

20 October 1974: MFA junta's Overseas Minister Dr Almeida Santos, visits Dili, Timor to introduce the 'new' Portugal to a crowd of

15000: "We Portuguese become extremely emotional when a Portuguese man leaves Lisbon, crosses the earth, and can still find Portugal at the other side of the world. What a fatherland and what a people! We are a small people...[but] indeed enough to populate the world. We went through the unknown; we fought at Ceuta; we sprinkled the coasts of Africa and Asia with factories; we reached China and with incredible boldness promoted an ecclesiastical province of Portugal. Always daring, always unsatisfied, always human, we have traded, we have Christianized, we have made friends... so strong was the root planted in Timor, so noble the idea so valid the work, the Portuguese presence resisted everything...When, in past or recent times, others wanted to take our place, occupied by right of discovery and presence, there have been Timorese who sacrificed their lives, refused to betray their hearts and fought so that Timor could remain Portuguese. And I would say that it will go on being Portuguese on account of its historical tradition, its culture and its feelings, no matter what organic changes take place in its political structures." A crowd is assembled with the support of the UDT, "during the visit of Almeida Santos chiefs instructed their people to go to Dili to demonstrate their support for UDT—they were ferried there in administration trucks" Nonetheless amongst the show crowd, some Timorese nationalists heckle him 'Fascist!' (A Voz de Timor, 21 Oct 1974, Dili) UDT has strong colonial support and has been given much of the state apparatus in Timor - an important source of their strength, through which over time they have been able to gain the support of local tribal chiefs and those chiefs' villages.

- 20 October 1974: Home Secretary Jenkins supports the decision of 3 Midlands local authorities to give police forces special permission to ban funerals for Irish republicans.
- 21 October 1974: 1,400 technicians and draughtsmen at seven Hawker-Siddeley plants begin a coordinated work-in to continue working on the HS146 Airbus project even though the firm has announced it is scrapping the project. The government later proposes nationalisation as a means to return the firm to profit.
- 21 October 1974: "Went in to the office after lunch and I had a meeting with Secretary about advisers. [Sir Antony] Part treats me like a consultant psychiatrist would a particularly dangerous patient" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 21 October 1974: MPLA signs a cease-fire agreement with Portuguese, allowing it to open its Luanda office on 6 Nov 1974 in front of over 50,000 supporters.
- 22 October 1974: Unionist MPs in Westminster presenting a united anti-Sunningdale front, choose James Molyneaux as parliamentary

- leader with William Craig, leader of the Vanguard Movement, and Ian Paisley, leader of his church, as deputy leaders.
- 22 October 1974: All unions at Vauxhall urge the 25,000 workforce to accept a rise of £5.20 a week until Apr 1975. This is later accepted on 28 Oct 1974.
- 22 October 1974: PRC abstains during a UN General Assembly Social Committee vote condemning Chile's "flagrant violations of basic human rights".
- 22 October 1974: A compressor explosion in Kuwait's largest oilfield that supplies gallons of oil to the West, including Britain, kills 9 workers.
- 23 October 1974: A small explosive bomb explodes on the window sill of Peterborough Cottage, "Masters' Lodge" (teachers' flats) Harrow School, with press agency apparently receiving the warning with a PIRA codeword: "There is a bomb at Harrow School. There is a warning this time, but if nothing is done there won't be any more. If you don't move the kids they will be OK." None of the three teachers and wives who live in the flat are at all harmed.
- 23 October 1974: NUM Executive votes 15-11 not to adopt a flat national incentive scheme where bonuses will be paid for exceeding targets by 20%, as its bargaining position over the new productivity scheme. It agrees to more meetings with the NCB.
- 23 October 1974: Workers at the work-in Hawker Siddeley HS146 plants seize plans and technical drawings by engineers to ensure that they will be able to continue production despite the threat of firm disinvestment and shut-out.
- 23 October 1974: First meeting held in the Prime Minister's office concerning the Information Department's secret projects. It discusses preparations for financing 'The Citizen' (with the full knowledge of John Vorster)
- 24 October 1974: Reuters reports financial analyst John Kitching's analysis that of 145 firm acquisitions over the past 7 years, 30% were failures leading to separation or bankruptcies and 17% were "not worth repeating".
- 25 October 1974: <u>Times of India</u>'s correspondent in Rangpur reports that over 1,000 a day are dying in the Rangpur district of Bangladesh, some being buried in mass graves.
- 25-30 October 1974: British Design Council representatives visit Singapore on a market survey mission.

- 25 October 1974: "Part told me that officials had been shocked that I had described the planning agreements as an extension of collective bargaining into bargaining for power. The officials who had been discussing this at the CBI now felt that they'd been engaged in a complete confidence trick." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 25 October 1974: Tony Benn announces to Sir Antony Part "I've been in the Department for seven months and I'm not aware of having done anything, made any progress at all. I've spent no money, got no legislation through"
- Part states "other officials felt that [Benn] was difficult to work with, ... officials in other departments had said on occasions that the Secretary of State for Industry had gone completely off his rocker." He bluntly informs Benn: "you're thought of as a devious Minister who mobilises people outside in support of your view in the Cabinet" ... Part really is an impossible man, and I would get rid of him if I could." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 25 October 1974: Tony Benn understands the value to the Labour centre of having a Labour Left within the Cabinet: 'I've protected the Cabinet from making some terrible errors because they didn't know what the consequences of certain courses of action were.'" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 25 October 1974: Kaunda in a speech at the University of Zambia, responds positively to Vorster's call for Africa to engage with South Africa in a spirit of 'give and take' declaring it "the voice of reason for which Africa and the rest of the world has waited."
- 26 October 1974: An unofficial 24-hour strike by 80 drivers at Heathrow Airport takes place in support of an increase to the London allowance.
- 27 October 1974: Scottish Bus Group, who have already imposed 2 fares increases in 1974, increase fares once again, this time by 10%.
- LONDON Worker\* ftnhi-ing to save the Hawser Mel M M sjMaN cancelled by the nnsM psuif Inst week. ate\* nsfht seised plans and d ravine\* so they ootid keep the project coin\*
- 28 October 1974: Department of Industry meeting with CBI. "Michael Clapham said he hoped that the CBI would participate in th e drafting of the Industry Bill. Campbell Adamson chipped in to say he had to make it absolutely clear that the CBI was completely opposed to the proposals for the NEB... Lord Watkinson, the Deputy President, said 'Yes, but it's not what you say, it's the way that you say it... If we're going to discuss this and you stick to your view, there's not much point in consultation.'

I said 'Well, I am listening... acquisitions of industries have always been done by parliamentary decision, and I think you'll acquit me of ever trying to conceal my intentions...'

Michael Clapham said they saw great dangers in this, and Campbell Adamson objected to equities being taken in profitable companies"

- 28 October 1974: Egypt's <u>Al-Akhbar</u> quotes Construction Minister Ahmed Osman saying Egypt has raised about £430mil from other Arab States for rebuilding schemes in the Suez Canal area. Of this contracts for a £260mil reconstruction programme are going to British firms. Planning consultancy on the development of Ismailia and Port Said have been won by British firms in competition against European, US and Japanese firms. Some of the drainage system damage remains from the 1956 assault as well as the 1973 war.
- 28 October 1974: Lord Belhaven, Conservative Member of the House of Lords, resigns from the party and becomes the first SNP peer.
- 28 October 1974: TGWU orders 80,000 Scottish lorry drivers back to work after a strike running for 4 weeks, on a wages plus payment by mileage deal.
- 28 October 1974: 1,000 farmers organise a blockade at Holyhead, Anglesey. They succeed in blocking entry of vessels carrying Irish cattle. Sir Henry Plumb, NFU chief says: "We have not called for such action, neither could we recommend any action, which is illegal. But farmers who are prepared to do this ere indicating their frustration and anger at Irish cattle are coming on to an already very full market." He calls the cattle fodder shortage "a state of emergency for the whole of the livestock industry."
- 29 October 1974: Farmers picket Irish cattle vessels at Birkenhead and Heysham.
- 29 October 1974: Government announces £5mil to for Alfred Herbert, machine tool firm, to stop its collapse. Machine tools and licenses are its main export.
- 29 October 1974: British Lawn Tennis Association fails to support India when South Africa faces India in the Davis Cup and India withdraws to avoid playing the apartheid team.
- 29 October 1974: Court of Appeal finally hears appeals against the Shrewsbury 2's convictions for conspiracy to intimidate. The appeals are dismissed and the Law Lords reaffirm that deterrent sentences are necessary. Des Warren and Ricky Tomlinson are returned to prison to serve the remainder of their sentences.
- 30 October 1974: British TV firm, Hemdale Film Corporation, partowned by founders actor David Hemmings and producer John Daly, alongside Video Techniques and Don King Productions broadcast the Ali-Foreman 'Rumble in the Jungle'. Their deal involves payment to

both competitors of a guaranteed \$5mil each. Mobutu triumphs in presenting a normalised image.

30 October 1974: UN sees its first triple veto as USA, Britain and France lose a vote in the UN Security Council 10-3 over a proposal to expel South Africa for its repeated violations of previous UN resolutions particularly relating to its occupation of Namibia and its attacks on southern African neighbours. British Ambassador to UN Sir Ivor Richard says expulsion is "a gesture of despair" that would not "encourage the South African government to alter its attitude or its policies."

30 October 1974: Labour Party NEC votes to verbally condemn the government for conducting joint exercises with the South African navy, and urges .

31 October 1974: Leaked news reports (almost certainly from Number 10) that Wilson has written a letter to three unspecified Left ministers (almost certainly Judith Hart, Tony Benn, Eric Heffer) ensuring that they adhere to the (unwritten constitution) rule ministers do not attack the government. Evening Standard reports 'Benn & Co are told to toe the line or else. Cabinet Storm. Wilson gives sack warning.'

November 1974: Hong Kong Government imposes increases in rents at close to 20%. It means a staggering cut in the standard of living. Close to 2 million in Hong Kong live in state housing, more than a million live in shacks. Government figures show that the real wages have on average fallen to the level at 1971. Increasing unemployment and severe price rises have been a feature since 1972. \*\*

November 1974: Britain refuses to vote to allow an observer status seat for the PLO as 'representative of the Palestinian people' in General Assembly debate on Palestine. In the debate itself, Britain votes against resolutions giving the PLO observer status at the General Assembly. Wilson writes: "The British Government feels very strongly that such observer status should be accorded to states and certain non-governmental international organizations. The Palestine Liberation Front does not come into either category." It also votes against a resolution stressing "the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people in Palestine, including the right to selfdetermination, national independence and sovereignty." Sir Ivor Richards says Britain accepts the idea of Palestine but "this must be done in a manner which does not infringe upon or call into question the right of Israel as a state to exist in peace within secure and recognized boundaries" and "the Resolution [242] must not be supplanted and not distorted out of shape or recognition." \*\*

November 1974: Labour Party Conference sees former Mapai leader Golda Meir address delegates. She gives a very similar speech at a Zionist Federation-sponsored rally for 'Solidarity with Israel' in the Royal Albert Hall.

November 1974: The month's NF members' bulletin requests again for "all members (but particularly organisers) are asked to send to head office all copies of all leaflets booklets/ magazines/ newspapers which attack the NF... letters attacking the NF in any local paper should also be sent in appropriately marked... names & addresses of known leftwing extremists actively promoting anti-NF activity within trade unions should be supplied. Organisers should keep their own cross-reference filing system on hostile organisations & individuals operational in their districts & should arrange for such activists (including street sellers of extreme leftwing publications) to be photographed & the photographs filed" (Martin Walker, National Front, Fontana)

- 1 November 1974: Marks and Spencer announce they are purchasing Peoples Department Stores, Canada, through a deal with Slater Walker Canada.
- 1 November 1974: Government promises state assistance of up to £5mil for Alfred Herbert, machine tool makers.
- 1 November 1974: Reed International's first-half profits have increased by 61% to £44.6m, compared to last year.
- 1 November 1974: Brooke Bond's first-half profits increase from £16.6mil to £19.1mil, with more than 80% of the increase coming from subsidiaries overseas.
- 1 November 1974: Jam and preserve producer Robertson's plant in Glasgow is closed, meaning the loss of 140 jobs.
- 1 November 1974: Aircraft fuellers employed by Esso at Heathrow hold a 24-hour unofficial strike to support their London allowance claim.
- 1 November 1974: Mainstream economist Wilfred Beckerman writes in the <u>New Statesman</u> that "the threat of runaway inflation is now too great and with it the threat to democratic government in this country" for 'full employment' to remain a government priority.
- 1 November 1974: Tony Benn announces £3.9mil to the redundant workforce of IPD Industrial, Liverpool to set up a "cooperative" to revive the firm and continue production. With shopstewards agreement it means "money will be used to pay off King's debts, leaving just £2.9million to get the company going. It will not be enough to re-tool and re-equip the plant. The plant is losing approximately £30,000 a week and under the co-operative agreement this weekly loss has to eventually come out of the grant, if the work force cannot cut back this figure. The co-operative has solved the receiver's problems. ... It leaves Harold King to make a

killing on adjacent land speculation, while all his debts are paid off. Worse still, it leaves the workers with the responsibility of making the place a going concern. Under the terms of the recent feasibility report the final irony could be the stewards actually planning some redundancies [meaning] stewards [will] urge static wages and higher productivity.... a means of transferring responsibility and leaving the workers to carry the can." (IS, Dec 1974)

<u>Tribune</u> is nonetheless supportive of "the grant being given to a group of workers who have yet to prove themselves but have the enthusiasm and expertise to make their plan succeed. The company which will now be known as Kirkby Manufacturing and Engineering Ltd hopes to be able to commence operations early in [1975]... Clearly a weighty responsibility has now been placed on the shoulders of the workforce who must quickly show themselves capable of organising and running their own co-operative. If they succeed, then the way will be open for further experiments of this nature but if they fail the weight of Conservative critics will be on their back." (Tribune 3 Jan 1975)

- 1 November 1974: Tony Benn promises another £8mil to NVT Norton Villiers Triumph, launched earlier with £5mil government funding.
- 1 November 1974: Tony Benn exonerates management in Alfred Herbert: "I don't see any point in looking back over the past to blame anyone" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 1 November 1974: On Alfred Herbert [AUEW] Bob Wright, tones down trade union demands "Well the policy of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions is that there should be nationalisation; but you have got limited powers at the moment and we think the proposal you make is a sensible one." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 1 November 1974: Joint management-CSEU "agreement that they would set up their own consultative arrangements covering the whole plant; that I would make consultants available to the workers and the management." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 1 November 1974: Labour Left Janey Buchan explains Labour ministers should not intervene to frequently but leave trade union officials to discipline their members by themselves: "The assistance given by the Scottish Office of the Labour Party during the election has never been better... The notes provided for candidates and agents each day on Scottish affairs particularly the costing of the Scottish National Party's programme was first-class." The problem is "others who urge that the assembly should be set up and working, within 12 months... It is not helped by Government Ministers making statements to the press that they will be endeavouring to get powers for it beyond those asked for by the party. Within this past week the irresponsibility of this attitude has

become apparent. We have had a wave of unofficial strikes and the new Conciliation and Arbitration Service has been called on. ... As I write this, Alex Kitson is speaking on BBC Radio telling them and certain Labour MPs who have joined in, that he and other trade union officers are not helped by these calls [for ministers to intervene] and that they should all know by now that industrial relations are first and foremost the concern of the trade unions and their officers."

1 November 1974: Labour Left John Garrett explains the Labour Left criticism of Tony Benn's industry policy: "The underlying cause of Britain's industrial failure has been lack of investment in new plant and equipment. The value of the tools and machinery backing up every British worker in manufacturing industry is less than half that behind every continental or American worker. Foreign industrialists continually rebuild and re-equip their factories to take advantage of new advances in equipment, layout and methods... The American Brookings Institute Report on Britain's economic prospects observed that British industry is too custodial and defensive in outlook and is unable to respond to new opportunities. ... The National Enterprise Board is potentially very important for the regeneration of industry. The Board will acquire industrial holdings through joint ventures with private industry, by saving ailing companies and through extending public ownership.... I would have thought that the best course of action would be for the NEB to acquire, or create, companies, build them up into successful enterprises and let them run themselves for the national profit. Nothing could do more to improve the image of public ownership... the NEB should start new firms — to create jobs, produce exports, substitute for imports and take the initiative in opening up new markets. Labour's proposals for industry seem to me to be too passive by far, the Government does all the giving and industry need not co-operate at all. We need a vigorous and successful public sector if only on efficiency grounds."

It demands following the US model of widespread high-technology capital investment, effectively shaking private firms out of complacency and forcing them to seek out new foreign markets as export ground and for the government to substitute imports on a national basis against other national competitors, securing their domestic demand.

2 November 1974: David Ennals announces naval collaboration with Indonesia will continue: "Indonesian navy invited tenders from British firms for the supply of four corvettes. Negotiations are still in train; if a British shipbuilder is successful in securing a firm contract, it is the intention of Her Majesty's Government to let this order go ahead...[RN routine and special goodwill] visits are an

important element in maintaining the good relations with the Government of the South-East Asian region which it is our policy to sustain."

- 2 November 1974: <u>Protestant Telegraph</u> notes: "The old halfpenny carried the national emblem a pig which sums up, more than any other symbol, the national character of prolific breeding, doubtful cleanliness and distinctive physical features."
- 2 November 1974: William Beausire, businessman with dual British and Chilean nationality, is abducted in Buenos Aires Ezeiza airport by plain-clothed Argentine militarists and handed over to DINA offices, to Calle Jose Domingo Cañas and thw Villa Grimaldi miliatry detention centre. He is tortured for information about his sister Mary-Anne, an oppositionist living with Salvador Allende's nephew, current Mirista, Andrés Pascal Allende. He is tortured with electric shocks, rectally violated with truncheons and sticks, and hung in the air for long periods. He is killed at some point after 2 Jul 1975.
- 2 November 1974: A Japanese diplomat runs over a woman in London. No case is ever brought because of the diplomatic status.
- 3 November 1974: Michael Foot urges no Labour Left resignations and preservation of the government: 'we must keep the Government together at least until we have repealed the Industrial Relations Act.' (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 3 November 1974: Tony Benn advisers Labour Lefts with less prominent Ministerial posts not to resign: "Joan Lestor also rang and asked what she should say. I told her to make it short, sweet and generally loyal." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 3-24 November 1974: Given assistance from state-maintained British Overseas Trade Board for its tour, the Lighting Industry Federation conducts a trade visit to South Africa.
- 4 November 1974: Hospital consultants begin a new NHS 'work to contract' in opposition to plans to end private places in NHS hospitals. Dr Astley, chairman of BMA central committee attacks Labour and trade union organisation: "Mrs Castle is more motivated by the action of militant trade unions than by anything else". At issue are the 5,000 hospital beds out of a total of 500,000 NHS hospital beds are reserved for private patients paying around £175 for priority private treatment.
- 4 November 1974: Replacing Malawian migrant labour South African Chamber of Mines secures the Rhodesian government approval for the recruitment of black labour from Rhodesia.

- 4 November 1974: FBU delegates vote to instruct a ban on overtime in regions where insufficient recruitment means a 48-hour week cannot be instituted. They accept a nationwide increase of £5.75 a week.
- 4 November 1974: Tony Benn on the possibility of rising unemployment and nationalised industry's response to it: "I do not feel that such pessimism is justified; I do not share it. ... We are confronted by a very difficult situation. There is certainly no easy or quick way to reverse a 25-year decline. I believe that a five-year industrial recovery programme, starting now, has some reasonable prospect of success. We would not advocate it unless we believed that. There is certainly no Act of Parliament not even a new Industry Act or an NEB, that provides a short cut forward"
- 4 November 1974: "BBC wanted the lines '... freeze your balls off freeze the little buggers...' [cut] We had already burned off most of our frustrated anger at the BBC's decision to cut the word 'condom' for that show" [Eventually the sketch is scrapped] I watched Panorama on the World Food Conference in Rome. Within the year one in five of the world's population will suffer from starvation. How small and insignificant it makes the events of today seem and yet they have left me quite drained." (Michael Palin's Diary)
- 4 November 1974: PIDE, after rounds of tear gas, open fire on a demonstration against a far-right, Opus Dei and CUF trust-backed CDS group, killing 1 and injuring 16 anti-fascists.
- 4-10 November 1974: Workers at Tate and Lyle's Silvertown refinery, London, operate a 'blockade' continuing to produce and pack sugar but refusing to transport it out of the plant. They demand assurance that no jobs will be threatened if the EEC blocks or makes more expensive importation of unrefined sugar from Commonwealth countries.
- 5 November 1974: Cabinet. "Clay Cross. Tony Crosland presented the report... local authorities would be asked to raise rents or rates to get back the money that had been lost through non-implementation of the Housing Finance Act... Clay Cross would still have to pay the £7,000 [for each councillor] which they had incurred... Jim thought he had to go along with it" It concludes that the important penalties will remain.
- 5 November 1974: Labour Left urge Benn not to resign over being muzzled on the NEC: "Neil Kinnock and Mik said 'Don't resign.' Bob Hughes, the MP for North Aberdeen, came and said 'Go and give him a kiss'."
- 5 November 1974: A joint Anglo-French agreement announces that indigenous people on the New Hebrides will be considered the legal

responsibility of both states and a National Assembly of 36 seats will be instituted. Significantly the New Hebrideans are not accorded British passports.

5 November 1974: AUEW's national committee votes 27-25 against a resolution aiming for a £18 increase in weekly pay but call on its President to seek increases nonetheless in bargaining with Engineering Employers federation.

5 November 1974: 7,000 EIS Scottish teachers begin a strike.

5 November 1974: <u>Jennie: Lady Randolph Churchill</u>, a historical dramatisation of the life of the Jennie Jerome, mother of future Prime Minister Winston Churchill, begins on ITV. It paints Churchill, the son, as far-minded and progressive, even from a young age, helping solidify the Churchill-British Great Man equation. It significantly overstates her in mothering duties, when the mothering is performed by servant nannies, who are basically written out of events.

5 November 1974: 20 republicans escape from HMP Maze via a tunnel.

5 November 1974: An explosive device goes off at Conservative Party HQ in Edmund Street, Birmingham, outside office hours, causing damage but no injuries.

5-9 November 1974: NFU launches a 5-day blockade against imports of Irish beef.

6 November 1974: Judith Hart and Tony Benn both write grovelling letters to Wilson, promising to tow the Cabinet line in the NEC in future: "I had a word with Joan Lestor who was extremely upset and said 'You promised last night you would consult and we would all write to Harold and say we would like to see him. Now you and Judith have written separate letters. That's a complete betrayal." (Tony Benn's Diary)

Wilson has told Benn his behaviour, by criticising the government (via an NEC motion) over RN exercises with South Africa is "clearly inconsistent with the principle of collective responsibility" and has demanded "an unqualified assurance" that any NEC motion he supports, should not deviate from or criticise Cabinet policy. Wilson: "I should have to regard your failure to give me such an assurance as a decision on your part that you did not wish to continue as a member of this administration. I should of course much regret such a decision but I should accept it." Joan Lestor later gives the same assurances, resulting in the retention of Labour Left fig-leafs for the government.

6 November 1974: Tony Benn writes to the shop-stewards convener Checkley at the Birmingham NVT Small Heath Works declaring: "I

can, however, give you the firmest assurance that there will be no discrimination by the Government in favour of the Co-operative" at Meriden. It nonetheless ends "You will appreciate, however, that I am not today in a position to give you firm undertakings about possible investment on the basis of the long-term plan just presented by the management of NVT... Moreover, I can further assure you that I shall make every effort to see that new plans suggested by NVT are examined urgently."

- 6 November 1974: An escaped, unarmed republican prisoner from the Maze is shot dead in Crossmaglen.
- 6 November 1974: It is reported that Wilson has received the assurances from Labour Left ministers that they will not condemn government policy as ministers.
- 6 November 1974: FIFA executive Committee rejects a proposal to expel South Africa and, hence, rescind a FIFA delegation to investigate conditions in 1975.
- 6 November 1974: In response to a question about SACLANT NATO officials operational planning for the Cape route featuring SADF facilities, Callaghan asserts: "studies have been made" but that South Africa is not a NATO member.
- 6-17 November 1974: Conference on food shortages at UNFAO in Rome fails to agree on meaningful measures, producing insufficient where not counter-productive efforts to overcome 'market' and 'state'-based food shortages famines in Ethiopian provinces, in Bihar and elsewhere in India, in Indo-China in Laos and Cambodia. Time magazine notes the increasing trend towards restrictions and conditions placed upon food aid: "In the West, there is increasing talk of triage... If the U.S. decides that the grant would simply go down the drain as a mere palliative because the recipient country was doing little to improve its food distribution or start a population control program, no help would be sent. This may be a brutal policy, but it is perhaps the only kind that can have any long-range impact. demand Α triage approach could also political concessions....Washington may feel no obligation to help countries that consistently and strongly oppose it. As Earl Butz told TIME: "Food is a weapon. It is now one of the principal tools in our negotiating kit."" (11 Nov 1974) There are keen Western demands on recovering costs of aid efforts even on the 4 days (14-17 Nov 1974), given over to discussion on measures for ongoing famine.

7 November 1974: Graduate of US elite private school The Harvey School, Lord Lucan murders his hired nanny and attacks his separated wife, before escaping with the assistance of his family.

7 November 1974: Sir Derek Ezra, chairman, of the National Coal Board, champions Wilfred Miron, NCB board member's attack on "latter-day Lenins" inside the NUM. The NCB strategy is for acceptance of a district regional productivity incentive scheme in order to restore authority and influence to 'moderate' NUM leaders. He refers to the Government's coal industry examination report as "my Bible" stating the incentives scheme flows from the Labour government's reports: "We have been trying to show that wild allegations about this scheme are false and totally unfounded. One cannot help coming to the conclusion that there must be some other motivation" to the opposition. He states that the only alternative to a district productivity scheme is "just to go from one confrontation to another, to weaken the industry and demoralise the people in it." James Cowan, Scotland NCB Director states rejection of the NCB's productivity scheme could mean pit closures, since a quarter of Scottish pits are on the danger list, and the loss of 3000 jobs in Scottish mining. He states with acceptance Scottish miners will earn an extra £8mil and need only produce an extra million tons.

7 November 1974: <u>Evening Standard</u> announces job cuts and a hiring freeze and the end of its Saturday edition beginning at the start of Dec 1974.

7 November 1974: An off-duty soldier and a civilian are killed when a bomb explodes at the King's Arms pub, Woolwich, London, identified as an 'army pub' where soldiers drink.

7 November 1974: South Africa announces a 5-Year Plan for further expanding the size of the Simonstown Naval Base, saying that it is with British help that the previous expansions have been successful, keeping open the invitation for a longer stay.

7 November 1974: Sir Alec Douglas-Home, Old Etonian and supporter of its old pupils' association, is appointed a life peer to the House of Lords.

7 November 1974: The Retail Alliance, representsing 60,000, warns against the introduction of multi-rate VAT declaring "many of our members may well refuse to co-operate" because it imposes greater administrative costs upon firms.

7 November 1974: Teacher's (Distillers), owners of the 'Highland Cream' announce half-year to 31 Jul 1974 pre-tax profits increasing from the same period in 1973 from £0.68mil to £1.2mil.

- 7 November 1974: John Edmonds, fulltimer for GMWU, later GMB chief, states full-timers will pressure the workforce to end the distribution blockade at the Tate & Lyle Silvertown plant as long as GMWU receives a promise that raw materials will continue to be supplied in 1975 and "a clear statement on the position of cane refining in the future". Workforce under the advice votes to end the blockade.
- 7 November 1974: South Africa announces a new 5-year plan to treble the size of the Simonstown naval base, asserting it will stay open for "every country in the Free world which is friendly toward us". NATO secret planning envisions Western use of Simonstown as a key point to defend the Cape Route sea lanes.
- 8 November 1974: The Times reports on South Africa's major "The decision to go ahead with the plan has been taken in the belief that whatever the outcome of the British Government's review of the Simonstown Agreement, the base will still play an important role in the defence of the Cape sea-route, according to Government's sources." The press largely fails to note that the scale of the renovation means the base will remain open for its allies in case of emergencies. South Africa's Navy is far too small to use the facilities by itself. Roy Mason explains "if we wish to use Simonstown in future we can do so on a customer basis, as do other navies" (6 Apr 1976) Simonstown will become an international spare Western base.
- 8 November 1974: Bolivia's President Gen Hugo Banzer completes the military defeat of a describing it as "a group of good-for-nothing drug addicts and drunks" (UPI)
- 8 November 1974: Hugh Scanlon AUEW President calls for a police escort to assist AUEW-loyal union full-timers at the union's headquarters in Peckham, through a picket line of clerical workers of the APEX union. Centre-right press drives home a general 'unions are idiotic self-devouring pollution' propaganda line.
- 8 November 1974: Farm workers are awarded a £2.60 a week increase bringing the male farm-worker rate to £27.80 a week.
- 8 November 1974: 2 firemen are killed, 4 firemen severely injured trying to put out a fire at Chatham Naval Dockyard after a "flashover with explosive force".
- 8 November 1974: London, Australian and General Exploration post pre-tax profits for the year 1974 to the end of June at £4.1m, a steady increase.
- 8 November 1974: Dame Margot Fonteyne, Britain's pre-eminent ballerina, later appointed *Prima Ballerina Assoluta* of the Royal Ballet company by the Queen, performs for assorted Francoist guests at the Teatro de la Zarzuela, Madrid.

- 8 November 1974: A 20-year old is stabbed to death in a gang dispute outside a Glasgow railway station.
- 8 November 1974: A car runs over a woman's leg in a protest of about 50 tenants, mostly housewives, against the construction of a new high-traffic road to a ro-ro container base in Coatbridge. No charges are ever brought.
- 8 November 1974: Tony Benn addresses a meeting of Norton Villiers Triumph workers at Small Heath, Birmingham, who can see NVT management using the Meriden Cooperative contract as a means to cut production and their jobs. He is persistently heckled and his car is surrounded by a large group, demanding concrete commitments for their jobs before he leaves. No such commitment is made.
- "A very hostile meeting with about fifty shop stewards. I made a short speech and then they turned on me... 'You don't care about the jobs here. Why should the Meriden works have help? Is it really a co-operative?'" then a "mass meeting in the canteen, where there were two or three thousand workers. Not a single shop steward wanted to come on the platform with me so I climbed on by myself, sat on the table and picked up the mike. It was a pretty rough, hostile meeting." (Tony Benn's Diary) Benn's Diary does not record the protests outside his car.
- 9 November 1974: Government endorses the new weekly rate for farmworkers £27 80 to begin from 20 Jan 1975. Reg Bottins. and the NUAAW (National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers) had previously asked for £35 a week, but since no strike action is taken the denial of trade union requests simply continues without press comment.
- 10 November 1974: British firm Vickers completes the first part of its contract and launches a large-class missile frigate Santisima Trinidad for the Argentine Navy, after having worked on it for over a year. Later, modifications and testing continue in a dock on the Rio Plata, where on 22 August 1975, the anniversary of the Trelew Massacre, it is attacked by urban guerrillas to dissuade foreign support for the Argentine military. Vickers then salvages, repairs and readies the frigate once again. Santisima Trinidad later makes a full maiden voyage in November 1981 under to Britain, where its first 'live' sea trials are carried out and its crew are trained in launching Sea Dart missiles. The Argentine Navy, having replaced the Sea Dart missiles with similar-sized but slightly longer-range Exocet missiles, uses the frigate as its leading ship on its Falklands invasion mission on 2 Apr 1982.

- 10 November 1974: 8 young workers are killed in a fire at a poorly maintained transport motel in Liverpool Road, Islington, used by lorry drivers and building workers.
- 10 November 1974: Rev. Dr. William Morris, having welcomed the Royal Family to the service, gives the Remembrance Sunday sermon, an needling attack on unofficial trade union action: "Ambition and selfishness which today are so open and unconcealed... are not far below the surface in anyone, even outstanding Christians. To control and use that drive for the common good means accepting discipline or imposing it on ourselves. To remember people who have given their lives for the common good is hollow and hypocritical if we are only thinking of ourselves, of what we can get, as so many are today."

Once again the conscription of the male workforce to kill to protect and enhance colonial rule over the Middle East and Africa, is described as the giving of lives for the common good.

- 10 November 1974: Police raid a party of about 20 West Indians in Hackney, East London, who try to resist their entrance. 7 are later charged with assault.
- 10 November 1974: British Aluminium Company announces prices of primary aluminium products will be increased by 10%.
- 11 November 1974: Home Secretary Jenkins, who continues legalised apartheid in immigration work permit procedures, opposes closed shop arrangements. He argues that to compel workers, (who happily accept wage increases fought for and won by trade unions but also pocket wages and promotions during strikes by strikebreaking) to join a trade union is "a fundamental question of human rights. The government could not justify reliance on voluntary procedures to deal with these cases any more than with cases of discrimination on grounds of sex or race." He succeeds in persuading Cabinet to retain Law Lords' ability to defend and promote the interests of strikebreakers "if the government gave up these safeguards merely because the TUC disliked them it would not only seem wrong; it would be wrong." (CAB 128/56 Cabinet Conclusions, 11 Nov 1974)
- 11 November 1974: <u>The Times</u> allows the Shah a full-page advert to present a propaganda case for itself, after recent criticism directly mainly questions that it might not impede those in OPEC determined to raise oil prices once again.
- 11 November 1974: Foreign Secretary Callaghan begins talks with Hans-Dietrich Genscher, Federal German Foreign Minister over Britain's position in the EEC.

- 11 November 1974: Wilson states "I have never claimed that a single government can wholly stem world inflation."
- 11 November 1974: Tony Benn attends a meeting "organised by the [CPGB-Broad Left dominated] Lucas Aerospace Shop Stewards' Combine Committee... they presented their case for public ownership. I said the Government had not yet made a statement... there was the possibility of it coming under the NEB." (Tony Benn's Diary) Lucas is never nationalised.
- 11 November 1974: Protesters demonstrate outside the King's Theatre, Edinburgh, where pro-apartheid ballet artist Dame Margot Fonteyn, headlines a sell-out performance with the Scottish Ballet. She has regularly performed for all-white venues in apartheid South Africa, and danced in Santiago, Chile, state representatives of the ruling militarists in attendance.
- 11 November 1974: Workers in hospitals in Kingston and rural areas begin a strike protesting a delay of court order that blocks an agreed salary increase. (Partly British-trained) Jamaica Defense Force personnel begin performing strikebreaking duties in designated hospitals.
- 12 November 1974: EEC announces after re-negotiation with Britain to admit 1.4mil tonnes of Commonwealth-produced sugar for a minimum of five years.
- 12 November 1974: 3<sup>rd</sup> Budget. VAT on petrol will be at 25% starting from 18 Nov 2974 for household and industrial customers alike.
- CBI says the Budget is "moving broadly is the right direction". It welcomes the Chancellor's measures reducing taxation on paper profits of stock appreciation and relaxing price controls. This will assist industry profitability by £1.5bn next year, half the figure the CBI had sought.

It signals massive increases in public transport fares, electricity rates, and natural gas and coal prices to cover deficits in nationalised sectors of the economy. Healey: "It will be painful and disagreeable, to carry this policy through even step by step but I believe that the future health and efficiency of the public sector depends on our success." He states additional price increases are in store in future Budgets because of a necessary drive to phase out subsidies.

Chancellor Healey, admits he has budgeted for an increase in unemployment (running officially at 635,000 in Nov 1974). It broadly holds down taxation. Chancellor: "the maximum profit represented by the increase in the value of stocks on which tax will be payable this year will be limited to 10% of the trading profit". He states "some increase in the rates is inevitable. It will probably be substantial" but the "Government are at present discussing with the

- representatives of the local authorities the level of their current expenditure for the coming year, 1975-76, and the extent to which this is to be financed out of the rates on the one hand and rate support grant on the other."
- TUC General Council is supportive declaring it "a courageous endeavour to protect employment, stimulate investment and promote social fairness."
- 12 November 1974: United Nations General Assembly suspends South Africa from participation in the General Assembly, but not another UN bodies, for the remainder of the year's General Assembly session. Britain votes against the suspension. In response South Africa later suspends its \$1mil of contributions.
- 12 November 1974: 300 students occupy the library of Glasgow's College of Technology in opposition to tiered higher education, cuts and insufficient grants, especially denied to married women. They draw attention to ongoing funding inequalities between universities and polytechnics. They note there are only 26,500 books for almost 2500 students, whilst nearby Stirling University has 200,000 books for 2,000 students.
- 12 November 1974: Civic Amenities Committee in Edinburgh refuses an NUS application to hold a rally in Princes Street Gardens on Saturday, citing insufficient time for police preparation.
- 12 November 1974: NUJ members at the Birmingham Post begin strike action.
- 12 November 1974: Allan Blacklaws, managing director of Scottish & Newcastle Breweries Ltd, at the annual meeting of Scotland Association of Youth Clubs in Glasgow says he sees around 10% of union positions held by Communists, International Socialists, or their sympathisers (hence opposed to the social contract). He calls for youth clubs to encourage members to join trade unions to curb their influence, to counter "disruptive forces in society" and "irresponsible trade unionism".
- 12 November 1974: Britain joins the charge against the UN General Assembly suspending South Africa's right to participate in decisions. Britain and the US's attempt is however defeated 91-19-22.
- 13 November 1974: Tony Benn agonises over the Budget "The whole [nationalisation] policy is being eroded in such a way as to make it very difficult for us at the Industry to proceed. Dennis says he has to go for for Tory measures because he has no socialist instruments. When he's criticised he says 'Ah but the socialist instruments are coming' Then when he does have them he says 'We can't have socialist instruments'" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 13 November 1974: Peter Jay, economic editor of <u>The Times</u>, writes of the Budget, praising the first ever Chancellor courageous enough

to qualify the post-war commitment to full employment, stating that unemployment is necessary to overcome recession.

- 13 November 1974: A woman is knocked down by police and arrested in Halifax, Canada after throwing 2 eggs in protest at the Queen's cavalcade.
- 13 November 1974: NGA members at the <u>Birmingham Post</u> Press refuse to print the newspaper after a non-union strikebreaking city editor and economics correspondent issue an article full of distortion about an ongoing selective NUJ dispute among 9,000 regional newspaper journalists. The newspaper is blocked from production until 18 Nov 1974 when the copy is smuggled out to an alternative strikebreaking plant outside the area to produce a strike special edition.
- 13 November 1974: Len Murray warns union negotiators preparing for the TUC General Council next week, that the TUC executive accepts the basis of Healey's assessment that if wages do not keep within guidelines the result will be "deflation and unemployment". He stresses claims must be within guidelines.
- 13 November 1974: David Gray, Chief Inspector of Constabulary for Scotland, publishes his annual report, noting that rates of pay for policemen are not proving attractive enough to retain enough skilled officers.
- 13 November 1974: Lord Balogh, Deputy Energy Minister, reassures US oil multinationals' executives at a speech in New York stating that Labour's participation agreements are "nothing radical" and that every nation across the world ensures that it is involved in its oil sector. He says tax rates will give companies "a fair deal".
- 13 November 1974: Clerical workers on strike at the HQ of AUEW (Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers) agree to return to work after Len Murray promises that there will be a "substantial offer to meet the claim of £400 as a London weighting allowance. The strike, just over a fortnight old, had been declared official by the three unions involved, APEX (Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical, and Computer Staff), TGWU (Transport and General Workers' Union) and SOGAT (Society of Graphical and Allied Trades)
- 13 November 1974: Honeywell announces it will go ahead with the proposed 1150 redundancies by the end of 1974, inspite of work-in occupations at 4 plants in Scotland, stating "the need for the reductions due to falling demand for and consequent uneconomic manufacturing of certain products at their Scotlish factories remains unaltered."
- 13 November 1974: Sir Samuel Curran, principal of Strathclyde University gives the Kelvin Lecture on 'The Energy Needs of Man' declaring nuclear power will probably be the most reliable and economical source of energy available in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

- 13 November 1974: Argentina's armed forces are sent inside the grounds of private primary and secondary schools, which include those of British expatriates' executives, to guard against apparent guerrilla attacks.
- 13 November 1974: Palestinians stage a day-long stay-away in Nablus and Ramallah. IDF confront demonstrations with live fire.
- 13 November 1974: Arafat addresses the UN General Assembly seeking, as a first step, PLO observer status.
- 14 November 1974: Sydney Morning Herald prime editorial 'Britain's Budget': "Healey's latest budget is Britain's fourth (and his third) within one year — evidence both of the country's political fluctuations and of an economic deterioration ... strategy, in contrast to tactics, is still shadowy. U rests on hope — hope for a late 1970s North Sea oil panacea, hope meanwhile for wage restraint from the trade-unions. The prelude to the Budget was an uncharacteristically stern warning by Mr Wilson against, in effect, expectations of better living standards. The uncertainties which he acknowledged are not peculiar to Britain. The White House for the first time has admitted that the US economy is entering a recession. In Israel there have been riots in protest against a draconian 42% devaluation. Here in Australia Mr Whitlam has eaten a generation's dogmas in an effort to come to terms with the realities of stagflation. Japan, Italy, France, even West Germany — all have impelling reasons for gloom. ... Healey's spectrum of problems include, like Mr Whitlam's, that of declining business confidence and investment due partly to inflation but also to Labour policies of business-bashing and bourgeoisie-badgering. confidence, which for immediate practical considerations turns on problems of profitability and illiquidity, is Mr Healey's first main target. He aims to hit it (and to restrict unemployment to the million mark — 4 per cent) by easing price controls and a more generous interpretation of profit calculations for tax purposes ... They will be reinforced by increased bank lending for industrial expansion. On the other side of the equation, the emphasis is on export-led expansion and against rising domestic demand. Personal income tax is unaltered (as, surprisingly, is corporation tax) and there is a swingeing new impost on petrol to reduce the most damaging item in the imports bill. It can be argued that Mr Healey has not gone far enough... At the moment all Labour's eggs are in its "social contract" basket - but then, so are Labor's here, as Mr Whitlam's plea for restraint last night made clear."
- 14 November 1974: Chancellor Healey confirms "some particular increases are likely to take place [soon] particularly one in gas in

- the New Year and one in domestic electricity charges". UK average gas prices are increased by 12% from 1 Jan 1975.
- 14 November 1974: "I met Jim Sillars and David Lambie to talk about Scottish aviation and whether it should be nationalised. They told me there had been a tremendous explosion of Scottish nationalism, exploiting every grievance, against steel closures, against the Government for the industrial disputes, against the English unions" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 14 November 1974: 2 one-hour lightning strikes by signalmen occur on the London-Tilbury line.
- 14 November 1974: Kissinger proposes a new Western plan for oil, whose details have been discussed and basically agreed with Foreign Secretary Wilson. The point programme calls for the major Western industrialised nations later dubbed the G7, to cooperate in developing new oil supplies outside the Middle East and strengthen economic security to protect the financial system from the "petrodollar threat".
- 14 November 1974: A man enters Midland Bank's King's Cross branch, London and hands the manager a note that says "Unless you co-operate, the bomb in my attaché case will explode. I am determined. I want £30,000." He leaves with £30,000 in £5 notes in plastic bags. After the bank is evacuated, bomb experts open the case and find 30 kilos of potatoes.
- 14 November 1974: Sir William Ryland, the retiring chairman, of the Pose Office says big increases in postal and telephone charges will take place early next year to overcome a deficit of £300m. Telephone charges are likely to go up by 10%.
- 14 November 1974: Police clear a path for strikebreaking managers at Hoover's Cambuslang plant. Peter Budd, the general manager later states: "They conducted themselves in a very orderly fashion and asked us to observe the picket line. We indicated we intended going to work." They wait in their vehicle for a police escort to force them through. The 10-week long strike has been met with management defiance,
- 15 November 1974: RAN base Tarongau at Manus Island, Papua New Guinea, is handed over to Papua New Guinean control, becoming home a squadron of 5 patrol ships. It is recommissioned as PNG Navy Base Lombrum.
- 15 November 1974: 2,000 London local and suburban members begin a strike to force back the dismissal of 66 NUJ members at Kentish Times newspaper firm.
- 15 November 1974: Rolls Royce settles an unofficial strike of 6,000 at Scottish plants with a flat £8 a week rise.
- 15 November 1974: Discussion with Donald Stokes who states 'I need £250 million, part of which I will be able to get from the banks but they won't give it to me unit they know what your attitude is. I

want it in equity: I can't get it from the market, and I can't get it from Finance for Industry (FFI)'

Benn and Stokes "decided we would work put a apackage and before we issued a statement, we would call in the unions for discussions and then we would work out the details. It would probably involve £50 million equity stake... about 20% equity holding in BL, plus probably another 20% in convertible loan stock... a substantial move towards British Leyland becoming part of the NEB" (Tony Benn's Diary)

15 November 1974: David Skinner, audited and disqualified Clay Cross councillor, Labour Left in a letter to <u>Tribune</u> criticises government behaviour: "the Labour Government has utterly and completely divorced itself from the decisions of Labour Party Conference... on the question of Clay Cross and those other 400 or more Labour councillors in those local authorities which carried out the policy of the party. [Tony Crosland] proceeded to fine rent and ratepayers in those local authorities which were either late in implementing or, like Clay Cross, carried out the policy of Labour Party conference. ... we have a Labour Government actually carrying out the Tories' own Housing Finance Act. Mr. Crosland goes even further by saying that if councils refuse to comply with his scheme he will clamp down upon them with the full force of the law....

No sooner had the NEC met and passed a condemnatory resolution about the government's prevarication on South Africa when up iumped Harold Wilson with another of his 'dog licence' lectures to three members of Labour's policy-making body. ... Joan Lestor and Judith Hart, along with the master of participation himself, Tony Benn, succumbed to [issue] their grovelling apologies. ... Is there any point in electing Ministers to the NEC? If they are no longer voting as they would wish because of their portfolios, why do they stay on? One answer, of course, is to campaign for those who refuse to become Ministers until there is an electoral system for deciding posts in the Labour Government. It really is bordering on the edge of stupidity to have an election in the Parliamentary Labour Party when it is in Opposition, only to adopt the outrageous, patronising, grovelling method of allowing one man, the Prime Minister, to hand out jobs to more than 30% of Labour MPs. If Tony Benn wants industrial democracy as badly as he would have us believe, why did he climb down on this important principle?"

Due to government actions the Clay Cross councillors remain 'bankrupt' individuals until 1981 and are disqualified from public office, including school governorships and patients' boards until 1986. From 1975-1980 Clay Cross council tenants are forced to pay higher rents and rates to cover a £64,000 debt, which is increased to £87,000 under the terms of inflation agreement.

- 15 November 1974: Britain is a rare and guarded supporter of the US decision not to fulfil the UN FAO's call for emergency supplies from grain producing nations. US Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz sates: "It would have a bullish effect on the market." The commercial value of the 1 million tons requested is \$175 million. Dr. Addeke 'A H' Boerma, director-general of FAO, estimates that the critical shortfall in 1975 could be anything from 8-12 million tons of grain in 5 major Third World countries experiencing famines. Boerma warns that if assistance does not reach Bangladesh by Christmas, severe numbers of deaths are likely.
- 16 November 1974: Kissinger writes to Callaghan to warn over Cyprus: "I do want you to know of my very strong belief that elimination of the SBAs in Cyprus could have a destabilizing affect on the region as a whole, encouraging the Soviet Union and others to believe that the strategic position of the West has been weakened in that area, and damage Western flexibility to react in unpredictable situations. I hope, therefore, that whatever decision you feel obliged to make can be flexible enough not to undermine our overall position in the Mediterranean. While the strategic situation alone argues most forcefully for the retention of the SBA's, I believe it is also important to take no action at this time which could have a further unsettling effect on the situation in Cyprus.... Warm regards, Henry Kissinger"

Callaghan later replies: "The fact that the US Administration and you personally attach such importance to our presence in Cyprus, together with your argument of the generally adverse effect of our withdrawal on the region as a whole, was the determining consideration.... I hope that this outcome will give you satisfaction and the feeling that, in matters of this sort, we continue to give full weight to the views and interests of the United States wherever these can, even at some cost, be reconciled with our own."

- 16 November 1974: Interpreters at the UN FAO World Food Conference Committee hold a walk out in protest at having to perform simultaneous translations for over 6 hours without the right to a break.
- 16 November 1974: Nyerere admits Tanzania's foreign currency reserves are nearly exhausted and warns of famine in 1975 if rainfall is insufficient, stating there are reserves for at most 11 months but no money or finance to purchase food abroad.
- 16-20 November 1974: IDF shoot dead a 17 year old civilian girl leading to a series of schoolchildren demonstrations in East Jerusalem, Ramallah, Hebron and elsewhere.

17 November 1974: Chequers Cabinet. "Sir Kenneth Berrill opened with a Think Tank paper... we had to decide on ways of closing the gap [of the balance of payments] We had the problem of inflation. There was anxiety about oil. We had to be competitive.... Productivity was crucial said Denis Healey... if we went on like this we would drop to a Spanish standard of living...

Jim Callaghan pessimistically said that every morning when he shaved he thought he should emigrate but by the time he had eaten breakfast, he realised there was nowhere else to go. He thought the collapse of confidence would be absolutely critical... He thought Britain was going down hill so fast that we might lose our seat on the Security Council, then go on sliding down....

Harold Wilson thought there would be some attempt at joint exploration of the oil in French channel"

- 17 November 1974: 4 youths break into Uddingston Grammar School, Scotland and set fire to a wing causing severe damage. 17 November 1974: NUM Ballot is counted. Miners reject the NCB's negotiated productivity scheme 61%-38%.
- 17 November 1974: Catholic Archbishop of Birmingham George Dwyer. Announces there will be funeral service in churches in his diocese for any republican operatives who are killed, only a prayer at the graveside "in the hope that the person responsible had lime to repent before death" will be allowed.
- 18 November 1974: Peter Dimmock, producer of the BBC broadcast of the 1953 Coronation in 1953 major royal television broadcasts in the 1950s and 1960s, BBC's appointment as general manager of BBC Enterprises, announces in Sydney the worldwide BBC release of a new double album on the Phonogram label firm entitled Fifty Years of Royal Broadcasts 1924-1974. He states: "Prince Charles has really got it. He is naturally relaxed in front of the cameras and he has excellent wit apart from boring his shipmates to death with his imitations of the Goons. Prince Philip is a real professional—he doesn't mind make-up and so on and communicates well with people."
- 18 November 1974: BSC announces half-yearly profits of £82mil, an increase of £28mil, it also states prices will rise to avoid future losses.
- 18 November 1974: Royal Navy and RAF units begin, alongside Iranian, US, Turkish and Pakistani navies, under CENTO auspices, the largest ever naval military exercise held in Indian Ocean waters, MIDLINK-74. It centres around the Straits of Hormuz and Arabian Sea testing various Middle East-related military manoeuvres.

- 62,000-ton Kitty Hawk-class aircraft carrier USS Constellation heads an eight warship US contingent.
- 18 November 1974: "Under long-standing arrangements Her Majesty's Government together with other Commonwealth Governments support the South East Asia Police Training Scheme. Thailand, South Vietnam, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh are currently receiving assistance under this scheme. Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Brunei, Philippines and Bangladesh have received direct assistance in 1974 from Her Majesty's Government in training police officers in the United Kingdom at British police training establishments."
- 18 November 1974: Carlo Facini, Director General of EEC's financial control audit department, announces that some businessmen and farmowners have corruptly (by exaggerating claims) secured funds of more than £7.5mil up to mid-1974. He urges all member states including Britain to step up action against fraud.
- 18 November 1974: A new Governor, Colonel Lemos Peres, arrives in Timor promising self-determination, the first change in personnel at the top since the Apr 25 overthrow of Caetano.
- 18-21 November 1974: Following previous discussions, NUM president, Joe Gormley, and vice-president, Mick McGahey, agree with the NCB to launch a productivity propaganda drive. Joint NUM-NCB visits to coalfields to campaign for higher output follow. The target is 120 million tons for the year ending in March 1975. NUM has already agreed to it by accepting the results of an interim production report in the summer. Mick McGahey stresses again that miners will work to honour this commitment. Unlike other NUM statements, the press ignores the productivity campaign. Not stopping production, working and mindlessly producing more for the benefit of someone else is basically considered 'character building', 'positive', 'natural', 'putting the nation first' and merits little discussion.
- 19 November 1974: "saw Harold. We talked about the Post office, and I said I had saved Bill Ryland for another term as chairman... on the chairmanship of the NEB, I understood he had Don Ryder in mind and I said I'd be happy to appoint him" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 19 November 1974: Governor of Bank of England, Gordon Richardson, says there is no possibility of any devaluation of sterling.
- 19 November 1974: Civil Service Commission recommends comfortable surroundings to raise morale and work standards in the

offices of the civil service. It suggests the purchase of new carpets to replace linoleum and coloured stretch-nylon coverings for chairs.

- 19 November 1974: Agriculture Minister Fred Peart announces Britain has accepted the EEC beef scheme in return for the earlier pro-British agreement on sugar supplies and pricing.
- 19 November 1974: A 24-hour strike by signal-workers in the Southern region halts many train services in the area.
- 19 November 1974: Government announces outlines for an oil tax, but no actual level. Edmund Dell says the bill ensures fair returns and profit to oil firms. Immediately they begin their counter-attack. Dr Jesse Wyllie, Eastern Hemisphere chief of Gulf Oil, comments: "We don't like it very much" noting that taxation will reduce their investment and hence North Sea oil production as a whole. Labour eventually gives in and sets a level lower than that of Norway.
- 20 November 1974: Cabinet "Harold reported on consultation with the Americans and Germans on our proposed defence cuts. Germans were a bit anxious about reduction of our troops in Europe and th Americans were worried about our withdrawal from the Gulf and from the sovereign Bases in Cyprus."

On nuclear weapons [Wilson said] "we didn't want the French to be the only ones who had nuclear weapons... Second our influence through Jim and Henry Kissinger was thought very important. Third it brought us into the Hit Line.. Fourth the Soviet Union never objected... Jim said he shared the Prime Minister's view... Michael [Foot] prevaricated... but he was ready to go along with the proposal that we retain them... Roy Mason talked about the great value of this strength... Reg Prentice predictably came out in favour nucealr weapons... Peter Shore argued... we mustn';t comtenplate a rediction in British power of this kind... The vietnam war had convinved John Silkin that we should have nuclear wapons: John Morris was afraid if we didn't have them, conventiaonla weaponis would have to be increased. Harold Lever said that the Vietnam war had also convinced him that we should have them, and he agreed with what Harold had said earlier. Jim Callaghan believed that nuclear wapons stabilised the position, and their removal would be destabilising.... Bob Mellish said that you simply couldn't give up the bomb... Shirley came back with a sort of unctuous 'Let's keep them but can we be assured that we can bargain them away?'" (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 20 November 1974: Conservative Greek-Cypriot region chief Glavkos Klerides meets Makarios in London to discuss amnesty for coup plotters and left-right 'reconciliation' in Cyprus.
- 20 November 1974: South Africa's General Law Amendment Act No 94 comes into effect, prohibiting under sec1 any words or acts

intended to cause feelings of hostility between different population groups of the Republic, sec2 prohibits furnishing information about events inside or outside the Republic to any individual outside the Republic without the permission of the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

20 November 1974: 12 people who have attended a Sinn Fein rally at Speakers' Corner, Hyde Park are fined the maximum £50 for wearing uniform associated with a political movement at Lambeth Crown Court. 1 is given a 3-month suspended prison sentence for impersonating an IRA volunteer.

- 20 November 1974: Culturally loyalist Belfast airport workers declare they will organise a strike to stop handling a flight which contains the coffin of dead republican guerrilla James McDade.
- 20 November 1974: Playing the Francoist national anthem Spain meet Scotland in the European Nations Cup at Hampden Park.
- 21 November 1974: 2 members of the South African Atomic Energy Board, Alan Denness and Don Hodgson, finally end their visit to UKAEA site at Risley.

At the time it was 'thought that this was a one-off visit. But now it ifs understood that an agreement has been reached between the UKAEA and the South African Government which would mean that such visits would be put on a permanent b-asis. Technicians involved in safety Measures within the UKAEA are to visit South Africa to give on-site =notions and more South Afritans are to visit Harwell where they will take courses on reactor 'safety.

No deal of this sort could have been made without clearance by the' 'British Government. Although ft is described by the UKAEA as a "commercial 7 operation, the sensitive nature of relations between this country and South Africa mean that no agreement of this type between a public body and the South African Government can escape' the eye Of the Foreign Office.

The agreement is certain to result in Parliamentary questions about how far this co-operation is to go. Although arms sales to South Africa have been stopped, help of this nature can hardly be described as purely "commercial'.

- 21 November 1974: Department of Industry Discussion on regional policy "Part was really very cheeky and told me that the Manifesto was badly written and meaningless." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 21 November 1974: NUPE accepts an offer of a minimum of £30 a week for full-time local authority manual workers.
- 21 November 1974: James McDade's coffin remains in Birmingham and is flown to Dublin instead. RUC at Dundalk on the partition border arrest 10 people accompanying the hearse to Belfast
- 21 November 1974: Lord Wilfred Brown, former head of Glacier Metal, addresses the Society of Production Engineers in

- Southampton. He reflects on the problem of pay demands and narrowing wage differentials. He proposes, over the medium term, work towards the formation of a national council of maybe 300 members (from Government Ministers to employers to shopfloor workers) to decide on wage problems, without industrial action.
- 21 November 1974: 2 Birmingham pubs are bombed. 20 are killed. A wave of anti-Irish and anti-republican outpourings follow, allowing the government the opportunity to pass the Prevention of Terrorism Act.
- 21 November 1974: Britain once again opposes UNESCO's measures against accepting Israel onto a regional commission after its planned destruction of Arab heritage in East Jerusalem. UNESCO Third World majority wins.
- 22 November 1974: Tony Benn places cabinet over Labour Party 'The NEC cannot instruct the government and I know nobody who thinks it can... what the government has done in the past [then] we shall have to defend because it was done with our consent... The past we must defend, the future we must shape together. On the Simonstown resolution to the Executive, by deploring what Ministers did we were on the wrong side of that dividing line" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 22 November 1974: Trade Minister Edmund Dell announces that Britain will not agree to restrict financial supplies to Chile and supports delaying repayment terms, (a privilege accorded to militarist Chile but not 'independent socialist' Jamaica): "multilateral agreement for the rescheduling of Chile's external debt, which postponed repayment of 80% of debts due in 1973 and 1974 until 1st January 1977, was signed by all the members of the Paris Club" [USA Britain, France, Belgium, Holland, Canada, Francoist Spain, Federal Germany, Federal Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Switzerland, France and Japan]
- 22 November 1974: EEC-Arab negotiations as agreed upon in Jul 1974 collapse as a result of EEC refusal, insisted upon by Britain and Federal Germany's Commissioners, to accept a PLO representative.
- 22 November 1974: Virtually all politicians immediately begin pouncing on backlash themes (insufficient terror has been applied to Ireland) 'the Blitz' perspective on politics re emerges, last prominently seen during the 3-day week. A sample report: 'Angry MPs pledge support for "no appeasement" promise' (The Times, 23 Nov 1974)
- 22 November 1974: Old Emanuel Michael Aspel and Barnstaple Grammarian David Vine present the BBC broadcast of the Miss

World beauty competition held, as ever, at the Royal Albert Hall. The winner Miss UK Helen Morgan, at first is applauded and praised but resigns in a press conference full of tears on 26 Nov 1974 under threat of dismissal from the title after it is discovered she has an 18-month old baby. She is replaced by Anneline Kriel, South Africa's (white) entrant, who later marries Sol Kerzner, owner of the Sun City complex. The Mecca organisation announces on 27 Nov 1974 it will change its rules to ban unmarried mothers as well as married women from the contest.

- November 1974: Dr Monty Finniston, chairman of the nationalised British Steel Corporation, declares that if corporation makes profits for five years it should then be returned to enterprise. He claims that a return to a regulator like the old Iron and Steel Board, and private steel mills is the way forward. He is "interference" opposed ministerial in development to rationalisation plans, claiming exports are being stifled by government pressure to consider the cost upon the workforce in any new plans. The government does not dismiss him. Instead he carries out his term and is rewarded in 1977 as he placed in charge of the public enquiry into engineering education and then is appointed Chancellor of Stirling University.
- 23 November 1974: Alastair Hetherington, editor of <u>The Guardian</u>, attacks closed shop legislation that might remove "reasonable grounds" exemption, arguing the government's Trade Union and Labour Relations Bill will assist only NUJ's dangerous militants.
- 23 November 1974: <u>The Times</u> editorial on Birmingham attacks: "This is an Act of War; there are times when the emotional response to a public event is also the soundest one. The natural response to the murders in Birmingham is one of anger and determination... only the most effective countermeasure will satisfy public opinion"
- 23 November 1974: <u>Lagos Daily Times</u> reports criticism of Nigerianisation measures that they "tended to widen the gap between the rich and the poor" Nigerians. It reflects wider deeper social organisation amongst dockworkers, factory workers, teachers, nurses and others that will lead to open strikes in Jan 1975.
- 24 November 1974: With habitual chauvinism <u>Observer</u> asks: "Cannot the Provisionals see that even a gradual withdrawal... would unleash the most terrible communal war?... And do they imagine that the minority Catholic community would come off best in the resulting slaughter, even if it was supported by the Army of the Republic?"

- 24 November 1974: Journalists John Russell and Mira Caley are charged under the Official Secrets Act for possession of Ministry of Defence Army papers that detail strategy for counter-revolutionary and land operations.
- 24 November 1974: <u>Il Secolo</u> reports Swiss millionaire Hans Lezlinger has begun recruiting a 1,000-strong army, including British and French former soldiers, to fight on behalf of Portuguese settler farmers in its colonies as the MFA begins to withdraw.
- 24 November 1974: British military communications satellite Skynet 2 is placed into a correct orbit over the Indian Ocean, responding properly to commands from the USAF Satellite Tracking Center, Sunnyvale, California.
- 24 November 1974: Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith in a 5,000-word declaration, approved by Pope Paul, reiterates opposition to abortion, explicitly dismissing fears for the life of a mother.
- 25 November 1974: Cabinet. Discussion of the PTA. "Harold Wilson asked 'I take it we'll include include other terrorist organisations' and Roy replied 'Yes'... he said that the persons excluded from this country would be detained in northern Ireland under internment powers.... Elwyn thought there should be a tribunal to assess whether or not people should be banished. But Roy said he wouldn't accept a tribunal... Michael asked if the powers should be introduced for three months instead of six. Denis Healey said that we really could not insulate Northern Ireland from Great Britain, to which the Lord Advocate Ronny King Murray replied that we were trying to insulate an alien inhumanity from coming into the country." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 25 November 1974: In <u>The Times</u> Lord Chalfont explains capital punishment of terrorist offences is an absolute necessity.
- 25 November 1974: Olympic Airlines, owned by Aristotle Onassis, places its staff on reduced days of work and pay, including workers abroad in London, citing oil prices and recession.
- 25 November 1974 am: A small fire bomb is thrown through a window at Harrow School's 'Grove House', leading to evacuation but no injuries. The arson severely damages the top floor of student facilities, and affects the student common rooms on lower floors. "The perpetrator was a boy in the house, highly neurotic but of grand social connections. At his trial in May 1975 he revealed

evidence of "card and beer sessions" and claimed that he had been disturbed by repeated "homosexual attack"; the police confirmed that his "story about sexual advances was correct". The incident itself, the prolonged speculation and rumours, and the revelations at the trial were highly damaging, much of the burden of dealing with the concerns of parents, old boys, and press falling on the Head Master." (A History of Harrow School 1324-1991, Christopher Tyerman)

25 November 1974: Vatican asserts strongly that neither ill health of a mother-to-be nor abnormality in a foetus: "From the time that an ovum is fertilised, a life is begun which is neither that of the father nor of the mother — it is rather the life of a new human being with his own growth... Never, under any pretext may abortion be resorted to either by a family or by a political authority"

25 November 1974: Heart transplant pioneer, Dr Christiaan Barnard, gives a (white) patient a second heart in a milestone operation at Groote Schuur Hospital, Cape Town. It connects 2 hearts aorta to aorta and atrium lo atrium, with two tiny sutures, taking over the functions of the existing heart's left side. The hospital retains its discriminatory pay scales for non-white and white nurses, and retains segregated wards. The non-white nurses are used only in non-white wards. For the operation only white nursing staff are used, although this is not heavily reported. It later emerges that the family of the 'coloured' girl, killed in a road traffic accident, whose heart is transplanted to beat alongside that of the white South African and former product of colonial Zambia, conduct no funeral because the wages of the lorry driver father cannot cover one.

An examination of transplant and dialysis treatment for kidney patients in 1976 across 22 mixed 'internally segregated' South African hospitals (including Groote Schuur) reveals that for 4 million whites there are 391 patients being treated, whilst for 18 million 'official' blacks there are 61 patients being treated (under 3 black kidney patients a hospital). Of the 61 black kidney patients only 5 have been treated with a graft, whilst 'whites' have nearly half (194) of kidney patients undergoing graft treatment. (K I Furman, Maintenance Dialysis and Renal Transplantation Facilities in South Africa, Jul 1976, South African Journal of Medicine, 12 Mar 1977) In other words, whites receive transplants when they are available, blacks, only if they are extremely well-connected and fortunate receive dialysis.

Groote Schuur consistently treats blacks poorly. Even though it treats significantly more white patients compared to black, a survey from 1957-1977 showed in "gynaecological deaths... nearly 50% were Coloureds, 25% were Whites, and 14% were Blacks, in the

remaining 14% the ethnic group was not recorded." (Deaths in Gynaecological Wards at Groote Schuur Hospital, Cape Town, South African Journal of Medical History, South African Journal of Medicine, 29 Sep 1979)

In the late 1980s official segregation is abandoned when its costs become apparent: "Groote Schuur Hospital built two dedicated organ transplant units, one for white patients, another for all shades of patient other than white. Organ transplant nursing is extremely labour intensive... we would end up with two poor, probably dangerous, units." (Making the Cut in South Africa: A Medico-Political Journey, ch4)

- 25 November 1974: Birmingham City Corporation announces a fund contributed by the public for relatives of victims of the public bombings has already reached £25.000.
- 25 November 1974: Jenkins announces plans for a Prevention of Terrorism (PTA) Act in parliament boasting of "draconian measures unprecedented in peacetime". Since he has already assumed that mainstream PIRA is responsible, he stresses the psychopathy element: "During my visit to the Birmingham hospitals on Friday and before that to Guildford in October and to the victims of the Tower of London explosions in July, I saw injuries I had hardly dreamt of since the war and I abandoned any attempt to understand the minds of people who can do this."
- 25 November 1974: A racially mixed group of US soldiers in the Berlin Brigade refuse to attend a training formations, going on short-lived soldiers' strike, voicing the demand for all new officers to take charge only after the group approves them.
- 26 November 1974: Foreign Secretary Callaghan at the Labour Party conference, as chairman of the Party, in a cunning, subtle speech urges delegates to withdraw critical resolutions saying the Government has the right to ask the party not to make further demands only 6 weeks after an election.
- 26 November 1974: Government announces the plan for a higherspeed rail link between London and the South coast is being abandoned.
- 26 November 1974: AP reports US counter-attack against bauxite cartelisation: "Foreign producers of bauxite are among the vulnerable targets of a developing Ford administration strategy to punish export cartels... The administration's chief trade strategist, William D. Eberle, said in an interview with the Washington Star-News that bauxite producers have raised prices in violation of agreements. Bauxite exporting countries include Jamaica, Guyana,

Yugoslavia, Guinea and Sierra Leone. Eberle said the producers may be able to make the prices stick for a while but the increases are inducing American companies to step up development of aluminium ore deposits in the United States... He said that protection could be provided through import quotas, tariff increases, variable levies on imports or establishment of floor prices to prevent foreign producers from underselling the American companies. "If they [foreign producers] act responsibly" on supplies and prices "we will give them access to our market if they are not responsible, we reserve the right to take any action".

- 26 November 1974: 47,000 EIS members take part in a 24-hour strike to support their pay demands.
- 26 November 1974: Another series of petrol bomb attacks on homes with Irish people inside in Birmingham.
- 26 November 1974: Lieutenant-Colonel John Elliott Brooks, a 64 year old former mayor of Kensington and Chelsea, wins his libel claim against IPC Newspapers publishers of <u>Sunday People</u> and its journalist, Michael O'Flaherty, for declaring he is "a menace to young girls." The story is based on the fact that a 21 year old Manchester University student who answers a job advertisement for "good natured young ladies" (but without any agreement of physical or sexual contact) to work as a waitress/hostess aboard his motor yacht, out of student financial difficulty, for his cruise ship, is then sexually assaulted on a cruise ship with nowhere to run.

Judge Peter Bristow warns the jury summing up that "ladies sometimes say 'no' when they mean 'yes'" and they have to merely decide if this was how the colonel had read the protestations of the source of the <u>Sunday People</u> story. During the trial Brooks defends himself on the grounds that he has hit a over a dozen female posteriors over the past decade as "friendly horseplay" stating "Every healthy, normal, vigorous male is a bottom slapper in mind if not in deed. I think that spanking a girl's bottom if she is willing and likes it and enjoys it. is simply a part of the fun. It is nothing more notorious than the Italian habit of bottom-pinching." The 5-day trial has turned into a media and gazers' circus as the visitors' gallery is full of those eager to hear of discussion of sexual sadism. The <u>Daily Mail</u> gives Brooks a clean bill of health in 'The Case of the Slap and Tickle Squire'.

Brooks' defence lawyer states the student earned over £100 for a weekend of work and had interrupted his actions and wiped some whisky on her posterior to reduce any stinging or bruising, and hence cannot constitute "a menace": "There is happily, as yet no trade-union rule book which regulates the sexual activities of men and women. It is quite impossible in the sphere of sex to lay down a

standard code of normal behaviour." He "denounced the People's reporter for carrying a tape recorder in her pocketbook when she interviewed Brooks. While the reporter disliked the word bugging... "It was bugging all right, just as Watergate was bugging." There was a snicker from the spectators when the [defence] lawyer referred to the "bottom dollar" he would have bet that nothing would have happened if Miss Carr had gone to the police instead of the newspaper. He insisted that any fair minded person who discovered his client's "kink" would merely say "Well, if that's his fun, let him get on with it in private." (23 Nov NYT) The Sunday People pays the costs of the trial.

27-30 November 1974: Labour Party Conference.

27 November 1974: Labour Conference rejects a clause for MPs to be eligible for reselection in between elections. Callaghan "played it disgracefully: he let the Conference get all muddled by darting about on different amendments; then he let the lunch break come; then he put theb whole clause without the amendments... the cange was defeated 3,200,000 to 2,400,000... Mik speaking against it made a very big impact" (Tony Benn's Diary)

27 November 1974: Paymaster general (taxation chief) Edmund Dell explains that the Petrol Revenue Tax will be separate from corporation taxation to allow it to remain lower: "one effect of the decision to make PRT a prior charge is to make revenue from the North Sea oil more independent of the level of corporation tax. Many factors having little or no relationship to North Sea profitability might determine or influence changes in corporation tax.... The companies will obtain relief for capital and operating expenditure on the field as it is incurred, and... there will be relief for abortive exploration and development expenditure incurred outside the field." PRT is at 45% whilst the top rate of Corporation Tax is at 52%. Oil firms are given a bonanza profit period of about 3 years.

27 November 1974: Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act (PTA) is introduced into the Commons. It is due to last for six months only.

It is passed at lightning speed "Queen Elizabeth II formally assented to the act within minutes of its approval without opposition by Commons and the House of Lords." (AP)

27 November 1974: Labour Left figures Eric Heffer, Ian Mikardo and Leslie Huckfield invite Yoram Peri of the Israeli Labour Party [Mapai, member of Golda Meir's Alignment coalition, whilst it further fortifies the Golan Heights and extends Jewish-only settlements in the West Bank]. The title of the discussion is 'Labour in Israel continue to work for peace and progress'.

27 November 1974: Labour Left MP Frank White, joins Liberal Cyril Smith in seeking the solution to textile industry redundancies in import restrictions from Turkey and Taiwan: "television western series is appearing currently, called 'Alias Smith and Jones'. Hon. Members now have the Lancashire equivalent of Smith and White. Just like our cowboy counterparts... [Smith] and I intend to get our man." He points out the hypocrisy of other MPs unconcerned about import penetration in textiles: "If what is happening in Lancashire were to happen in their constituencies, without doubt they would ask me to support protection for their industries." Labour MP James Lamond joins in, declaring: "No fault of any kind can be laid at the feet of management or the employees in the industry for the state it is in at present. The trade unions have cooperated to the utmost with the employers in the modernisation of the industry. It is now the second most capital-intensive industry in Britain, second only to chemicals. Shift working has been accepted in an attempt to make the industry viable, but it is facing competition all the time from developing countries" Labour MP Michael Noble refers to the "joint efforts of both management and unions, to deal with these problems [of low productivity]. I do not think there is another industry which could boast of such joint co-operation between management and employees to ensure survival. We have a very modern industry. It is the second most capital intensive industry in the country, operating the most advanced technology and with the advanced management attitudes. I helped to management at one time and I know that it is aware of and concerned to utilise the most up-to-date techniques." Labour Left Michael Meacher, says the government cannot introduce import quotas because, again on national grounds, "British consumers are better dressed at cheaper prices than consumers in any other industrialised country. This must be due partly to allowing the world's textile manufacturers access to our market." He does, however, commend trade union 'cooperation' in textiles "I am impressed by the role of the textile trades unions. The Lancashire industry has a record of labour relations which is by any standard excellent. The unions' attitude to modern machinery and shift working has been entirely co-operative—they are all for it. Indeed, they have been criticised by their union colleagues in Europe for their willingness to agree to night-shift working. But most importantly, they will agree to shift working only where the machinery in the mill in question is sufficiently modern. I applaud this because we must have more investment in new machinery. There are many mills, both in the big groups and amongst the independents, who have followed a policy of high investment. But at the same time there seems to me at present to be too many spindles—more than half a million out of a total of 2½ millionworking on a single shift. Even a few old-fashioned inefficient firms are too many in an industry where weak sellers have disproportionate effects on the price in the market place to the detriment of efficient firms in the industry. Competition within the United Kingdom market has resulted in a slimmer, more modern, more competitive industry and imports have played a major role in driving out the inefficient firms, the weak sellers. Imports have proved a constant spur to the search for efficiency."

- 28 November 1974: Militant's Nick Bradley is voted onto NEC as head of the list for Young Socialists section- the first major position held by a Militant supporter within the Labour Party.
- 28 November 1974: Chairman of the NATO Military Committee, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Peter Hill-Norton, in a lecture to the Royal United Services Institute stresses the absolute necessity for NATO partners to unify their efforts in the research, development and production of war equipment. He warns of inefficiencies and inconveniences because of a lack of standardisation.
- 28 November 1974: 700 white-collar workers for Chrysler are issued with redundancy notices.
- 28 November 1974: A 24 hour signalmen's strike in Eastern Region services delays some Easter rail services.
- 28 November 1974: General Augusto Lutz, out of favour with Pinochet, moved away from military intelligence to command of Vth Division of the army in remote Punta Arenas, dies of blood poisoning, as a result of a DINA poisoning operation at a cocktail party. He has been kept in military hospital in Santiago since 8 Nov 1974.
- 29 November 1974: "I saw the Meriden people... I asked 'Could you get the three shops stewards from the plants together quickly... would you consider doing a contract for bike spare parts at the moment?' They were saying the men simply hadn't enough to live on." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 29 November 1974: UN civil servants in Geneva begin strike action for the first time over speed-ups and retrenchment in pensions.
- 29 November 1974: House of Lords passes through the measures of the PTA in five minutes, receiving Royal Assent and becoming operational the same day. The Commons has spent the previous day finalising its details. The PTA is renewed every year and strengthened in 1975, 1978, 1979, 1987, 1989, 1991 before its replacement with a new Terrorism Act 2000. Its effect is polarising and significant. Workers' Party, Sinn Fein, Eire Nua and I.R.S.P. effectively become suspected organisations on the mainland. It

becomes a theoretically indictable offence to raise any level of funds for, speak or generally disseminate any propaganda in favour of republicanism or upholding the traditions of the First Dail of 1919. The first to be prosecuted are not PIRA members but the Workers Party, on ceasefire since 1972, attempting to grapple towards some sort of mass democratic struggle. Morale within the Workers Party begins to deteriorate sharply as the trials occur, effectively knocking a dying organisation dead.

29 November 1974: Labour Left <u>Tribune</u> front-page large editorial reacts to Birmingham pub bombings: "If the many hundreds of thousands of Irish people who live and work in this country come under the most severe harassment, then the IRA will have achieved their object. For that object is to solve the problem of Northern Ireland on their terms: no compromise is possible, no thought can be spared for those who do not fully agree with their views. Thus it must have been with some satisfaction that the Provisionals watched petrol bombs being thrown into the public houses of landlords of Irish descent, and workers mouthing slogans coined for them by reactionary elements who use every discontent in our society to breed anger and unreason." The same issue reports committed Bevanite, Tribunite, Labour Left, member of the Movement for Colonial Freedom, Stan Orme, has made a speech where he "declared that withdrawal of British troops... would be disastrous. It would lead to the six counties being ruled by one community which would introduce the kind of authoritarian powers that would make those used by the Government now look "a nonsense."

29 November 1974: Future 'New Realist' leader, current Labour Left figure, Neil Kinnock authors 'Capitalism Must Go': He says "we [Labour Left] like millions throughout the world, refuse to accept the permanence and desirability of the "realities" of capitalism and totalitarianism or even concede the "realism" of changing those systems and removing the stupidities and injustices which spawn by feeding and appeasing them... If we do not seek the triumph of our ideals, we should not have them. If we do not realise that we need power to achieve that victory, we should not be in politics. If we do not want to win, we should not be playing the game."

- 30 November 1974: SPD's Helmut Schmidt addresses Labour Party Conference as a fraternal SPD delegate to softly encourage EEC participation.
- 30 November 1974: 33,000 staff in English and Welsh bakeries begin an overtime ban in support of a headline 66% pay claim. The bakeries affected cover more than 80% of bread production by volume in England and Wales.
- 30 November 1974: In a sign of softening Anglo-PRC relations, Hong Kong reimposes its policy of strict border controls against

those who manage to cross the PRC-Hong Kong border and begins police deportation sweeps of 'illegals'.

December 1974: Rising prices in educational equipment are straining relations between education boards, local authorities and supplier firms. Over the past two years from Dec 1972-Dec 1974 the costs of school equipment and desks have risen on average by more than 50%. Exercise books have gone up by 80%, pens have gone up by 73%. In November the British Educational Equipment Association threatens that its firms will refuse to enter into contracts with councils that are endlessly deferring payments, waiting for a better day.

December 1974: Crozier's ISC publishes Peter Janke's study of southern Africa 'Southern Africa: End of Empire'. Uncredited in the work is the fact that South Africa's Department of Information has funded over £5,000 of the costs of Janke's research. It features smears and distortions against FRELIMO supplied by information on "terrorism" in Mozambique supplied in a meeting with P. J. De Wit, an important BOSS operative, also unacknowledged.

- \* December 1974: Sir Julian Huxley, the first director-general of UNESCO from 1946 onward, prominent humanist, knighted in 1958, leads a letter of prominent British intellectuals in <a href="The Times">The Times</a> announcing they will no longer to cooperate with UNESCO due to its anti-Israel stance of allowing PLO participation.
- \* December 1974: "The country expects both full employment and an end to inflation we cannot have both unless people restrain their demands. If the TUC guidelines are not observed, we shall end up with wage controls and even a breakdown of democracy." (Bernard Donoughue's Diary)
- \* December 1974: "Britain is a miserable sight. It is time to go and cultivate our gardens, share love with our families, and leave the rest to fester. And if it gets intolerable- because fascism could breed in this climate- to emigrate if need be.... I have contemplated- and discussed with Carol- the possibility of going to live in America or France" (Bernard Donoughue's Diary)
- 1 December 1974: Irish republican John Rafferty, is arrested and held under the new PTA exclusion order at Brentford police station without trial. He is later deported to Dublin by plane without facing any charge.
- 2 December 1974: "Harold began the Economic Strategy committee on Europe by reporting informally on his talk with Helmut Schmidt who, he said, had been helpful and keen to help us... He expected

Harold would be ready to recommend the renegotiation package to the British people" (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 3 December 1974: <u>The Guardian</u> in 'Taking stock of the Provos' writes of a planned, deliberate IRA campaign of a "bombing of the English *public* into a new level of terrorist reality". It ignores the cardinal rule of IRA units: "it is not, and never has been the policy of the IRA to bomb targets without warning to ensure the safety of civilians". Those IRA units that do bomb without warning are not part of the deliberate IRA war strategy.
- 3 December 1974: Defence Minister announces in addition to NATO countries (including Greece, Spain, Portugal and Turkey) Australia, India, Iran, Jamaica, Kenya, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, South Africa and Thailand have all participated in joint military exercises in 1974 and 1973.
- 3 December 1974: Appeal Court condemns the Shrewsbury Two to remain in prison on a false imprisonment of conspiracy. It does not allow for the case to be heard at the House of Lords. The majority of prison time has been under Labour government. No action is ever taken against the judges.
- 3 December 1974: A Defence Review, discussed in secret with Washington and other NATO members, is announced by Defence Secretary Roy Mason. It reveals publicly, for the first time, part of the extent of Diego Garcia's new role under US military planners in order to construct a vast naval and air base. Listening and Sig-Int posts, which are eventually constructed are not disclosed. commits to of peace. Over the next two months, India, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, Bangladesh and Malaysia protest to Britain against US expansion of bases on Diego Garcia and call for an entire Indian Ocean free of superpower bases.

Not a single cancellation of any weapons development project is announced, nor any revision of terms with NATO, CENTO etc. Britain is to maintain its independent Polaris nuclear deterrent for an unspecified period ahead and some kind of secret nuclear test has been performed recently. Britain maintains its out-of-area Advisory Mission to Saigon, training South Vietnam forces outside Vietnam, principally in Brunei. It continues to provide modest, light touch police training in Hong Kong for the Saigon police force. Year by year Brunei's importance as a 'router' for apartheid South Africa grows, illicit arms exports are made first to Brunei and then they are shifted to South Africa. Brunei itself is secured by a Gurkha regiment, on loan to the monarchy, in its own version of an apartheid system – the wider ruling clan and military, on one side, against the population on the other.

- 4 December 1974: The new Criminal Law Jurisdiction Bill is announced.\*\*
- 4 December 1974: Criminal Appeal Court orders that Pat Arrowsmith's May 1974 conviction should stand under the 1934 Incitement to Disaffection Act, but changes the sentence imposed, meaning that she will be released in the next few days.
- 4 December 1974: Cyprus Turkish Airlines is formed as a 'national' carrier, equal stakes held by Turkish state-owned Turkish Airlines and Cyprus Turkish Community Assembly's Consolidated Improvements Fund.
- 4 December 1974: Malaysian officials charge 1,095 college and university students with taking part in an illegal but peaceful demonstration, arrested the day before.
- 5 December 1974: "According to the latest information available there are thought to be about 1,500 non-military British persons living in Oman at the present time." (Written Answer,
- 5 December 1974: "Ministerial Committee on Economic Strategy... Michael [foot] reported that if the miners got their normal increase to maintain their living standards, it would mean £5 a week for a surface worke and £7 for a face worker... in order to maintain their position in the leage table of wages [at Mar 1974] they would need £15 per week... Harold is beginning to emerge more strongly as an anti-union man. Jim, of course, has been anti-union for a very long time, very frightened by their power. Eric Varley cannot keep off his dislike of Scargill and McGahey and says he wished he could work with Lawrence Daly instead. Harold of course sees it in terms of politically motivate men... a paper from the Think Tank... without any ministerial sponsorship at all... saying that the property market had collapsed and the only way to put some some vitality into it was by ending the freeze on business rates so that the property market itself would be more profitable... Sir Kenneth Berill introduced the paper exactly as if he were a Minister... the Treasury concept – that the role of the public sector in our economy had got to be limited in some way - prevents us from doing what would otherwise be sensible, namely acquiring land and for that matter, companies, at their present deflated prices, while socialism on the cheap is possible." (Tony Benn's Diaries)
- 5 December 1974: South Africa announces construction of a new oil-from-coal complex.
- 5 December 1974: Tony Benn gives details of the ongoing state financial assistance to Rolls Royce, which continues as social expenditure is cut "In September 1974 the Government undertook to give support for the completion of the the [RB 211–524 engine] launch programme and to agree to a production commitment for the -524 for use in the Lockheed Tristar, as soon as a firm order

was obtained for these engines. An order was placed later in September and a contract has now been signed to give effect to this support. ... the estimated total launch cost for the -524 for the Tristar is £45 million at 1973 prices. The Government will make agreed phased contributions up to 1978 which, including payments already made, will bring the direct Government support for the -524 to a total of £26.3 million, but the payments for 1976 and subsequent years will be subject to escalation based on cost increases [in 1976]"

- 5 December 1974: Eastern Region signalmen stage a 24-hour strike.
- 5 December 1974: South Africa announces the construction of an oil-from-coal complex over the next six years. Coal is still exported from Britain to South Africa until at least 1978.
- 5 December 1974: Dominica colonial police shoot dead a robbery suspect in Roseau, on the basis that he might be a member of the rasta Dread group. In preparation for independence in 1979, new measures are brought in arming prison guards. Prime Minister Douglas is inheritor of the largest fortune on the island. British multinational fruit firm Geest still dominates the entire economy with its banana plantations. Most workers work for under \$2 a day. Later at independence in 1979 AP reports "few roads, bad communications, no industry and not a single modern health facility." Senior colonial officials have an aircraft service to transport them to hospitals elsewhere.
- 6 December 1974: Tony Benn announces that British Leyland, experiencing profit problems unable to raise funds or draw loans 'on the markets', has asked the Labour Government for assistance. He states he shall "appoint a high-level team, led by Sir Don Ryder, including members drawn from the Industrial Development Advisory Board, to advise on the company's situation and prospects". The team includes Bob Clark (Chairman of Hill Samuel, an investment bank with considerable assets in Australia), Fred MacWhirter (senior partner of Peats) and Sam Gillen (former chairman of both Ford UK and Ford Europe). Sir Don Ryder has conveniently just resigned from Reed International. Sir Don Ryder becomes a paid advisor to the government on matters of industry. Only the previous month (Nov 1974) British Leyland has announced a plan to scale back production in Spain and Australia, but to invest in a £22mil programme in its South Africa plants. Sir Don Ryder has led a vicious programme of profit extraction via labour restructuring at Since International. 1969-70 its trading profit from £37.1million to £86.5million. Between 1970-71 and 1973-74 the number of workers employed by Reed in Britain has fallen from 72,000 to 64,000, at the same time as many takeovers have been made. In printing there has been a marked decline in output; paper

and publishing just about steady. Most of the central London printing factories inherited from its takeover of International Publishing Corporation have been closed and a joint property company, Reed-MEPC set up as part of the investment squeeze manifesting itself in a 'property boom'. A majority of Reed's profit growth has come from investment overseas and in Apr 1974 its aim is for a 1977-8 60% profit share from overseas. Its overseas share has increased from 25% 1967-68 to 39% in 1973-74.

7 December 1974: Freedom editorialises against "Benn, who is the Government's supporter of workers' participation, has authorised co-ops at Meriden, the Scottish Daily News, and at the old Fisher-Bendix factory at Kirkby.... Benn seems to be more interested in the benefit such experiments will bring to increase output. He has said co-ops "can unlock a considerable production potential that cannot be released by the present authoritarian system of management. This country could – with the same plant and equipment produce a great deal more on a continuing basis if the energy now wasted could be released to permit higher real incomes." ... capitalism marches on with the aid and support of the State. Public capital will be used to invest in ailing companies.... Private capital has failed the profit motive system, and so huge investments of public money are new needed to keep the wheels of industry turning, Mr Wilson has called it good socialist doctrine as well as good capitalist doctrine... The series of take-overs which Mr Benn has supported are workers' reactions to the threat of unemployment... It is a good tactic and the experience of running their own plants will give them and other workers confidence that they can organise and run things without professional management... such experiments are not a threat to capitalism: in fact the head of Jaguar cars helped the shop-stewards at Meriden draw up their case for a co-op, but it will be watched over by Mr Benn's Ministry"

- 8 December 1974: Resigned members of OIRA, independent 'socialists' and several culturally Irish trade unionists launch the IRSP electing Seamus Costello chairman and INLA's first chief of staff.
- 9 December 1974: Government confirms that the Hawker Siddeley 146 small-jet airliner project will be scrapped and receive no more investment. Trade union leaders have been pleading for several months at the Department of Industry over the case.
- 9-10 December 1974: Premiers of the EEC 9, Wilson, Schmidt, Giscard, meet in Paris leading to a communiqué stating that a 'correcting mechanism' has been agreed for Britain and its

Contribution to the EEC budget. It states that (subject to the Referendum in Britain) participation of all states in the new European Parliament is agreed and all heads agree on the principle of monetary and economic union. Wilson confirms Britain has also been included in the regional fund to gain a share of investment that had effectively been set aside for Italy's south and Ireland's farming regions.

9-12 December 1974: Chancellor Healey holds talks with Saudi royal family in Riyadh King Faisal, and most of the Council of Ministers, Prince Fahd, Prince Musa'id, Minister of Finance, including Minister for Finance and National Economy, the Governor of the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency.

Saudi Arabia is to increase its investment for recycling petrodollars and will increase investment in Britain. Agreement is also reached for "increasing cooperation" to be discussed in Feb 1975 with officials and "Lord Ashby" [chief of Clare College, Cambridge 1958-75] will "visit Saudi Arabia in a few weeks' time to discuss with the Saudi authorities the development of university education in Saudi Arabia—something on which they wish to have the closest cooperation with the United Kingdom." Lord Ashby, former Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University, member of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution is considered a safe pair of hands.

- 10 December 1974: NSC Study Memorandum considers, in a long-term sense Brazil, Pakistan, India, Ethiopia, Colombia, Bangladesh, Egypt, Nigeria, Mexico, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Turkey as targets as 'strategic targets' for Western support for population control. Kissinger states, summing up "how much more efficient expenditures for population control might be than raising production through direct investments" (Implications of Worldwide Population Growth for U.S. Security and Overseas Interests.' National Security Study Memorandum 200. Dec 10, 1974)
- 10 December 1974: Defence Under-secretary Bill Rodgers announces that nuclear cutbacks will not form part of Labour's Defence Review: "The cost of purchasing the Lance nuclear weapon system is about £55million, spread over six years. Several of our NATO allies also require such a weapon, and the American system is being brought under a common procurement programme. The requirement is not affected by the defence review, as it is an essential part of our contribution to NATO."
- 10 December 1974: Representatives of IRA and Sinn Fein hold secret talks with a group of 8 Protestant clergymen from northern

Ireland, including Dr Arthur Butler, Dr Jack Weir, Revd Ralph Baxter and Revd William Arlow, at Smyth's Village Hotel in Feakle, County Clare, Ireland. The clergymen are intermediaries for a policy document cleared with the British government. Irish Gardai Special Branch launch a raid to try and arrest the republicans but fail after village-dwellers notice unusual Police manoeuvres alerting the meeting participants.

11 December 1974: "At 3 we had a huge staff meeting of 800 people in Church House with Sir Antony Part, Peter Carey and all the Ministers on the platform... interesting exercise, if a little artificial, because you knew that you were their boss and their relationship with you was constrained by that... they were overwhelmingly a Tory audience, I should think... Part thanked us and I said 'I beg to move that Sir Antony Part be re-elected Permanent Secretary to the Department of Industry' just to give it a democratic flavour" (Tony Benn's Diary)

11 December 1974: Future NAFF member, Monday Club and Airey Neave supporter Jill Kinght makes the case for executing the 'Birmingham Six' and the 'Guildford Four': "These are not ordinary killers and they cannot be dealt with in the ordinary way. A prison sentence will not deter these men. To them appearement reads surrender. To them only fools and the vanguished use kid gloves. Their aim is to defeat Britain, and unless we stiffen our resolve they will succeed.... Does the threat of death deter?... the IRA thinks that it is a deterrent. It uses it constantly on its members to ensure that those members do not step out of line... How much does the threat of imprisonment deter? ... If it is imprisonment, does imprisonment deter? The IRA killers may be sentenced to 20 or 30 years in prison, but they are well aware that as political prisoners they will probably be released under an amnesty long before that time is up... I do not believe that the threat of imprisonment deters these people in the slightest. To be a guest of Her Majesty is not altogether unpleasant these days. ... The phenomenon of hostages being taken in batches and shot until prisoners are released is becoming quite common. It happens in the Middle East and elsewhere and I have no doubt that it will spread to this country if more and more murderers are given prison sentences.... some men broke away from the Sinn Fein and formed the Provisional IRA. They killed wholesale, partly to settle old scores, partly for other reasons. Murder became commonplace. This is all in the history books. The Dublin Government of the day was loath to hang the convicted killers and the situation became desperate. Many murderers were imprisoned but the killings showed no sign of abating. Finally, the Government steeled their will and ordered the death penalty to be carried out. In one morning 77 executions took place in Dublin Castle... What happened was that the rebellion collapsed overnight and the murders stopped.... what happened in Coventry in the thirties when a bomb went off and two or three people were killed. The bomber was caught and hanged. There were no more bombs.... On the question of court procedure, I believe that as a country at war we cannot countenance the longdrawn out process of intervals between arrest and trial, between trial and appeal, between appeal and decision, and between decision and execution. The course of justice, like the mills of God, grinds slowly in an ordinary situation and against ordinary killers. But the people we are discussing are not ordinary killers. Neither their acts nor our circumstances are ordinary. It is therefore essential that we should take extraordinary measures against them. I do not think that the method of execution should be hanging. I do not advocate the use of the gallows. There are many other ways of executing people. But these are not the major points for us to discuss now. When people talk as if we are discussing simply hanging, they are wrong. We are talking about the execution of enemies by a country at war. ... We must not provoke the people by failing them, by ignoring them or by treating their killers with tolerance and softness, not least for for the sake of the innocent Irish people who are already well aware, from experience in Birmingham, that they will be the first to suffer if there is a backlash. I am not being alarmist. There was a backlash after the Birmingham massacre and it was held in check because people realised that new measures were being taken by the Home Secretary to protect them. Now they are not so sure. They want to know why the Birmingham bombers were not charged with treason, for which the punishment is death. It seems probable that they were guilty of treason... they have been apprehended, and it seems very likely; that is all I say. It is astonishing that [Labour Left] have so little faith in the police that they believe that they have got the wrong men. Was the charge of treason not made because the Home Secretary knew that the prescribed punishment would be death? If so, he was re-writing the laws of England to suit his own views.... The onus is on those who take the opposite view to prove to the people that some other step to protect them is to be taken. If so, what is that step? The status quo, as with patriotism, is not enough."

- 11 December 1974: Saudi Arabia announces sterling is no longer legitimate currency in the purchase of its oil. Sterling is at \$2.31.
- 12 December 1974: Cabinet agrees that until its special meeting in Jan 1975, no Cabinet member is to be involved in private endeavours over the issue of the EEC Referendum.

- 12 December 1974: Johannesburg's <u>Star</u> weekly edition reports "NATO Defence Ministers are maintaining an agreed cloak of secrecy but it has been made clear privately that the defence of the Cape sea-route is well-covered in a contingency plan, and that South Africa would receive naval assistance if the oil route was threatened."
- 12 December 1974: The Guardian's Martin Woollacott discusses Hong Kong's "major overseas garrison": "Britain keeps in Hong Kong some 10,000 men out of an army about 170.000. The Infantry commitment is even more striking. Britain now has 55 Infantry battalions, and of these 5 are in Hong Kong, or one out of every eleven British Infantrymen. In addition, there is a gunner regiment, a squadron of light tanks, troop carrying helicopters and a light naval force. The total cost of keeping these units here runs at about £28 million annually, of which the Hong Kong Government pays £8 million. The arguments for the retention of something like the present garrison are rarely rehearsed here since they touch on politically delicate subjects like the possibility of serious riots in the colony." "Nor are the arguments against, because they would be seen as taking away from the image of Britain's determination to continue to control Hong Kong under most circumstances. In fact the topic is considered so delicate that the Hong Kong Government banned a planned television programme on the pros and cons of keeping the present garrison. At the top of the list... serious social trouble. as bad as, or worse, than 1967 ... the fantastically densely populated areas of this overcrowded city is the perfect environment in which rioting could begin from possibly guite small causes and grow, if not contained, to crisis proportions. ... in 1967, the garrison here was so stretched that it asked for - and got - an additional infantry battalion from Singapore. A joint political-military set-up already operates in Hong Kong. Control rooms staffed by police and army officers stand ready to take over, the army would... discharge patrol and cordon duties in order to allow the police to concentrate on riot control proper."

"confrontation" is "wanted neither by Hong Kong or the People's Republic... The continued presence of the artillery and the tanks is defended primarily on the ground of the value of all-arms training for the troops. It all comes back in the end to the idea of demonstrating "commitment" to a deterrent role deliberately left vague in order to make it more effective."

- 13 December 1974: In a Commons answer it is revealed Hong Kong contributes about £12mil of the total £45mil cost of the Hong Kong garrison.
- 13 December 1974: Queen's role in Malta is finally ended. No noticeable loss of values such as 'fair play', 'useful duty', 'honesty', 'courtesy' or 'politeness' are recorded in subsequent years.

- 13 December 1974: NGA strike action prevents publication of many evening editions of national newspapers.
- 13 December 1974: A firefighter is killed, 3 are injured at a major fire at the Worsley Hotel. The 4 have to be buried out of the rubble of the collapse. All staff and guests are rescued.
- 13 December 1974: Hong Kong banks announce the sixth interest rate cute within 2 months in an attempt to halt the declining caue of the US\$.
- 13 December 1974: Britain is one of only 5 major Western allies voting in the UN General Assembly,120-10-5, against a Charter of economic rights and duties of states. The Charter proposed by Mexico aims to settle nationalisation property disputes under domestic jurisdiction rather than international law. It also allows the rights of countries to form cartels along the lines of OPEC. US UN Assembly delegate Joseph Segel states: "We don't mind being outvoted, but whether we are with the majority or the minority, we see no sense in fictitious solutions to serious international problems that remain to be solved." It confirms Britain's consistent opposition to realising any aspect of economic and social rights supposedly secured under the UN Declaration of Human Rights.
- 13 December 1974: Chancellor Healey returning from talks in Jeddah states that Saudi Arabia will invest more of its oil revenue in Britain. Sterling rallies on the news somewhat.
- 14 December 1974: Singapore's The Straits Times "Singapore" projected as 're-export base' to Britain" reports on Singapore's development strategy as an appendage of the Western economic core: "Singapore trade officials [in London] are trying to reorientate the traditional investment ideas of British industrialists and manufacturers. British investments in Singapore have dropped, they say, by about 5% and Britain, although still ranking second as investor is fast losing ground to Japanese and American rivals... They claim that this is due not to Britain's economic difficulties but rather to "outdated" knowledge about Singapore. So efforts are being directed towards replacing the "Somerset Maugham image" of Singapore with that of a bustling, thriving city which is also a Far East banking centre "British manufacturers traditionally cater for local markets of the countries they invest in. They manufacture things in India for the Indians and in Malaysia for the Malaysians," said an official. "But Singapore has only a small local market, so we're trying to impress upon them the advantages of using it as a re-export base for the region. Japanese and Americans, for instance, have found that in some cases it's cheaper to manufacture a particular high-technology item in Singapore for re-export Into their own countries. Besides wooing new British investors, we are also trying to show them this situation, which can help the British in these times of economic crisis."

Even after considering inflation, Singapore has a cheaper labour force that does not go on strike as often as British workers do. Singapore's Economic Development Board is intensifying efforts to woo British investors to the Republic—at a time when Malaysia is setting up its counterpart in London. Singapore officials, however, deny that Malaysia is looked upon as a 'rival' investment area In the Far East. One said: "Our incentives to foreign investors are more favourable. A Singapore company doesn't have to be 50% local and we do not stipulate that 50% of the management of a foreign firm should be local. We only encourage the training of our local chaps by foreign firms so that Singapore can be competent enough to assist in making their investments viable... there are equally attractive tax provisions and schemes for joint ventures."

- 15 December 1974: A private old people's home in Fairfield, Edwalton, near Nottingham sees a fire kill 18 residents.
- 16 December 1974: Denmark issues its protest note against Britain's claiming of Rockall as British territory.
- 16 December 1974: Defence Secretary concedes that the Defence Review can not be described as cuts to defence, even though they are explained as such by the press (who are typically enthusiastic supporters of defence): "there is bound to be a small increase in the real expenditure on defence" The Defence Review only marginally reduces the rate of increase: "in 1975–76 the increase in defence expenditure was to rise to £4,000 million... [instead it is] £3,700 million". Expenditure is defended on 'Bloc' grounds: "If we were to reduce our contributions too far, and this example were followed by other countries, there would be a serious risk that the credibility of NATO strategy would be destroyed. We would risk undermining the cohesion of the alliance as a whole.
- 16 December 1974: On South East Asia, Defence Secretary states: "Gurkhas are stationed in Brunei at no cost to us. We have made the proposal that we would like to withdraw them from Brunei and concentrate Gurkha forces in Hong Kong" but "the proposal is still subject to the consultative process with the Sultan of Brunei."
- 16 December 1974: Kissinger: "I have the impression from Callaghan that they will conduct the renegotiations in order to stay in, not to get out... Unless the Government backs it, a referendum will fail. The British people are against the Market." (Memorandum of Conversation December 16, 1974 Ford, Kissinger, French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing, Foreign Minister Jean Sauvaganargues)
- 17 December 1974: <u>The Times</u> records Foot rejecting a TUC proposal to give the Department of Employment power to veto redundancies or subsidise companies to save jobs. Foot declaring

the measures "unprecedented" ie dangerously infringing upon the workings of accumulated power.

- 17 December 1974: UN Assembly General, in the face of opposition from Britain, USA, France and Soviet Union, votes to authorise a commission to investigate reform of the UN Charter, its constitution. 17 December 1974: A 24-hour strike by signalmen in Hampshire and Dorset, Southern Region stops services in the area.
- 17 December 1974: Work-to-rule by hospital consultants in Blackburn against phasing out pay beds and a new NHS contract spreads to other northern cities' hospitals.
- 17 December 1974: British authorities allow a provocation by Turkish militarists inside sovereign base at Episkopi refugee camp. An organised TMT group stones the procession of President Makarios attempting to visit refugee camps in the SBA. The authorities then block Makarios from entering the SBA on account of the likelihood of violence, all the while failing to arrest the stoners. 17 December 1974: "ASTMS... Christmas drinks with Clive Jenkins and John Garnett, the Director of the Industrial Society, who incidentally is the brother of Peggy Jay, Douglas Jay's former wife. Jack Jones gets on with [Garnett] all right and the Duke of Edinburgh is on the fringe of this sort of stuff" (Tony Benn's Diary) 17 December 1974: "Douglas Jay's wife, Mary, about the Common Market arrangements. She said the 'Get Britain Out' campaign consisted of George Wigg, Powell and Christopher Frere-Smith. Douglas had formed a National Referendum Campaign and agreed tonight at a meeting that Neil Marten would be the Chairman. There is also the Common Market Safeguards Campaign, Businessmen for World Markets, the Anti-Common Market League and the National Council of Anti-Common Market Organisations." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 18 December 1974: Tony Benn before Court Line Committee of Inquiry at "the accountants Touche and Ross in the City... three Court Line inspectors... pressed hard... on the acquisition of Court Line Shipbuilders, on nationalisation, and was asked about the points Heseltine had made... it was just another Tory Court, it wasn't a fair Court at all. They kept talking about the threat of nationalisation, wasn't it odd that I had nationalised the profitable shipyards instead of the unprofitable ones." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 19 December 1974: Cabinet "long striggle about top salaries... Harold Lever commented 'I pay my cooks more than some of these senior civil servants'" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 19 December 1974: "Lunch with Donald Stokes and the Board of Leyland all of whom seemed very relaxed abou the collapse... I

talked a bit about the need to involve the trade unions and they described how difficult it was... 'frankly if there were no industrial disputes, you would be making hundreds of millions of pounds a year and wouldn't have any financial troubles at all.' They couldn't disent from that. So the bigger the element of strikes in a company's financial position, the more incentive they have to let the trade unions help them out of their difficulties." (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 19 December 1974: EEC Finance Ministers accept the British plan to recycle petrodollars by using the IMF to borrow from Arab states and then re-lend to the Third World.
- 20 December 1974: Britain announces its intention to withdraw its ambassador from North Vietnam. Relations with South Vietnam continue.
- 20 December 1974: Alfred Merritt, former chief civil servant at the Ministry of Health in Leeds, enters a guilty plea to charges of corruptly accepting gifts to the tune of £4,000 from architecture firm Poulson's. He later receives only a £2,000 fine on account of his cooperation.
- 20 December 1974: Tony Benn announces £3.9mil assistance to the "workers' cooperative" Kirkby Manufacturing and Engineering, Liverpool.
- 20 December 1974: Signalmen in the South-East Region hold a 24-hour strike blocking rail services in parts of Kent, suburban London and Essex.
- 20 December 1974: Zambian golfer Therese Taylor is banned in Lusaka from all sporting activities and organisation for the year 1975 for defying the boycott of pro-apartheid British sports organisations, by playing in the women's Wentworth international match tournament.
- 20 December 1974: Labour Left MPs speak against assistance by foreign governments to support their exports in textile machinery. [At the same time Labour Left MPs vigorously argue for government assistance to support British exports]
- "unfair competition ... manufacturers in Leicester believe, rightly, they face from foreign competitors.... Italy gives a direct subsidy to its principal manufacturer, Egam.... French, German and Spanish banks, with connivance, either open or closed, of their Governments, are aiding the knitting machinery producers. The Czechs are able to sell a machine in this country at £1,000 less than the cost of the equivalent British machine.... the Government of Czechoslovakia are providing a subsidy, either direct or indirect, to the Czechoslovak knitting industry."

"On the hosiery side, which must eventually come to bear on the machinery side, there is a flood of cheap imported knitted goods coming into this country from the Far East and Eastern Europe. This means that there is considerable under-capacity among the hosiery manufacturers in this country, with a consequent marked decline in the demand for textile knitting machines". The problem is "technological loss which in the long term may be more significant than the short-term job loss"

- 20 December 1974: Eric Heffer, Ministry of Industry Labour Left, explains the continuing delay in the setting up of Meriden cooperative: "anyone who wants to understand the complications should read the document issued by the company, which is interesting reading. We have not had time properly to study it and weigh it up, but there is no question that the matter has been complicated." NVT Triumph management, in collusion with government delay and sabotage any potentially dangerous developments such as the workers' seizing the motorcycles to distribute on the basis of need.
- 20 December 1974: Delegates to the International Gay Rights Congress in Edinburgh demonstrate outside BBC studios, Queen Street calling for an end to homophobic treatment of homosexuals and maintaining taboos.
- 20 December 1974: "Australia House for Christmas drinks [with] Gough Whitlam" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 21 December 1974: Stuart Hunt, member of the National Union of School Students, describes his treatment by the LEA in Hounslow, Middlesex. As a result of not hiding his homosexuality he has been suspended by the headteacher for a total of 10 months and been told by the local education authority that he had not been expelled, but been on long-term sick leave.
- 21 December 1974: A bomb is defused in Harrod's, London. Another is defused in the King's Arms pub in Warminster, Wiltshire, popular with nearby base soldiers.
- 22 December 1974: At the International Gay Rights Congress in Edinburgh, delegates endorses an open letter to all church leaders worldwide against anti-homosexual discrimination and oppression. It is drafted by active Christians: "There is no denying that the homosexual woman and man feels alienated from other Christians. ... we urge all churches to investigate their attitudes and pastoral practice."

It also narrowly accepts a motion in favour of work in labour and popular movements in order to "change the existing attitudes often found in these movements." The first International Gay Rights Congress, held in Edinburgh University's Teviot House has gathered more 400 delegates from across the world.

- 22 December 1974: IRA announces a temporary truce which will last until 2 Jan 1975; and also that it will be extended indefinitely if Rees agrees to end internment and announce the British government will in future withdraw military forces from Ireland.
- 22 December 1974: World's largest industrial gases firm (after several takeovers) British Oxygen, announces record profits for 1974. Profits increased by £6.25 million over the previous year to give an annual profit figure for 1974 of £34.6mil.
- 22 December 1974: Over 800 trawler maintenance workers based in Hull accept a much-improved 20% pay offer after an 8-week long strike.
- 22 December 1974: ICI announces profits of £454mil, another large increase.

24 December 1974: Burmah Oil asks Government for financial help. 25 December 1974: Queen describes parliamentary monarchy as "a product of British genius" appearing to allude to the 1974 Miners' Strike and presumably the Birmingham and Guildford bombings: "in the last year... there have been outbreaks of senseless violence. And on top of it all the cost of living continues to rise – everywhere. Here in Britain, from where so many people of the Commonwealth came, we hear a great deal about our troubles, about discord and dissension and about the uncertainty of our future. Perhaps we make too much of what is wrong and too little of what is right. The trouble with gloom is that it feeds upon itself and depression causes more depression. There are indeed real dangers and there are real fears and we will never overcome them if we turn against each other with angry accusations. We may hold different points of view but it is in times of stress and difficulty that we most need to remember that we have much more in common than there is dividing us. We have the lessons of history to show that the British people have survived many a desperate situation when they acted together... over the centuries we have devised a way of sharing this responsibility, a uniquely effective system for bringing progress out of conflict. We have developed Parliamentary Government by which the rights and freedom of the people are maintained. It allows change to take place temperately and without violence. And when time demands, it can reflect and give a voice to the determination and resolve of the Nation. This system, this product of British has been successfully exported to the Commonwealth. This year I have opened Parliament four times: in New Zealand, in Australia, and twice the Mother of Parliaments in Westminster... the system itself flourishes thousands of miles away and this alone should give us confidence."

The overall conclusion is for Britain to make use of its resources as a nation without internal dissension: "In times of doubt and anxiety

the attitudes people show in their daily lives, in their homes, and in their work, are of supreme importance. It is by acting in this spirit that every man, woman and child can help and 'make a difference'. In Britain I am sure it could make all the difference. We are an inventive and tenacious people and the comradeship of adversity brings out the best in us. And we have great resources, not just those of character but in our industry and trade, in our farms and in the seas around our shores."

- 26 December 1974: 15 guerrillas attempt to kidnap 2 executives of British finance firm, Lever brothers, in Buenos Aires Argentina. Police bodyguards repel the attempt and a gunfight breaks out.
- 26 December 1974: World Bank publishes <u>World Bank Policies and Operations</u> for the first time. It provides its explanation of the basic purposes and policies of the World Bank (IBRD), IDA and IFC. It states the bank acts "as a safe bridge over which capital can move" (World Bank Group, 1974) ie enter into markets and operations in the Third World that require infrastructure and energy supplies that would not otherwise be met. The other side of the river bank might have plentiful inexpensive labour to exploit but without a bridge over a choppy river, it would remain inaccessible.
- 30 December 1974: Aston Martin Lagonda's bankruptcy is announced and the deletion of nearly 500 jobs.
- 31 December 1974: Having worked out arrangements that might eventually allow the protection of shareholders once again, the Bank of England formally announces it will rescue Burmah Oil and take over its stock in BP. This holding exercises saves Burmah, allowing it eventually to thrive once again in foreign sectors.
- 1974 Round-up: Inland Revenue announces office figures of irrecoverable taxation covering blatant tax fraud, non-payment after insolvency, and taxpayers who have left the country. This lost tax receipt figure has risen by 17% compared to 1973 at £23.9mil. 1974 Round-up: According to government statistics at least 61,000 British professionals emigrate to other countries over the course of the year.

January 1975: Several British officers are killed in the fighting in Oman. Their deaths are not disclosed to the media.

January 1975: Motor car industry announces new cutbacks in the New Year as sales drop. Chrysler announces severe short-time working conditions for its entire workforce. Jensen and Aston Martin impose redundancies. Lucas, Pilkington, Wilmott Breedon, Goodyear and Dunlop all announce cutbacks.

January 1975: USA places a request for UASF access to RAF's Masirah base for occasional use in staging, refuelling, repairs and storage. Britain accepts the request.

January 1975: Metropolitan Police releases the first set of figures for 'mugging'. They figures divide arrested 'muggers' in London on the basis only of their racial characteristics (and certainly not their social or economic reality). Commander Randall, chief of P Division in Lewisham, states: "Various people have advanced reasons as having helped create the problem of mugging. But these are lazy little criminals". He later is responsible for Operation 39 PNH. The figures importantly are based on arrests not convictions. The overwhelming majority of arrests are after the event, based on police preconceptions of likely muggers criminals or else a mugging arrest occurs alongside a 'loitering with intent' arrest.

January 1975: Massey-Ferguson announces plans to expand in Federal Germany. It is reported that two-thirds of the British motor industry, by financial volume, is in the hands of US-based multinationals, and there is talk of a Chrysler-British Leyland link or a Toyota-British Leyland deal.

January 1975: Government raises supplementary estimates for defence spending in 1974-75 to £4,070mil. Defence expenditure was £3,354 million in 1973-74 and budgeted by the Conservatives at £3,654 million for 1974-75. Government estimates are for £4,295mil for 1975-76 and £4,567 million for 1976-77 - a steady increase.

January- March 1975: Over these 3 months 10,870 private tenants have their regulated 'fair' rents, re-registered at higher figures. The average increase is 32% and the average re-registered higher rent was £299 a year or about £6 per week.

January 1975: 2 Windscale process workers die within 24 hours of each other, of rare neoplasms. Questions are asked as to whether radiation exposure has contributed to their deaths. BNFL arrange the first press visit to Windscale since 1962. \*\*

- 1 January 1975: 4 civilians, including 2 children, are killed when IDF forces bomb targets in the Lebanese village of Tayibeh.
- 1 January 1975: Protests break out in support of living allowances for Cairo workers, brutally suppressed and over 400 alleged 'communists' are arrested in their wake. Textile workers launch major strikes in Mar 1975.
- 1 January 1975: Increases in the cost of living and the slow rate of economic reform provoke riots in Cairo.

- 1 January 1975: Following 4 days of negotiations between Guyanese, US and firm officials, Guyana announces the nationalisation of Reynolds Metals Co.'s bauxite subsidiary, agreeing to pay \$14.5 million as compensation for the privilege.
- 1 January 1975: 'Get Britain Out' campaign is launched.
- 2 January 1975: Historian Arthur Bryant urges in <u>The Times</u> for "resolution, hard work, self-discipline and national unity"
- 2 January 1975: Woodside-Burmah, effective subsidiary of Burmah UK announces its exploration programme on the Australian North West Shelf will continue normally despite the financial difficulties of the parent firm. Woodside-Burmah's Shelf partners are Shell, BP and Calilornia Asiatic. Burmah has extensive Australian interests, held either directly through Burmah Australia or through its ownership of Woodside-Burmah. It owns as a majority shareholder or wholly Reef Oil NL, Mid-Eastern Oil NL, BOC of Australia Ltd. and Woodside Oil NL, Vamgas NL. Burmah Oil Australia totally owns Castrol Australia and a various smaller marketing and research companies, and holds a direct 34% stake of Santos Ltd. None of this is touched in the apparent 'nationalisation'.
- 2 January 1975: Reuters reports top PRC leaders privately lecturing a group of 12 American Congresswomen, led by led by Republican Margaret Heckler, on the dangers of Soviet-US détente. Deng Xiaoping apparently speaks of "the failure of détente and the naivete with which the United States has pursued it as an end in itself."
- 3 January 1975: <u>New York Times</u> reports on the New Year Gala in Marbella, Costa del sol: "Here "los importantes" means the people who can keep Marbella, which is Spain's international Palm Beach, on the jet-set map. Engraved plaques were presented to .. the Mayor, some Spanish publicists and TV personalities, and Prince Alfonso von Hohenlohe, promoter-extraordinary...
- "In Italy and so on. you worry about kidnapping, in London, the restaurants are sandbagged for fear of bombs. It's completely safe here. That really counts for something with people now.... People have been worried about the future here ever since Franco got sick last year" [von Hohenlohe] said. "But just wait a little. By Jan. 15 they'll see there's no revolution and nothing has changed. Then they'll all come back and the investments will flow again."

Count Rudi von Schonburg, a conscientious man of 40 years who manages the Mar-bell a Club for Prince Hohenlohe. noticed everything. "Things won't change." he said. "It's the bosses who will make the revolution for their people, and everybody will stay in

their places. Here you'll have socialism, democracy, maybe even Communism, whatever, but the same people will stay on the job." A professional, he attended a full course at hotel-management school in Lausanne and has spent 19 years bringing the once remote western Mediterranean village of Marbella to cosmopolitan bloom.... "What do you think?" he asked Prince Burckhardt of Prussia, who smiled absently. The Prince of Prussia, who makes his headquarters in London and is in insurance, was vacationing and unconcerned. The Spaniards, Britons, Americans, Swiss. Belgians. Swedes and others who make up the regular Marbella community far outnumbered the visitors of the gala. For all their exchanges of light -hearted social amenities, their repeated mutual assurances betrayed an undercurrent of concern.

"Of course." said an elderly Briton, "the Russians hated Franco because he defeated them in the war here. They've always tried to cause trouble in Spain. But this is a wonderful country, so peaceful and pleasant. I love Spain, such nice people. I do hope nothing happens to our beloved Spain." In a way things have already changed for many of the international crowd, particularly pensioners and above all the British, who have to put up with the sickly pound as well as robust inflation [in Spain] ... Tourism is the area's only industry. Ripe oranges burden the trees the way figs do in summer: they are being left to rot, for it costs too much to pick and ship thorn. Tourist fever, building fever and supermarket fever have turned most local minds away from agriculture."

3 January 1975: Tony Benn announces the government will "provide support in the form of a guarantee of the company's overdraft facilities. The company's bankers had refused to extend overdraft facilities further" for Foden's, commercial vehicle manufacturers which operate a large plant in Sandbach, Cheshire.

3 January 1975: Wilson makes a tough speech at his Huyton CLP against strikes in industry which have been "saved by the government". He says success in "public intervention in the fight against the threat of unemployment" depends on workers cooperating. "With public capital and an appropriate degree of public control involved, the Government could not justify to Parliament or to the taxpayer the subsidising of large failures, involving thousands of jobs which could pay their way, that are failing to do so because of manifestly avoidable stoppages of production" He particularly attacks motor strikes, announcing one-

4 January 1975: ITN 10 o'clock news reports "The Austin-Morris plant in Cowley is now totally shut down. Twelve thousand men have been laid off because two hundred and fifty engine tuners

sidedly: "In the Austin-Morris sector of British Leyland more than

350,000 man days were lost through disputes in 1974"

want their jobs regarded. It's the kind of strike that has contributed significantly to the dire economic problems of British Leyland."

It does not mention at all the differential in capital investment of British Leyland vs its competitors. In reality in terms of capitalist 'economic' competition, Toyota workers in Japan have £11,780 of machinery in their plant per worker compared to £1,000 per worker in British Leyland mainland plant, inevitably export orders can be secured more easily by Japanese mainland plants.

- 4 January 1975: British Rail raises its fares by, on average, 121/2%.
- 4 January 1975: Foreign Minister Callaghan, meets South African Prime Minister Vorster in Port Elizabeth, in spite of condemnatory Labour Party resolutions. They discuss the possibility of South Africa helping to police a settlement in Rhodesia that will involve a modified settler regime and guerrilla demobilisation. The meeting has not been announced as part of his itinerary and has been kept secret to avoid mobilisation against it.
- 5 January 1975: <u>Sunday Times</u> reports Ministry of Defence has taken off the secrets list a lethal nerve gas VX, developed by Britain in the 1950s with its formula is now readily available in the Public Patents Office. A minuscule drop of the gas on the skin can kill, and it can be produced in a university laboratory. In the patent office the gas is not described as VX but as the source for an extremely potent insecticide poison.
- 5 January 1975: Police intercept a boat, in very poor condition, carrying Indian immigrants off the south coast. It becomes a constant reference point for the centre-right press.
- 5 January 1975: The request for government funds by Burmah Oil, Britain's second largest oil firm after Shell, is finally revealed to the press.
- 5-7 January 1975: 8 are killed, 30 injured in riots described as 'racial' at Anglo-American Corp's Vaal Reefs mine. In fact they are largely an attempt by Lesothan and South African working miners to defend wages and reduce speed-up and are directed against the supervisor class.
- 6 January 1975: An astonishing leak splash on the front page of <u>The Times</u> sees Benn attacked for ignoring the advice of senior official Peter Carey on KME.

6 January 1975: Roy Sanders, executive member of ETU, calls for a one-year strike truce at British Leyland by TGWU, AUEW and all unions

6 January 1975: NUT executive accepts the recommendations on pay brought by the Houghton Committee's report.

6 January 1975: At ATSMS Conference Gen Sec Labour Left Clive Jenkins calls for firms to open up their financial accounts at all times 'opening the books': "We cannot rely on Mr Anthony Benn doing his kiss of life work on all companies at once. Not that I am critical of Mr Benn. He is very dedicated and very devoted, but it is no good landing him with patients who are already comatose or moribund."

6 January 1975: Sultan Qaboos makes an official visit meeting Wilson.

6 January 1975: US effectively agrees to Republic of Korea purchasing British military submarines, because Congress has or might restrict arms deals .

"SoS staff: They want to buy British submarines.

Kissinger: Before four or five years are over, we'll be grateful for any strength Korea has, because you know goddamn well what's going to happen. You and I know they're going to go the way of Chile sooner or later. Sooner or later you put a Democratic Administration in here [USA] and they'll pull the Second Division out. I don't see that it's against our interest that Korea has some other source of arms. ...

SoS staff: Korea is going to get American wings. As a matter of fact, they buy American airplanes then buy British submarines. They obviously need American airplanes.

Kissinger: They also need the assurance of not being totally dependent on us. And I can only applaud anything that comes to this conclusion.

SoS staff: Well, you're producing a situation where they supply x-dollars; they support the bulk of their military needs themselves. And they proceed then to take their own resources and buy things which, all the while, we are, unfortunately, unable to supply within the terms of our limits — Congressional appropriation limits. We can't supply the things that are required.

Enders: Will the French and the British give them credit?

SoS staff: Of course. That's the whole idea.

Kissinger: Then why not?" (Secretary of State's Staff Meeting, Washington, Jan 6 1975)

6-24 January 1975: A significant rise on the stock market increasing share prices, and greater volumes of stock are traded. 'Unemployment up ... shares up' are the newspaper reports. Over these 3 weeks, average share prices have risen by close to 50%. The Economist (Feb 1 1975) states "Investors on the London stock market are 73 per cent richer than 24 days ago ... the sort of lurch

that makes the ordinary anti-capitalist regard the stock exchange as a casino." Simultaneously job losses are announced. The government does not dispossess any share-holders.

7 January 1975: Wilson announces the SAS are to be on duty in Armagh, six counties.

7 January 1975: Engine tuners return to their strike at British Leyland's plant in Cowley, Oxford, demanding grading to skilled status.

7 January 1975: Prince Charles states in an interview: "My marriage has to be for ever." (London Evening News)

7 January 1975: "Part came in. The first point was a letter to him yesterday from Robert Armstrong, saying that Harold wanted to know the details of Carey's objection to my proposal for KME... Roy Williams had warned me that Part appeared to be making difficulties; Part's approach towards me seems that of a Detective Chief Inspector trying to get me for murder... Part then raised the objection to an article by Michael Meacher on saving jobs, specifically to he phrase that the 'anarchy of capitalist markets had developed after 1970' which he said was a political phrase and inappropriate for use by a Government Minister.... I have serious difficulties with Part... I see him once a week or once a fortnight, and the rest of the time I don't know what he does" (Tony Benn's Diary) in fact he organises a parallel government with Permanent Secretary in the Treasury.

- 8 January 1975: NEDC meeting. CBI "tried to get us to do three things: have a statutory pay policy; control the unions; and get into Europe. That they say would produce investment." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 8 January 1975: Israeli Prime Minister Rabin announcers in <u>Le Figaro</u>, Israel is prepared to give back "most of Sinai" including the Abu Rodes oilfields, the strategic Mitla and Gidi passes, but not control over Sharm el-Sheik. Beirut newspaper <u>Al-Anwar</u> reports Sadat criticising the Soviet Union's insufficient arms sales to cover losses from 1973 is troubling had refused to replace Egypt's arms losses in the 1973 Middle East war.
- 8 January 1975: Thailand's Deputy Defence Minister Air Chief Marshal Bua Sirisap, launches a mass SEATO exercise in Thailand's north east, an area racked by peasant occupations of land and a mounting guerrilla insurgency. Military teams from Britain, Australia, New Zealand, USA, Thailand and Philippines take part to strengthen Thai state rural medicine workers.

- 8 January 1975: Tony Benn announces his intention to nationalise the aircraft construction sector taking over British Aircraft Corporation, Hawker-Siddeley Aviation and Hawker-Siddeley Dynamics.
- 8 January 1975: Wilson tells parliament that a referendum on Britain's membership of EEC will take place no later than the end of June. The decision is welcomed by the Labour Left, although Number 10 has the real power in setting the terms of the vote.
- 8 January 1975: Peter Preston, senior <u>Guardian</u> columnist, later editor, 'Waiting for It' describes fears about 'democracy's death' under governments with slender majorities/possible coalition governments and trade union assertion: "Every Party attended, when not preoccupied with plonk, did nothing but discuss It...It? Civilisation's collapse. Mankind's nemesis. Weimar all over again. Democracy's death. A special message from Harold Wilson. The holocaust, the pit, the cataclysm. What will It be like?"
- 8 January 1975: Junior hospital doctors call off a threatened work-to-rule over cuts to training allowances.
- 9 January 1975: BMA Doctors' Committee asks GPs to send them signed resignation letters from the NHS, later action depending on the government's behaviour over Pay Review Body recommendations. It is a strong threat because BMA's GP division has organised plans of private G.P. services in association with medical insurers. The vast majority of GPs own their own practices. 9 January 1975: Castle meets BMA representatives to conclude an agreement on payments to junior doctors and no withdrawal of NHS pay beds without legislation. It effectively ends the go-slow work-to-rule of 17,000.
- 9 January 1975: Commons Select Committee on the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration calls chief Home Office civil servant, Sir Arthur Peterson as a witness. Home Office represented by Sir Arthur Peterson, states no prisoner should be allowed a typewriter in his cell, and only under strict constant supervision should access be granted in a workshop.
- 9 January 1975: Conservatives begin their internal reorganisation counter-attack to exploit gaps in the system for backlash effect: "One of the most striking developments in recent years has been the growth of national and local organisations which aim to achieve a political objective but which prefer to operate outside the political parties. At national level comparatively new ones like Shelter or CPAG ... have taken the lead in developing techniques for bringing pressure to bear directly on ministers and their departments. And their methods are being increasingly copied by older organisations such as... Age Concern. Many of these organisations are proving very attractive to voluntary workers, especially to the young. They

often provide the excitement, responsibility and sense of involvement which it has been difficult for the political parties to generate. Moreover, ... they seem to offer a chance of obtaining tangible results more quickly. Similarly at local level there has been an enormous upsurge of community groups of all sorts and titles, particularly in the cities and housing estates. Many of these fight fierce battles with the local authority or central government depts. And since both are likely to be Labour controlled at the moment the importance of this for local Conservatives seems obvious." (CRD)

- 10 January 1975: A sample advert for the British Army as displayed in <u>The Times</u> "These days it's not very trendy to declare that you're a patriot... are you prepared to fight if necessary to prevent people taking control of this country by force or other unconstitutional means?" it warns Britain "can lose its freedom little by little without being overrun".
- 10 January 1975: A 25-year-old John Francis Green, escaped internee from Long Kesh prison 'on the run' is found shot dead in cottage near Castleblaney, Monaghan. Fred Holroyd, former member of British Intelligence, later in the 1980s, states he was serving in Co. Armagh around the time of the killing and was shown a photograph of Green lying dead in a pool of blood by Captain Robert Nairac in January 1975. Nairac also related details of the circumstances of the killing of John Green, by a loyalist death squad, funded and fed with British military intelligence.
- 10 January 1975 pm: A 28-year-old IRA operative Kevin Coen is shot dead by British soldiers (probably SAS) in unmarked cars near the Fermanagh-Cavan border.
- 10 January 1975: Norway announces a new exclusive fishing zone. Britain protests, Soviet Union accepts the new limiting zone.
- 11 January 1975: <u>The Times</u> publishes an extended article attacking government for trampling on the middle-class 'The Anger of the Middle Class'.
- 11 January 1975: The Times reports in characteristically anti-trade union fashion: "The words [eikoku byo British disease] can be heard in the halls of banking and industry, in factory managers' offices and along the corridors of Japan's powerful economic institutions... They strike fear into the hearts of the most hardened of Japan's astute businessmen." (Fear of British disease in Japan as business and industry face expected outbreak of strikes). It quotes approvingly Fumio Takagi, vice finance minister, who uses the prevalence of economic recession in Britain [ie the ongoing investment squeeze] to warn of the dangers of extending the Japanese welfare state to include state pensions, nurseries or wider healthcare: "We have to learn from Britain's downfall."

- 12 January 1975: <u>Sunday Telegraph</u> article by Peregrine Worsthorne entitled 'Leyland: Benn or Bust' stating that Tony Benn is the only figure to incorporate the unions into the Leyland structure.
- 12 January 1975: Healey meets Kissinger and Vice-President Rockefeller furthering Britain's traditional role as easer between Europe and USA over the issue of petrodollars. The following day financial experts of 10 leading IMF industrial nations, including the United States, Japan and the large EEC states discuss petrodollar proposals.
- 12 January 1975: Rubbish collection workers' strike in Strathclyde region begins. The following day those in Glasgow also being demoted in a pay regrading scheme undertaken by Glasgow Corporation also begin.
- 12 January 1975: AP reports on Iran's new role as western watchdog of the Middle East: "Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlevi ordered 760 British Chieftain battle tanks and 250 lighter Scorpion tanks, which is more than is allocated to the British Rhine Army. Britain's arms purveyors obligingly began deliveries by diverting 45 Chieftains from British units in Germany. ... A few days before Christmas [1974] Premier Amir Abbas Hoveyda unveiled a \$36 billion budget for the new Iran year beginning in March that allocated a staggering \$10 billion" on defence. AP quotes the Premier: "We have got to take care of the Persian Gulf ... we have to think about the stability of the Indian Ocean" since subversion and "danger exists everywhere." Centre-right histories later applaud Iran's role in Oman: "there can be no doubt that the weight [Iranian military forces] they lent to the wheel helped" (Ian Gardiner, In The Service Of The Sultan Pen & Sword. 2006, p155)
- By 1977 Iran has 800 Chieftains and the order is completed, by which time additional numbers have been ordered and by 1978 Iran has 875 British Chieftains. It is these tanks that are primarily used to drive over protesters in the mass demonstrations of 1978-9.
- 12-13 January 1975: Following constant IDF shelling, Israeli forces conduct offensive operations in Halta, Ktar Chouba and elsewhere inside the Lebanon border, injuring several, blowing up houses.
- 13 January 1975: <u>The Times</u> publishes a poll it has commissioned from the Opinion Research Centre that has interviewed 2083 employees in the private sector about their firms. They very fact that the firm (the central unit of capitalist organisation) is the focus, produces an in-built status quo bias. When asked of they favour state control or nationalisation over their firm, (not security of employment, a future for their children, or guaranteed pensions etc)

67% say they are opposed, 15% say they do not know, 18% say they are in favour. When asked if their firm would show a poorer bottom line in operating results if nationalised, 45% said the nationalised firm would be worse, 35% said they did not know, 20% said the results would be superior. The whole tenor of questions leads to considering the firm first, inevitably supporting an antinationalisation position. There are no questions about democratic control of firms or workplaces or activities at work, no questions about firm accounts, operating results or their real purposes. Nonetheless the entire publishing-firm press strongly trumpets the poll as proving 'two-thirds of workers want the government to stop introducing nationalisation plans', even though its sample is based on only private sectors. The mechanics of the poll itself, a priori, excludes public sector workers, migrant workers with poor English, temporary workers, contract workers and unemployed workers. Those polled state do not respond about nationalisation of other firms or other sectors, yet the press extrapolate their answers as meaning working-class opposition to nationalisation.

- 13 January 1975: Political Affairs Committee of European Parliament passes a strong and comprehensive resolution in favour of EEC Defence measures.
- 13 January 1975: 4 Indians are convicted at the Central Criminal Court of conspiracy to import cannabis resin and are each given five year prison sentences. A press campaign soon follows pointing to the corrupting, criminal influences of foreigners upon British youth. 13 January 1975: An ambulance service strike begins.
- 13 January 1975: 150 French soldiers march in the streets of Karlsruhe, Federal Germany, for better pay and conditions. News of the event is effectively censored in British Army radio broadcasts in Federal German units.
- 13 January 1975: Senior civil servants, as authorised by the government, issue the Australian High Commission a protest in "strong informal words" after British doctors receive unsolicited letters offering posts in Queensland state's privatised hospital system ranging from £5514 to £10.472 compared with £2200 to £4743 in Britain. There has been a significant increase in applications from doctors to BMA for its information on overseas jobs. By contrast Britain refuses to accept similar protests from the sub-continent over similar 'doctor-poaching' efforts in Delhi. Bombay and elsewhere.
- 13 January 1975: Benn has earlier been reprimanded for overspending under the Accounting Officer's rules. Antony Part "was livid at my point that all the Accounting Officer's Minutes were about workers' cooperatives. 'I cannot accept that any civil servant

is political' he said." (Tony Benn's Diary) "One of my Ministers told me.. quite definitely that three very senior officials in Whitehall were actually responsible for the leak of the Accounting Officer's Minute which led Number 10 to ask Part to give a report" (Tony Benn's Diary, 25 Feb 1975)

- 14 January 1975: A TUC-called lobby of parliament on a Tuesday turns out 10,000 outside House of Commons, on the day of the reassembly of Parliament, over the Shrewsbury UCATT picketers in prison. Labour Left MP congratulates its peacefulness "as is usual these occasions are impressive but peaceful: this has always characterised working class lobbies of parliament." (Labour Monthly) No follow up action is taken and Des Warren remains in prison at Christmas.
- 14 January 1975: Government announces it will determine the end of internment, progressively and not "precipitately" on its own terms: "The crucial point is that only the Government can decide, in the light of the situation as a whole, when to start bringing detention progressively to an end. I am prepared to say now that, if there is a genuine sustained end of violence, I shall progressively release detainees. I do not propose to act precipitately, and any early releases must, and will he, carefully judged in relation to whether the cessation of violence is genuine and sustained."
- 14 January 1975: Sensing continuing pressure from below, the appointed European Parliament votes to schedule a timetable anticipating elections to the Parliament to begin after 1978. A single uniform electoral law is not yet concluded.
- 14 January 1975: <u>The Times</u> reports Greater London Council is seriously considering imposing a congestion charge licensing system of up to  $\pounds 1$  a day for motorists who bring their cars into central London. All cars and lorries with a central 10 square miles are to be required to display the licenses.
- 14 January 1975: Australia's centre-right pro-British monarchist <u>The Age</u> publishes its Europe correspondent and future associate editor Peter Cole-Adams: "When times were bad in Britain, disgruntled Britons would turn up in their hundreds and thousands to inquire about assisted passages to a place in the southern sun. But when the English rain stopped, and the economy picked up, inquiries would fall away. Today all that has changed. And so has the pattern of life at Canberra House. Resources which used to be devoted to attracting and processing applications from would-be migrants are being diverted to implementing the Australian Government's new visa system. The number of applications from people wanting to

emigrate to Australia has declined dramatically in the past six months. Last January, in the bleakest days of Ted Heath's three-day week, inquiries were running at a massive 36,000 a month. [there were] just over 3700 in November... well down on previous years. In the same month of 1973, more than 11,000 potential escapers turned up at Canberra House and Australian immigration offices in other British cities. There are a number of reasons why the English have stopped looking at Australia as a potential bolt-hole in hard times. One of them Is the growing realisation that Australia, far from being a land of boundless prosperity, has economic troubles of its own, with an inflation rate rivalling Britain's and mounting unemployment.

Equally important has been the Australian Government's changed immigration policy. Canberra's message — that Australia no longer wants migrants except those who meet certain specific and limited criteria — has got through to the British public.

The message has been reinforced by various acts and statements by Australian Ministers which have been widely interpreted as being "anti-British" — in spite of Prime Minister Whitlam's protestations of undying affection during his London visit last month. Australia stopped all immigration advertising and promotion here last July. Today those familiar invitations to Britons to walk Down Under have been replaced by terse notices in the Press informing anyone who does not have an Australian passport that he now needs a visa to visit the Promised Land. As a result of all this, people who lack the necessary qualifications have come to realise that it is a waste of time pursuing their daydreams to Canberra House. The introduction of the visa system has brought rumbles and grumbles of discontent from intending visitors irritated at having to contend with bureaucratic red tape. In fairness, however, it needs to be said that Britons planning to visit Australia are being subjected to no more, and perhaps less, inconvenience than Australians coming to Britain have suffered for several years. Indeed, immigration officials here say they are going to a lot of trouble to be flexible. While temporary entry visas for short-term visitors normally take up to three days to process, they say they nave rushed them through in a few hours to enable travellers to meet urgent deadlines. Some care has obviously been taken to see to it that Britons have access to Australia on a basis of reciprocity. Thus there is provision for "working holidays" for young people from Britain on much the same basis as that enjoyed by tens of thousands of young Australians over here. In December, the month before the new system became operative, more than 4000 temporary entry visas were issued to British holiday makers and businessmen. There were also more than 800 "re-entry" visas issued to people with British or other foreign passports who were able to establish that they had "resident" status in Australia. Those with Australian parents or grandparents, the Australian equivalents of British 'patrials', are also treated as special cases.

All in all, given their own stringent entry rules, the British have no real cause for complaint. But other nations have, and have had for years I have been travelling round Western Europe freely for four and a half years, and I have never yet been required to apply for a visa. Indeed, the only immigration officials who have cast more than a cursory glance at my passport have been British. There must be a moral somewhere. Perhaps a passion for interfering with the free flow of international travel (which is not the same thing as protecting the jobs of one's own workers from foreign competitors) is a vice that Anglo-Saxon Governments — British, Antipodean and North American — share with totalitarian ones."

- 15 January 1975: Anglo-American Corp begins its deportation of 2400 Lesotho miners from the Vaal Reefs mining complex.
- 15 January 1975: US National Security Council '40 Committee' meets and agrees to restart weapon transfers to the FNLA. Weapons are loaded onto NATO aircraft from US bases in Federal Germany, land in Kinshasa, Zaire, where Mobutu, on agreement ensures their passage into the FNLA. It is this greater military hardware that allows Holden Roberto to take up the foolhardy aim of carving out territory further south than the FNLA's base zone. It leads to the total breakdown of the Nakuru Agreement, and panic in the MPLA that they are being surrounded by FLEC, UNITA, FNLA, Congo Brazzaville, Zaire and South Africa. In response the MPLA calls for assistance from the Eastern Bloc and Cuba.
- 15 January 1975: Britain's Roman Catholic Church condemns sex outside of marriage and states that homosexuality can not be condoned.
- 15 January 1975: Chrysler announces that its next vehicle will be produced at its Simca subsidiary in France and that its 21,000 workforce in Britain will remain on a 3-day week short-time.
- 15 January 1975: Tony Benn publicly announces the plans for 'nationalisation' of the aircraft industry. They involve a government buy-out of British Aircraft Corporation, Hawker Siddeley Aviation and Hawker Siddeley Dynamics. These 3 firms "account for 80% of employment and turnover in the airframe and guided weapons sector". The aim is to strengthen by nationalisation "the business of developing or manufacturing complete aircraft or guided weapons but not including helicopters" since the [nationalised] "Aircraft Corporation will be operating in a highly competitive international environment. It should be able to adapt both its policies and its organisation quickly in response to changing circumstances"

He states: "everyone in the industry and others know—I have made this clear in all the speeches that I have made to aircraft workers—that in the end an industry must survive on its market. There are at present problems concerning the world market although we believe that it will recover. The fuel crisis is especially affecting the aircraft market. I believe that the general effect will be to boost confidence in exactly the same way as it was possible for Rolls-Royce to go ahead with the 524 engine recently in circumstances that, in my judgement, would not have been possible if it had had to rely upon market financing."

Benn's aim is to produce a more competitive missile-and-aircraft firm that will continue to collaborate with leading Western partners, including the US, still conducting its Indochina war via its Saigon proxies: "Compensation provision will be fair....the industry has collaborative arrangements — I think nearly a thousand in all — not only with European manufacturers but with United States and other manufacturers. We intend international collaboration to continue and to be encouraged.... Rolls-Royce in public ownership has done very well and has enjoyed the confidence of the people who work in it" The success of the endeavour Benn states will rest upon "paragraph 11 of the consultative document [where] I should like to read the following sentence: Industrial democracy should... develop organically from the views and proposals put forward by the management, workers and trade unions concerned."

15 January 1975: Tony Benn attacks the centre-right opposition for failing to sufficiently defend Rolls Royce's links with Lockheed Martin "When the final compensation terms were announced it was clear that Rolls-Royce need never have gone into bankruptcy. The Right Hon. Gentleman [Ted Heath] inflicted very serious and unnecessary damage on the British aero-engine industry. He also endangered the reputation of Britain as a partner with Lockheed and others in the United States. ... After the Labour Government left office, the chairman of Rolls-Royce made it clear at the annual meeting that in his judgement there were no problems regarding the funding of the RB-211. That judgement was confirmed in October by the Minister responsible when he came forward with a further tranche. ...his Government chose bankruptcy so as to default on obligations confirmed by the Cabinet only some months earlier. That did great damage to the reputation of the British aircraft industry." Lockheed in 1970 were the largest US defence contractor and were assisting the US war effort Indo-China. They remain a key part of

15 January 1975: Alvor Agreement sees Portugal and the 3 Angolan independence movements agree on a date of 11 Nov 1975 for its handing over power to a joint government of unity. In under 2

the US Department of Defense's operations in 1975.

months in Mar 1975, FNLA breaks the accord reached by attacking MPLA HQ shooting dead over 50 in a direct provocation, assisted by CIA. With MPLA defensive measures increased, UNITA accuses MPLA of treachery and cements its alliance.

- 15 January 1975: EEC's 9 Agriculture Ministers break off negotiations with ministers of 45 Third World states seeking association status in acrimony over the issue of fixing sugar import quotas to be larger and at an agreed peg vis-a-vis inflation.
- 16 January 1975: Press launch an attack on aircraft nationalisation plans. <u>Daily Mail</u> headlining 'Benn hijacks the plane makers'
- 16 January 1975: 'Group of 10' IMF main powers' finance ministers and central bankers' meeting ends with agreement on redistributing, in a skewed but overall favourable fashion, funds to trusted OECD members of the IMF (rather than Third World members). Officially \$6.2bn petrodollars from Middle East OPEC states is released into the borrowing pool.
- 16 January 1975: Thailand's civilian government steps slowly towards formal democracy as the National Assembly votes 199-28-17 to amend the Constitution to authorise the Prime Minister to name Senate members, instead of the King.
- 16 January 1975: Cuba signs an economic agreement with France.
- 17 January 1975: Protests in Nicosia against the US and British Embassies see riot police open fire on students. All the windows of the British Embassy are broken. A Cypriot high school student is shot dead in protests against the British decision to move 10,000 refugees in the SBAs to Turkey, even though civil authority has been re-established in Nicosia and their homes are guaranteed in the republic of Cyprus. British soldiers open live fire on crowds outside Dhekelia, injuring several.
- 17 January 1975: An official ceremony is held in Yeovil RN facilities as the RAN formally accepts the Westland Sea Kings Mk50 prior to their being shipped to Australia.
- 18 January 1975: Protests continue in Cyprus against the British presence. 2 police cars belonging to the U.N. Green Line force are burnt. In Athens, the British Embassy is attacked, with 2 Embassy Rolls Royces destroyed.
- 19 January 1975: A BBC 2 Sunday evening news report. Industrial action in non-militarised occupations is always 'trouble': "Trouble in Glasgow with striking dustmen and ambulance controllers, short time in the car industry, no Sunday Mirror or Sunday People today and a fair amount of general trouble in Fleet Street and a continuing

rumbling over the matter of two builders' pickets jailed for conspiracy"

- 20 January 1975: BBC News Industrial Correspondent editorialises on BBC1's Nine o'clock news: "With wages now as the main boost in inflation, just getting inflation down to a reasonable level seems to imply tougher pay wage restraint." Glasgow University Media Group's analysis of January 1975's television news output records 17 occasions when views were broadcast that wage restraint was not the best way to solve the economic crisis and 287 occasions of views broadcast that wage restraint or lower wages is exactly what is needed to solve the economic crisis.
- 20 January 1975: <u>The Times</u> reports Turner & Newall and Cape Industries, two major British firms with asbestos mines in apartheid South Africa, when asked of their "efforts to bring operations throughout the world to British standards... neither would give a target date for the fulfilment of that policy." (20 Jan 1975 The Times). Official South African Government Department of Mines report in 1976 shows dust levels are in parts of mines over 4 times the safe level permitted in the Britain.
- 20-29 January 1975: HMS Ark Royal conducts exercises in the Atlantic Fleet Weapon Ranges.
- 21 January 1975: Secretary of the TUC Economic Committee had asked Alan Lord to come along and talk about planning agreements to research secretaries of all the unions... said to [Frances Morell] 'You can't [attend] you're too political , we don't want to be muddled up with politics' I argued this out... and he said "our need to remain above the party battle-" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 21 January 1975: PLO reaffirms its adherences to the 1949 Geneva Conventions. It applies to the Swiss authorities for recognition of this fact.
- 21 January 1975: Boesch, chief of the World Intellectual Property Organization, signs an agreement bringing in the organisation into the United Nations as the 14<sup>th</sup> special institution.
- 21 January 1975: Cabinet on EEC decides "an agreement among Ministers to differ would be acceptable from the moment of the Cabinet decision. We would need guidelines to ensure that we all behaved in a comradely way, and there should be no personal attacks. Barbara Castle thought that the freedom we were being invited to agree followed from the referendum. Of course, in the end, the renegotiated terms we got would not necessarily meet with the requirements of die manifesto. There would be a messy middle-of-the-road muddle." (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 22 January 1975: Government stresses "the island of Rockall generates its own Continental Shelf, and we are content to rely on that basis for the exploitation of oil and other purposes" and it will not negotiate limits.
- 22 January 1975: Appeal Court rejects an appeal by NGA against the High Court backing the Daily Express, Evening Standard, Evening News and The Times for firing NGA members on official strike action. The dismissals will stand.
- 22 January 1975: Francoist Spain and Chile sign a deep economic treaty.
- 22 January 1975: After a League Cup Norwich-Manchester United match at Old Trafford, some Manchester United fans attack in "frustration" parked cars and office windows in Manchester.
- 23 January 1975: EEC and Israel sign their mutual industrial tariff reduction agreement.
- January 1975 pm: Wilson, mostly confident of victory, announces in the Commons the EEC referendum: "It is the declared policy of the Government that, once the outcome of our renegotiation of the terms of membership is known, the British people should have the right to decide, through the ballot box, by means either of a General Election or of a referendum, whether Britain should continue in membership of the European Community or should withdraw. The Government have decided that this should be done by means of a referendum... After 15 years of discussion and negotiation, it is an issue which all of us in this House and in the country want to see settled; and uncertainty about the future of British membership is inhibiting the work of the Community... we intend to hold the referendum before the summer holidays, which means in practice not later than the end of June... The circumstances of this referendum are unique, and the issue to be decided is one on which strong views have long been held which cross party lines. [Cabinet members will] be free to support and speak in favour of a different conclusion in the referendum campaign... It is a very special situation which I do not think anybody will take as a precedent."

Benn describes it "a notable constitutional change. I am intensely proud to have been associated with it" (Tony Benn's Diary)

23 January 1975: Cabinet. "Barbara was furious that George Cunnigham had successfully moved an amendment in committee abolishing the 'earnings rule', and this would cost £170million, and she was angry that Lewis Carter Jones had done something about disabled housewives that would cost her Department another £3million" (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 23 January 1975: The driver's mate of a London-Glasgow inter-city train is killed in a collision near Watford. More than a dozen are injured.
- 23 January 1975: Defence Secretary Rodgers: "We want, therefore, to sell aircraft at a price and in circumstances which make good economic sense to both the parties to the sale... the new generation of diplomats is often more concerned with commercial sales than with the strict orders of diplomacy as we understand them... the telegrams which come in ... a substantial proportion of them deal not with the great issues of our time but with something that we want to sell abroad."

We "can feel confident that our diplomatic staff feel themselves at least as much salesmen in matters of this kind and are fully aware of the importance of the sale of the Jaguar as often as possible. We cannot give it away. But, short of that, we want to sell it to friendly countries wherever they may be. We believe that there will be substantial sales, and BAC has already concluded deals with two countries. It would not be consistent with the policy of successive Governments for me to give further details of these deals."

On "the success of the Jaguar. I join... in the tribute... to the skills of those who conceived, designed, developed and built this aircraft. In sales abroad BAC will receive all possible support [with] our enthusiasm for this aircraft" since there is "practical good will which we shall bring to bear on its very high export potential."

- 24 January 1975: <u>The Times</u> reports a trial over a stabbing with the suspect described as a 'coloured man', on 27 Jan 1975 when he is cleared and it is conclusively proved that the police have brought charges on the basis of generalised racialist suspicions, it is reported as "Bolton boy cleared of all charges.
- 24 January 1975: <u>The Guardian</u>'s reports Chancellor Henley's "chilling" assessment has influenced Foot "who no longer disguises from himself or others the extreme seriousness of the wages problem" in urging severe moderation upon TUC leaders and officials.
- 24 January 1975: Another very big day's rise in share prices, suggesting increasing profitability as a result of the voluntary agreements ensuring moderated pay claims. Share prices have risen over the past 3 weeks.
- 25 January 1975: <u>The Times</u> business section notes the stock market boom is because of a feeling "the government and the TUC will stand firm on wage inflation and uphold the social contract." 25 January 1975: British coaster Lovat sinks off the Penzance coast, killing 11 British crew workers, only 2 can be rescued.

25 January 1975: Rwandan Foreign Minister and French Overseas Cooperation (ie Third World) Minister meet in Paris alongside the appointed Franco-Rwandan commission to restructure and strengthen Rwanda's armed forces, amongst other things.

25 January 1975: "arrived in Coventry after midnight at the Meriden works. There they were around the brazier on the picket line and they were also working in the experimental shop on a new carburettor design. Went into the office and I told them candidly how things stood and the difficulties there would be. Then I went to the men around the brazier and said 'It must be awful being here night after night, but if this stopped, Meriden would be dead in twenty-four hours, so you must keep at it'" (Tony Benn's Diary)

26 January 1975: <u>Observer</u> sympathetically surveys business opinion over "the successful meeting of the EEC finance ministers in London" "CBI's friendly visit to Downing Street", falling interest rates, international agreement to recycle petrodollars. A stockbroker interviewed states: "There are only two things that make a market move ... fear and greed. Now that the government has finally made the U-turn from the brink of the precipice, we've all stopped being frightened and can get on with money making again."

26 January 1975: <u>Sunday Times</u> describes the 24 January 1975 stock exchange performance as "the biggest one-day rise ever". It welcomes the "change of emphasis within the government. The Prime Minister and Chancellor have spoken toughly about the social contract and inflation; orthodox economic thinking is making more of the running. And unemployment is rising sharply" and sees this as the cause of the boom.

26 January 1975: Reuters reports an Wilson interview with <u>Time</u>: "As a big trading nation, we have set ourselves very strongly against physical import controls. But we are not going to sit back and watch a remorseless increase in British unemployment... If the slump doesn't improve quickly, we obviously reserve our rights to protect our balance of payments by various means" including import controls.

He states of the £6 pay limit: "It will be a difficult winter, and the real test comes if any individual group were to press for more. This would have to be a test case. But the government are determined to stand absolutely firm."

26 January 1975: "I had a note in my box repeating the [case of Mrs. X] – it didn't give criteria. It mentioned another case of a man who was a member of a radical Catholic organisation and had been referred to once in the Morning Star as a member of the british Peace Committee, which is Communist controlled." (Tony Benn's Diary)

26 January 1975: Labour's Ladywood MP Brian Walden states that if he were obliged to follow policies as voted at Labour Party

conference, he would leave the party, since he considers trade union block votes illegitimate.

27 January 1975: Conservative proposal, as part of Employment Protection Bill, for government money to finance TUC postal ballots is defeated 276-241.

27 January 1975: Royal Commission on Wealth issues its interim report as Royal Commission on the Distribution of Income and Wealth: Report No.1 (Cmnd 6171) Wealth and Report No. 2 (Cmnd 6172) Income from Companies and its Distribution. TUC spokesperson accurately notes: "The Royal Commision say there has been a continuing trend towards the more equal distribution of wealth, but this consists mainly of a shift in wealth among the rich, not a shift from the rich to the poor."

27 January- 1975: International Conference on Physics Education in Edinburgh. It sees Professor Sir Hermann Bondi, chief scientific adviser to the Ministry of Defence tells 350 delegates that physics education is essential for defence requirements: "What we are in is a crisis in marketing. The product we are trying to sell in education in physics is not as popular as it used to be and not as popular as we in the subject think it ought to be... We have cloistered ourselves too much and got stuck in a rut."

27 January 1975: IRA resumes its violent campaign after its truces have been extended twice. No government offer over an immediate end to internment and no commitment to military withdrawal has been made.

27 January 1975: 3-week strike by 250 engine tuners at British Leyland's Cowley plant is referred to ACAS to determine whether the engine tuners should be regraded.

27 January 1975: The Dicey Trust is formed. Its leadership council is Rhodes Boyson MP, Antony Flew, Professor of Philosophy at the University of Reading, a chartered surveyor Francis Bennion, and current merchant banker future Conservative Cabinet Minister Gerald Howarth. The latter 3 are connected 'Freedom Under the Law' and seek to turn that operations into a tax-exempt charity with the Dicey Trust, applying for Charity status in early Mar 1975. Freedom Under the Law's triumphs include bringing private prosecutions in 1972 against organisers of the Stop the 70 anti-apartheid protests. Its new name and identity hide its associations. As a charity the Dicey Trust begins without unnecessary fanfare organising successful 'role models' and 'honourable lawyers' (invariably right-wing ones) to speak at private schools, grammar schools or comprehensives in middle-class areas to strengthen

backlash conceptions of British law and the unwritten constitution etc.

- 27 January 1975: Eadie Bros, Paisley, suppliers of equipment to textile sector, announce 40 redundancies out of a total of 250.
- 28 January 1975: Manchester Police Deputy Hartley states his intention to tightly monitor "several thousand IRA sympathisers in Greater Manchester. We have a stream of them coming here from Northern Ireland and this has increased since the bombing incidents got worse in Ulster. The IRA have obviously intensified their activities in this country and we have to-be on our guard. They are going to increase it with a view to intimidating the public."
- 28 January 1975: Ian Winterbottom, former Left-wing ILP member, former PPS in various roles, current Lords Labour Whip and spokesman on defence, describing the low-intensity war in Oman, explains: "We are assisting a friendly Power and it is in our vital interest that the oil-producing States should not be disrupted"
- 28 January 1975: Labour's Ladywood MP Brian Walden states of British Leyland, widespread redundancies and plant closures are essential since industry must make a profit, and must not be treated as a social service.
- 28 January 1975: Windhoek's <u>Advertiser</u> reports that Foreign Office has confirmed that Callaghan in talks with SWAPO representatives has agreed that Namibia can enter the Commonwealth so long as it ends guerrilla activity and accedes to the 5 Western Power plan.
- 29 January 1975: "I have been told that the Foreign Office will stop the Industry Bill if I don't give a pledge to the Commission that it will conform to Treaty obligations. I am bloody angry and this is the real crunch, revealing the Foreign Office at its weakest." His criticisms are explained in *national* terms "All these promises that are given... that British interests would be safeguarded, are absolutely false." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 29 January 1975: Government is defeated on the Social Security Bill. Government proposals to restore the £13-a-week earnings rule for pensioners are rejected by 280-265, 9 Labour MPs are persuaded by centre-right appeals that the measure cannot be 'afforded'.
- 29 January 1975: David Ennals, Under-Secretary at Foreign Office announces that leasing the B.I.O.T. to the US, which will mean the presence of F111 aircraft and nuclear rockets, is in keeping with the desire for de-escalation and peace in the Indian Ocean: "for Diego Garcia, I do not see anything that is in conflict with our wish to see an extension of peace in the Indian Ocean. I see no contradiction between that and the decision to grant to the United States."

- 29 January 1975: Rolls Royce announces that work on preparing 8 specialised Avon engines for Chilean Air Force Hunter fighter-planes has resumed and the AUEW ban on work with the Chilean engines has ended.
- 29 January 1975: Around 500 music fans, angry at the distribution of tickets for a concert by British group Led Zepellin attempt to storm their way into the arena in Greensboro, North Carolina. They are repelled and attack 3 of the group's rented limousines by throwing stones, bottles and pieces of scaffolding.
- 30 January 1975: Government announces that North Sea gas supplies in existing contracts and in agreements taken to contract stage by 30 Jun 1975 will be free from the North Sea levy. This immediately sets off a rush of deals from Standard Oil, BP and Shell to conclude basic contracts, gifting wealth to oil executives. Clark Fuller, managing director of Amoco (UK) Exploration, subsidiary of Standard Oil, says: "This decision will relieve us of one of our chief concerns about the future development of the North Sea gas fields."
- 30 January 1975: Representing the US centre-right William F Buckley in his US-wide column examines Britain: "Indeed it is here and there suggested, as by Anthony Lejeune, that "some people have begun actually to hope for a catastrophe, because they fear that the only alternative is a continuing steady erosion of the country's economic foundations and of individual liberty." The Labor Government is meanwhile swaggering about, sustained only by an unaccountable rise in the London stock market (50 per cent in three weeks). The stock market seems to be saying that there will always be an England; and no doubt there will. Last week a rich sheik from the United Arab Emirates plunked down £500,000 for a castle in Kent. Asked why he had bought it, he said simply, "because it's beautiful." Lots of England will continue to be beautiful even after economic and political chaos, so that it becomes literally true that there will always be an England, even as the Court of St. Petersburg could with full confidence in 1914 have warranted that there would always be a Russia... There is resistance. Sir Keith Joseph, the shadow Home Affairs spokesman, has made a daring suggestion or rather, as the British would view it threat. If the Parliament does not restrain itself, "it will nurture its own nemesis." Sir Keith thinks the English should consider moving toward the adoption of a Bill of Rights. That would be a startling innovation in Britain, where Parliament has always been supreme. But this is an age of innovation. ... Mr Heath has always been studiously prosaic. But listen: "The hour of the individual patriotic British man and woman is with us. I feel the stirring of a new mood In Britain. I want a Britain that frightens her enemies, delights her friends; a Britain that is fun to live in and exciting to work in; a Britain strong enough

to be tolerant and confident enough to be compassionate. If I was alone in what I feel, I too would begin to lose hope. But I know I am not alone "That's true. But neither is he a majority."

30 January 1975: White Paper *Public Expenditure to 1978-9* announces cuts must be made: "absorption of resources last year was about six per cent in excess of national output... the aim must be to close the non-oil deficit as soon as possible"

30 January 1975: NUAAW executive agrees not to proceed with strike action against the limited pay award of 20 Jan 1975. It simply calls for the award's second stage to be brought forward to alleviate some of the extreme poverty of farmworkers.

30 January 1975: Thatcher sets out a strong backlash manifesto in the Conservative leadership challenge, sensing that Labour cannot succeed with the business pressures against it.

She smartly cleans away the record of failure in 1970-4 and asserts in common with the Labour centrists that inflation is the key battle to fight against: "Probably no Chancellor, faced with the mass of conflicting advice that poured in during the early 1970s, could have got the balance between unemployment and inflation exactly right. The same problem faces Mr Healey now—and it looks as if inflation is going to win again"

It strongly stresses backlash anti-comprehensivism: "Politicians must be equally wary of political ideologies. It is not our business to plan the educational system as a sociological abstraction. Our job is to see that children and young people receive the education they need. 'Equality of opportunity' is a poor guide if it means the same mediocre schooling for all. The object is to provide a varied system which will give every child the best chance to develop individual intelligence and talents. As Secretary of State, I encouraged the Direct Grant schools, and tried to prevent the destruction of good maintained grammar schools, because they had provided a unique and irreplaceable educational ladder for the bright children of poor parents. Socialist policies now will create a new class of deprived children."

I was attacked for fighting a rearguard action in defence of "middle-class interests." The same accusation is levelled at me now, when I am leading Conservative opposition to the socialist Capital Transfer Tax proposals. Well, if "middle class values" include the encouragement of variety and individual choice, the provision of fair incentives and rewards for skill and hard work, the maintenance of effective barriers against the excessive power of the State and a belief in the wide distribution of individual private property, then they are certainly what I am trying to defend. The Capital Transfer Tax proposals could destroy—or nationalise—a medium-sized family business in two generations and a small farm in one. Industry and

agriculture would increasingly become either State-controlled or concentrated into larger units.... Worse still, if both saving and enterprise are penalised, those who can do most to increase the prosperity of the workers will simply take their money and their skills abroad."

She states as openly as possible the aim is to inculcate backlash and middle-class values within the industrial workforce: "I cannot agree with those of my colleagues who attribute our loss of support in industrial areas to a "middle-class image"

It stresses the backlash view that disruption to production always originates from 'political militants' even though days lost due to unemployment tower over days lost due to strike action by a figure of 20:1: "Sneering at "middle-class values" is to insult the working class no less than the bourgeois. Do British workers have no deep feelings for freedom, for order, for the education of their children, for the right to work without disruption by political militants? Of course they do. And if they are no more than cash-grabbing anarchists, then we must all bear some of the responsibility and try to show them the way back to sanity."

The backlash perspective is of an island where headteachers endorse truancy and indiscipline, where those are unemployed are being subsidised as a result of their triumph in 'shirking': "Most of them want to do a fair day's work in a job that gives them satisfaction—and strongly resent what they regard as State subsidies to shirkers. Most of them deplore violence, truancy and indiscipline in schools, and cannot understand the complaisance of some of the middle-class intellectuals who run the schools."

30-31 January 1975: Wilson meets Ford and Kissinger at the White House for talks. Ford urges London be reasonable in its treatment of US oil multinationals or else they may slow down the speed of their investment and production, monopolising the territory and resources to block out competitors.

31 January 1975: Ann Dummet of Catholic Church's Racial Justice Commission, later Christians Against Racism & Fascism, after the Commission is slashed, writes in the Catholic Herald: "It is right to protest against any kind of injustice anywhere, but it is better to protest when your words and actions have a chance of influencing what happens. Great energy went into meetings in this country to denounce United States policy in Vietnam at a time when the ordinary citizen here had no chance of affecting that policy but when there was a chance to influence our own government on its policy towards Rhodesia, where we have legal responsibilities, and towards Northern Ireland. which is actually part of the United Kingdom. Because the few people who do care about justice have allowed their energies to be deflected towards targets nobody can

expect them to hit, there is a very low level of public information and concern on issues like the future of Rhodesia. But the level is even lower when we come to some of the injustices within the island of Great Britain itself. The enormous volume of news and comment that has been beamed from television screens and printed on acres of paper since 1971 has contained hardly anything of the "other side of reality" concerning restrictions on migration and internal movement for which our own government is responsible.... if you are a non-EEC alien or a non-patrial Commonwealth citizen who arrived here to work after January 1, 1973, in legal and above board style, you become an illegal immigrant simply by being made redundant or by changing your job, unless you get Home Office approval. If you "harbour" an illegal immigrant, or are suspected of doing so, your home may be entered without warrant and you are liable to imprisonment.

An Italian immigrant, Mr Franco Caprini, who entered this country perfectly legally, is at the time of writing in Pentonville prison, where he is being held without trial and threatened with deportation on the grounds that his presence is a threat to national security. The Home Office is not obliged to make public, or even to tell him or his lawyers, what the evidence of this threat is. If we heard of this happening in some other country, how appalled we would be at the kind of totalitarian regime such practices illustrated!

But Mr Caprini's case has not made the main headlines. The issues it raises are not thought important enough. Yet major headlines were given to the fourteen Indians (incorrectly described in some reports as Pakistanis) who were picked up off the coast by lifeboatmen and police on January 5 — and, of course, though exhausted and in some cases ill, detained overnight at a police station and then transferred to Canterbury jail. Their detention is also without trial, but it is not this feature of their case that makes them news.

Detention without trial has become too commonplace in the United Kingdom to be news. The news value lies in the assumption that the arrival in Britain of small boatloads of men seeking work is some kind of threat to the 'nation'. Illegal immigrants like these are often the dupes of unscrupulous agents who persuade them to invest all their savings, even sell their land, so as to pay an enormously inflated fare to this country where they are promised golden opportunities to make a lot of money. Those who are not intercepted by police on arrival often find themselves working at impossibly low wages and subject to blackmail; if they complain or leave their work the authorities will be informed that they are illegal immigrants, and they will be imprisoned and deported.

The main offence of illegal immigrants in most countries is to be poor and powerless. It is the same with Mexican farm workers smuggled into the United States. A rich and powerful illegal immigrant is quite another matter. Mr Stonehouse forged his passport to enter Australia yet he gets police help and the use of VIP lounges to escape reporters, and has been living with friends and not in a cell.

Under some circumstances, money can even render you legal when you would otherwise not be so. In this country, for example. Very few people are aware that under the 1971 Act, for all its restrictions. anyone can come here if he has enough money.

He comes under the paragraph 'Persons of Independent Means' in the rules for control on entry. He has merely to produce a bank statement or other evidence that he has enough money to support himself "for the foreseeable future" and he is in. Until we have demanded, and worked for, the repeal of the 1971 Immigration Act and its replacement by legislation that respects justice and civil liberties, it is mere hypocrisy to denounce the restrictions imposed by other governments over whom we have individually no influence or control."

- 31 January 1975: 'Crisis '75' is reviewed by <u>The Times</u>. It features mainstream (not Hayekian or monetarist) economists analysing the British situation 'living standards must fall', the 'social contract' as officially promised gives away too much and tries to spend too much money too soon from sources Britain has not yet tapped, "monopolistic bargaining" by trade unions mean price rises. (Speculation, monopolistic price gauging, property investment, rent ballooning is not considered)
- 31 January 1975: British Airways workforce votes to accept a pay offer of 15% increase in two stages over the course of the year and not organise industrial action. It leaves the clerical and ticket staff very isolated.
- 31 January 1975: BBC News describes the Industry Bill as "this controversial Bill which will please the left-wing with its planning agreements" followed by long excerpts from comments by Michael Heseltine and then CBI's Campbell Adamson, no comment from a single trade unionist.

February 1975: The month's <u>Africa</u> prints an important interview with Kaunda, where he states there must be union within the Rhodesia opposition "Again, I must say very very seriously that unless our brothers and sisters in Zimbabwe hold on to this unity, they cannot expect real help from the rest of Africa" It represents the desire from 'moderate' African states to restrict the influence of radicals within the Zimbabwe/Rhodesia opposition.

February 1975: Douglas Keay interviews Prince Charles for <u>Woman's Own</u>: He states marriage means "a secure family unit in which to bring up children, to give them a happy, secure upbringing – that is what marriage is all about. Essentially one must be good

friends, and I'm sure love will grow out of friendship and become deeper and deeper."

February 1975: ISC Institute for the Study of Conflict publishes Brian Crozier's *The Soviet presence in Somalia*, asserting the Soviet iron grip on the country and Siad Barre's Marxist dangers for the West.

February 1975: Following talks France signs a military cooperation and training agreement with the Rwandan government, headed by President Juvenal Habyarimana, coup leader and former chief of staff. French officers visit regularly training the officer corps and help Rwanda institute Conseils de Securite for each district in the country. These are local military governments that aim to buttress the nation-party system of the Mouvement Revolutionnaire National pour le Developpement. It becomes the sole political party when preparations are finished, and official military rule is ended in Jul 1975. The Gendarmerie Nationale is introduced with the help of French officers in 1976, to provide a mobile, trained elite police unit. Foreign Office documents do not see this French 'muscling in' (on what was Belgium's former territory) as too worrying. The only particular worry in East Africa is Tanzania; Amin's Uganda whilst annoying like a mosquito is provides good propaganda value. A minor worry is Tanzania's message to the rest of the Third World. Nyerere often urges for the Third World Block to act as one, repudiate repayments to IMF and cartelise primary products on the lines of OPEC. \*\*

\*February 1975: Defence Secretary Mason dismisses Party conference decision to cut at least £1,000mil in defence expenditure as "a slogan" which will not be carried out.

\*February 1975: Government imposes a give-away low rate of taxation (lower than that imposed by more-oil dependent Norway) on oil company profits.

1 February 1975: A tape recorded talk by Dr. Poh Soo Kai is played at a London meeting under the auspices of FUEMSSO (Federation of United Kingdom and Eire Malaysian and Singaporean Students Organizations) marking the 12<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Operation ColdStore. "2nd February 1963 ... on this day and periodically thereafter that hundreds of anti-colonial and anti-imperialist patriots were arrested and detained indefinitely under atrocious conditions and some subsequently banished from Malaya and Singapore... severe repressive measures were taken in Singapore against progressive and popular mass organizations of workers, undergraduates, students, farmers associations, cultural associations, etc, resulting

in the banning and liquidation of these organizations... the start of arbitrary arrests of all effective political opponents, the full and complete control and manipulation of all mass media and all educational establishments, by the Lee Kuan Yew regime in Singapore. It marks the fostering of the PAP sponsored and controlled National Trade Union Congress on the workers of Singapore. It marks the birth of a police state....has served to illustrate that in a society where arbitrary arrest and indefinite detention without trial is the norm in politics, and where hundreds are still languishing for years in the country's political prisons, the so-called general elections have become a farce, an exercise conducted to keep the ruling regime in continued office. I myself was kept in prison without trial for close to 11 years, not because I had advocated unconstitutional struggle. ... Lee Tse Tong's case illustrates the farce of elections under the Lee Kuan Yew regime.... Lee Tse Tong is a trade unionist. In 1963, he stood for election and defeated the ruling party's candidate. That was the mistake Mr. Lee Tse Tong made. His election victory meant that it was to be his last election. For immediately after the results of the election was made known, Mr. Lee Tse Tong was arrested under the Internal Security Act, thrown into prison and he has remained there since. His citizenship was taken away. He thus became a stateless person, and has since been imprisoned as a so-called banishee. Here is a man whose loyalty to his country is beyond doubt, as proved by his years in prison. Here is a man who has the trust of his constituents. And yet he has been made a banishee and has been kept in prison since. His prison conditions are such that he is allowed a visit once every five weeks, and except for biscuits, no food is allowed to be sent in. No doctor is known to have attended to him. His health is now extremely poor. Years of prison life has had its deleterious effects. ... Feb 2nd marks the 13th year of prison life for Dr. Lim Hock Siew, Said Zahari, and Ho Piaw. They have been in prison for the last twelve years without trial. ... permit me to point out to our friends in the United Kingdom that these three political prisoners were arrested and thrown into prison in 1963 when the British government was represented in the Internal Security Council which decided on their arrest. Britain therefore has full responsibility for their arrest, and thus a continuing responsibility - at least morally for their continued detention. No amount of legalistic argument can remove Britain's responsibility. The British government not having expressed an opinion continues to share the responsibility for their continued detention. I therefore suggest that you pressurize your own government to shoulder this moral responsibility for it cannot evade the responsibility by pretending that it does not exist. Political prisoners in Malaya and Singapore are subjected to various forms of ill-treatment including the latest in psychological torture techniques. Beatings, strippings and round the clock interrogations

in very cold rooms have been described by the political prisoners. Prolonged solitary confinement is the rule. For example, of those arrested in June 1974 and after that date, practically all are in solitary confinement, at the notorious Top Floor, Central Police Station, or at the Whitley Holding Centre, or some ungazetted secret holding centres. ... Chong Chee Seng had to be admitted to the Thomson Road General Hospital for medical resuscitation. Mr. Chan Sun Choy, a senior pressman attached to a local Chinese daily, has been so disorientated by such tortures that he required electric convulsive therapy. T.T. Rajah, a prominent lawyer was known to have been found in a state of collapse in his cell and had to be carried out of his stuffy cell for resuscitation. Now he is suffering from severe nerve pains.... The final effect of solitary confinement in a narrow space is to disorientate a person, to break him down, to make him insane. The deleterious effects of solitary confinement is well known to medical science and to the authorities, and it is precisely of these deleterious effects that laws have been enacted to protect common criminals from this form of torture. Thus we have a situation when criminals are protected from prolonged solitary confinement but political prisoners are deliberately subjected to it.... Fundamental human rights as proclaimed in the U.N. Charter is a concept totally alien to their concept of society. People are just digits. Law is the secret police."

- 1 February 1975: EEC Commission in Brussels agrees a 5-year-long aid and trade package with a headline figure of £1.6bn to assist 46 Third World countries.
- 1 February 1975: The Economist opposes the idea that "nothing had happened since January 6 to improve the prospects for the profitability of British industry by one brass farthing, let alone by 73 per cent". In fact, it says "stock markets have turned round because politicians have turned round... taxes are being cut and interest rates being brought down." Government, it claims, wants to boost industrial investment to do something about lengthening dole queues and this makes them more anxious not to antagonise industrialists. It reports the CBI at Downing Street has been led to understand that "Mr Tony Benn's parlour Bolshevism is over and that Britain is now to be subjected ... to Mr Harold Wilson's Tory rule."
- 1 February 1975: Heathrow British Airways ticket staff begin an unofficial strike against likely redundancies and air stewards being obliged to sell tickets on flights in the new London-Glasgow shuttle service.
- 1 February 1975: Johannesburg's The Star reports the JSP in Japan intends to press the LDP government about Japan's contract for supplying itse electric power companies with about 8,000 tons of uranium ore from the Rossing mine operated of Rio Tinto Zinc,

scheduled to come into full production in 1976. Yoko Kitazawa, has noted that Rio Tinto Zinc shares "profits from Namibia for South Africa, increases South Africa's vested interest in staying in Namibia and increases South Africa's nuclear power, It is also robbing Namibia's natural resources without the participation of the African people" (Star, Johannesburg, Feb 1 1975)

"According to the figures supplied by the Japanese Resource and Energy Agency Rio Tinto Zinc, a U.K. based multi-national corporation is the single largest corporate supplier of uranium to Japan. The [open cast] Rossing mine is the biggest uranium mine in Southern Africa. ...Loans for its development were provided by the International Development Corporation jointly funded by RTZ U.K. (80%), General Mining, South African (10%) and Deutsche Urangesellschaft (10%)" (Yoko Kitazawa, From Tokyo to Jerusalem, Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility, p15) LDP later defends its Namibian uranium supplies stressing that it is the JSP's fellow Socialist International Labour Party that has also used RTZ for supplies.

- 2 February 1975: JNS Provisional Government Esteves Belo Agriculture Minister at a rally states: "The country at present imports many agricultural products for national consumption.... The state will undertake the expropriation of land from large estate owners [to] be administered by the state. A certain cultural revolution will be made in these estates, which in the end will ensure maximum productivity." But "there are estate owners who are doing their job. They must receive our respect."
- 2 February 1975: <u>The Observer</u> reports secret talks between British Leyland and Toyota for Toyota to market certain British cars in its Japan dealer network.
- 2 February 1975: <u>The Observer</u> 'Mr Benn's New Britain' urges caution against over-hasty nationalisations.
- 3 February 1975: A new Aberdeen-Shetland BA service with the first of 2 (Hawker Siddeley) HS748s begins (the later commencing in autumn 1975). It features £2mil by British Airways and heralds the start of £7.5mil state investment by the Civil Aviation Authority, extending the Sumburgh, Shetland, runway, installing advanced radar and instrument facilities, new runway lighting and wider overrun and undershoot areas are also being provided. The route has grown at 25%-30% annually for the past 3 years, because of the demands of the offshore oil industry. Unsurprisingly the gas and oil multinationals do not build their own runways instead offloading the cost onto the public sector.

- 3 February 1975: After months of tripartite discussions and shop steward meetings, Tony Benn states: "I am very pleased to be able to report that the workers at the Small Heath plant of Norton Villiers Triumph Ltd. no longer oppose the setting up of the co-operative at Meriden."
- 3 February 1975: British Sugar Corporation, where the government owns 36% of the shares and appoints the directors, announces record profits. From Sep 1973-Sep 1974 it has made £14.36 million compared to £7.07mil in the same period the previous year.
- 3 February 1975: British Leyland's Cowley engine-tuners agree to return to work pending the conclusion of the ACAS and investigation report.
- 3 February 1975: UNHCR members vote, against strident US denunciation and muted British opposition, 24-5 to accept the PLO as an observer of its affairs.
- 3 February 1975: Portuguese and nationalist armed forces open fire on an Angolan crowd killing 5 in the crowd, hence leading to the death of 2 Portuguese soldiers. The protest is against a Luanda store owned by a white, who has been finally charged with the murder of 4 blacks the day before, still operating under his ownership.
- 4 February 1975: Heathrow British Airways ticket and clerical workers' action spreads to 5 airports including Glasgow, Gatwick and Luton.
- 4 February 1975: Tony Benn announces that 6,900 workers will still face redundancy as announced in the interim report on BSC (England & Wales)'s future.
- 4 February 1975: Gabon President Omar Bongo holds talks in Paris securing 240mil FF as French assistance for Gabon railways.
- 4 February 1975: As US Congress holds the line against military sales to Turkey, the Turkish government announces it may reconsider entirely its military contribution to NATO.
- 4 February 1975: Ministerial conference of N.A.M. nations begins in Dakar, Senegal, over economic affairs. It will lead to the demand for a NIEO (new international economic order).
- 4 February 1975: Joint FRELIMO-Portuguese government imposes new stipulations upon landowners, enforcing their registration with state authorities. In response the rightist settler movement steps further into gear.
- 4-7 February 1975: Talks in Moscow between EEC and COMECON representatives are another sign of the triumph of "trans-ideological enterprise".
- 4-18 February 1975: Foreign Office Minister Ennals tours the pro-British bedrock monarchies of the Middle East - Oman, United Arab

Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain and Kuwait. As later described "questions of investment, including investment in productive industry in Great Britain, were an important part. We also discussed other economic questions and commercial relations. There is a tremendous opportunity for an even greater expansion of British commerce and sale of technology in the area... In Oman I was very impressed with the tremendous changes which have taken place in the last three or four years and the rapid economic and social advance. I cannot call it a dirty little State at all... [also discussed was] the price levels for oil in the UAE, and I said it would be helpful if there were a reduction. Happily, subsequently to that the UAE announced a reduction in the sulphur premium." (12 Mar 1975, HC Deb vol 888 cc483-4)

5 February 1975: Cope Allman Intl sells its shares in Capseals only to buy them back on 6 Feb 1975, but creating a loss for tax purposes of £1.16 million, which is used to reduce its liability for capital gains tax. An example of "bed and breakfasting". Rank Organisation has recently B&Bed its shares in George Kent creating a paper loss of up to £3.4million for the same purposes.

6 February 1975: Home Secretary Jenkins explains the Shrewsbury 2 will remain convicted: "What I have to consider is that a court reached a decision on this matter and that that decision was upheld by the Court of Appeal as recently as three months ago. It is not a question of my delivering a judgement—in either my personal or my ministerial capacity—as to what I think about the sentences or, for that matter, the verdict."

6 February 1975: Roy Jenkins explains that Asian and white Commonwealth individuals are still treated differently: "So far as the Indian subcontinent is concerned, the admission of heads of families is strictly limited by the work permit scheme"

6 February 1975: Intercity, Midland Region and parts of Southern Region rail transport is blocked by another 24-hour signalmen's strike

6 February 1975: Car firm Jensen ends jobs for 700 workers.

7 February 1975: NF member and supporter of cultural loyalism (tattooed with King William of Orange and a luggage badge declaring 'I love Ulster') Brian Hosier shoots dead Hector South, a West Indian living in a 'Protestant' part of Glasgow. Lawyer for a later acquitted co-defendant of the murder explains "At first the National Front seemed to be a marginal issue;, but it became clear that here was a rational and logical explanation for the death of Mr Smith. I am not blaming the National Front except that there appears to be a dislike of coloured people." (May 2, 1975)

7 February 1975: <u>Tribune</u> reports on "the effect of local authority spending cuts on educational opportunity for the working class can be seen in the North East London Polytechnic's proposal to close down its Foundation Course. The Polytechnic ... is supposed to serve the educationally deprived boroughs of Newham, Waltham Forest and Barking. ... Art and Design foundation courses provide a route into higher education for kids without two A levels — which is about 87. per cent of kids nationally, nearer 95 per cent in east London."

7 February 1975: 35 cleaners at Ministry of Defence are dismissed for having joined T&GWU.

7 February 1975: The Times congratulates Labour's continuing policy in Oman: "The Sultan's army, commanded by 350 British officers, has gradually extended the Sultan's sway from the immediate vicinity of the palace on the Salalah waterfront, four years ago, into a secure occupation of the whole coastal plain." The Times does not report that British officers continue to allow Britain's Oman facilities to be used by Airwork Services, a firm sustained by contracts from MoD, to train Rhodesian pilots in Oman. The same firm also recruit aircraft maintenance engineers from Britain. This is eventually fully exposed in the New African Oct 1979.

7 February 1975: Over 6,000 South Wales steelworkers take part in a one-day strike. A demonstration of over 2,000 meets Foot, Wales Secretary John Morris and Private Secretary Caerwyn Roderick at Ebbw Vale Civic Centre. Foot is shouted at 'Traitor', 'Coward'.

7 February 1975: <u>Daily Mail</u> reports that "literacy is marching backwards" under the effects of comprehensive, non-selective, non-streamed education under apparently left-wing government. (Daily Mail, 7 Feb 1975)

7 February 1975: MPs vote 288-203 to give another reading to Conservative MP James Prior's Abortion (Amendment Bill). Whilst the debate is stuck on restricting abortion, cuts can more easily be made in reproductive services more generally.

8 February: 1975: Chancellor Healey states the number of pay deals above the level of the voluntary social contract is "far too large" and must be reduced.

8 February: 1975: BBC reports on the public dispute over British Leyland: industrial action is trouble, negative something to be avoided: "Mr Wilson's speech has been welcomed by the opposition spokesman on employment, Mr James Prior. He said the Prime Minister had told car workers some home truths, although it was a pity he hadn't done so before, but Mr Leslie Huckfield, a Labour MP with a lot of car workers in his constituency of Nuneaton, said the speech was disgraceful. The real culprits were the management, not the workers. British Leyland tonight said they shared Mr Wilson's

exasperation at the series of futile disputes in the corporation. And there was more trouble today. 12,000 workers at the Cowley plant near Oxford were laid off because of a strike by 250 in the tuning department."

8 February 1975: Reuters reports on British–Soviet relations "Soviet officials have been privately suggesting that British companies might well be able to fill part of the gap in Russian development plans left by the suspension of the US-Soviet trade agreement."

9 February 1975: British Leyland executive confirms the Shah has made a serious offer to aid the firm since it supplies many key vehicles including buses for Iran.

9 February 1975: IRA announces it is indefinitely reinstating its truce from 10 Feb 1975 to induce the British government to end internment and make a statement in favour of withdrawal. David O'Connell later claims its "overall feature ... was a statement by the British that it was committed to disengage from Ireland, but it could not say so publicly" (Sunday Times, 18 Jun 1978). The ceasefire is predicated on the British government publicly declaring its commitment to withdraw armed forces. This declaration never materialises.

Sir Frank Cooper later explains the truce is a means of getting rid of internment—a "noose round the neck of the government" and causing internal division (dissension and betrayals) within republican ranks. (British State and the Ulster Crisis, Bew and Patterson, 108)

<u>Irish Times</u> reporter later recalls senior Stormont civil servant Frank Cooper explaining that in Jan and Feb 1975 "officials at Stormont began to lace their dinner conversations and political tête-à-têtes with predictions of a pull-out. It now seems that this was aimed at creating an atmosphere which convinced the Provos that their main aim, a declaration of intent, was soon to become a reality." (Irish Times, 9 Jun 1978)

A member of PIRA's GHQ staff in 1981 declares: "no foreseeable prospect of another truce or of any cessation along the lines that obtained in the last two bilateral truces.... Because the British were not serious, honest or in any way forthright about their intentions" "the Provisionals managed to convince themselves that Britain was

"the Provisionals managed to convince themselves that Britain was withdrawing while the British government remained studiously ambiguous over the issue of face-to-face talks in order to keep the ceasefire going." (Fighting for Ireland, 134)

Over the next months, seven incident centres in culturally Irish areas, organised by civil servants in the Northern Ireland Office, and manned by Sinn Fein members monitor the ceasefire against infringements by republican armed forces and dispel rumours that might inflame the situation.

9 February 1975: Nora Beloff in The Observer explains that Thatcher has "demonstrated a prodigious grasp of complexities... she had spent a large part of almost every night in the last few weeks leading the Tories in the Standing Committee." In fact this is an outright lie, up to 9 Feb 1975, the committee has sat in total for 73 hours, Thatcher has attended only one very late session, her total of speeches made is 33 minutes. On all almost all occasions she has been paired off, other Conservatives have spoke longer. Her grasp is not prodigious, just backlash efforts against the new capital transfer tax, even though every individual who has under £15,000 is entirely exempt, meaning a husband and wife both get the benefit of exemption on the first £30,000 as well as £2,000 a year, Thatcher attacks exemptions as "too small for many ordinary circumstances." Under the Bill a parent can also give a wedding present of £2,500 free of tax to his or her child. Thatcher states this is too small and Conservatives argue the figure should be £5,000: "Let us talk in human terms. Let us take the example of a young person who reaches 21. One uses one's maximum gift to give him money for his 21st birthday for a car" Labour members of the Committee object to the tax evasion implicit in raising tax thresholds for the rich who have the means to gift £5,000 cars, stating many of their constituents will never in their whole lives benefit from this tax exemption. Thatcher shouts seated (hence officially unrecorded) "That's because they don't save." Conservative MPs 'work' for over 8 hours to water down a modest provision in the Bill to allow the Inland Revenue greater access to the books of multinational firms suspected of systematic fraud over transfer prices, taxes and profits, over capital transfer tax they succeed in partially blocking Inland Revenue's access to names and addresses from accountants and others of those involved in tax evasion trusts and settlements on the grounds of 'civil liberties'.

10 February 1975: Press report that Hughie Greene, presenter of his self-developed talent show Opportunity Knocks, week in week out Saturday 18-million-viewer show, comments that its standard of applicants and an IRA siege in Marylebone are both connected to the failure of the state school system (Daily Mail, 10 Feb 1975). Later in his single released in Dec 1976 'Stand Up and Be Counted' he is to sing "Stand up and be counted/ Where the managers manage/ And the workers don't go on strike". Centre-right newspapers present him as a popular voice because of the wide audience of his talent show, and his being in favour of 'common sense', against a government that nationalises and strongly opposed to strikes which hold up production etc. As recession continues, his shows increasingly begin to feature large Union Jacks and performances by Army Cadet teams.

- 10 February 1975: USA protests against the Australian government's decision to allow the Viet Cong Provisional Revolutionary Government of Southern Vietnam to open information offices in Australia. Bob Ingersoll expresses displeasure to Australian Ambassador Sir Patrick Shaw, by comparing the behaviour of Labour in Britain with ALP. Britain has rejected diplomatic relations with North Vietnam, also refusing to accept any relations with the Viet Cong guerrilla movement's Provisional Government of Southern Vietnam, retaining only a charge d'affaires in Hanoi. Australia has relations with all 3 governments in Vietnam. 10 February 1975: Cuba and the Shah's Iran begin diplomatic, ambassadorial relations.
- 10 February 1975: Benn talks with "Peter Carey and Douglas Lovelock, the establishment officer... I said 'Is it really true if you read the Morning Star, or if you're a left-wing Catholic, you're not considered suitable for the Civil Service?'
- '... in the Department of Industry there are so many Private Office staff they are not considered suitable... You've got to keep negative vetting secret; positive vetting we admit to but not negative vetting is secret" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 11 February 1975: Cabinet. "jim Callaghan said 'I've just been to Portugal and the press there has fallen to the hands of the Communists; what we must do is to see that Communists don't get control of the press here'.. Jim suggested that junior Ministers be sent to Portugal to sustain the new regime
- 11 February 1975: 'Liberal' <u>Ya!</u> states "authority is progressively deteriorating" in response to riot police confrontations with crowds attempting a demonstration on 10 Feb 1975 outside Carabanchel Prison, Madrid. Armed riot police remain throughout universities across the country, several including Valladolid and Madrid have been shut down against the threat of protests.
- 11 February 1975: Rhodesian government announces that elements of the South African police are withdrawing from certain forward positions on the Zambezi, after undertakings from the Zambian government about preventing guerrilla activities as part of the Southern African détente policy.
- 11 February 1975: NUR agrees small pay increases according to grades for signalmen.
- 11 February 1975: US Air Force Secretary John McLucas, in an open hearing of the Senate Armed Services Committee, admits publicly for the first time that parts of his budget for missiles in fact fund CIA operations.
- 11 February 1975: European Council of Ministers adopt the principle of "freedom of establishment" in the medical sector, allowing

private medicine firms to begin cross-border European agglomeration.

11 February 1975: US Defence Secretary James Schlesinger explains in his annual report to Congress the US plans to continue military assistance to South Vietnam, detailing plans for a 15-month period until Jul 1976. He states Diego Garcia's importance: "it seems only prudent to observe the situation in the Indian Ocean and to demonstrate from time to time that the United States can make its presence felt here should our interests, and those of our allies, be threatened. Diego Garcia will allow us to support such operations efficiently without additional mobile logistics capability" On the Middle East: "Not only the United States, the Western Europe and Japan at well, have a rather considerable interest in the area of the Persian Gulf and access to it. Not the least of our interest is that the area be kept out of unfriendly hands." In Thailand: "it teems prudent to continue our presence there as a deterrent to reckless action by Hanoi and as a contribution to a more stable and testing settlement in South-east Asia." On East Asia-"The importance of Japan, and the special nature of our mutual defence relationship, make it important to maintain forces sufficient to give visible evidence of the seriousness of our commitment to the stability of the region and to provide a credible ability to respond quickly and effectively to unforeseen events" On South-East Asia: "We continue to be concerned about developments in South-East Asia, and we are closely allied with Australia and New Zealand .... US ground. naval and tactical air power can project power over a wide area from strongpoints in Okinawa and the Philippines. Generally speaking, quite apart from any specific contingency, US military power still has a stabilising role to play in the Pacific."

12 February 1975: CBI-Cabinet meeting. "Ralph Bateman opened ... after the October Electorate and the November Budget they felt they had reached a closer accord, and they were grateful for the relaxations in taxation and the price code... CBI wanted put their worries... First the Employment Protection Bill, which he said went into areas of negotiation which should be left to areas of industry and threatened smaller companies and capital transfer tax was an enormous threat to smaller companies; and third the Industry Bill... the Bill was worse than the White Paper, it was a prescription for the death of the private sector... Campbell Adamson spoke 'We in the CBI recognise that we must all work together, but basically our criticism is that this Bill is a charter for workers' control.' First it gave wide interventionist powers to the Secretary of State... Second it eroded the private sector. It might affect the capital market, particularly if teher was no agreement required with the compnaies

before acquisition... Third the disclosure of information powers were evry far reaching... Fourth the shareholders' interests were not even referred to... Fifth where selective aid might be given, safeguards against unfair competition were inadequate." (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 12 February 1975: Tony Benn's explanation of the business case for the Industry Bill: 'The problems of investment are deep-seated and we all realise that production could be raised by up to 40% if we could somehow release the energy of people at work. He powers of intervention are no greater than have been envisaged under the Tory Counter-Inflation or Industry Acts. And the compulsory purchase acquisition powers are very limited. On the disclosure of information... we are trying to be constructive here, to give greater certainty to industry, to get a more meaningful dialogue going, to get greater disclosure by government. As to the disclosure by industry, there are difficulties and I recognise them, but in the Chrysler case, the Honeywell case, the Robertson's jam case, the Singer case, people were not told anything whatever" (Tonny Benn's Diary)
- 12 February 1975: UPI reports just under 8million tons of tanker orders have been cancelled in the past 6 months, 5 million tons are laid up and 5 million tons is in the Persian Gulf waiting for orders from firms and contracts to fulfil, according to a Lambert Brothers market report.
- 12 February 1975: President Francisco da Costa Gomes announces Portugal's elections will be held on 12 Apr 1975.
- 12 February 1975: Whilst on a tour of Indonesia, having held talks with President Suharto and Foreign Minister Adam Malik, New Zealand National Party leader soon to be elected Prime Minister Robert Muldoon says his New Zealand would be "gravely concerned" if Portuguese Timor becomes a fully Independent country under the influence of the Soviet Union or China. He says the colony is small and economically impoverished, hence susceptible to overtures from superpowers, as a foreign power satellite it would upset the strategic balance of South-east Asia and his party would see it as a threat to the whole nation.
- 12 February 1975: Wilson defends the demand for a further increase, by 43%, in the Civil List, the state subsidy to the Royal Family. The increase from £980,000 to £1.4mil.
- 12 February 1975: Port employers announce a new higher severance pay maximum rate from £4,000 to £5,250, in order to tempt voluntary redundancies as part of a modernisation programme.
- 12 February 1975: A tightly controlled national referendum rubber stamps Park Chung Hee's legalistic dictatorship in the Republic of Korea. The electoral college system for electing President remains.

- 12 February 1975 Parliamentary answer reveals the extent of practising military medical facilities: "Royal Navy Hospital Haslar, Royal Navy Hospital Plymouth, Institute of Naval Medicine, RN Air Medical School, HMS Nelson, RN Barracks, Portsmouth, RN Hospital, Malta, RN Hospital, Gibraltar, Royal Herbert Hospital, Woolwich, Cambridge Military Hospital, Aldershot, Queen Alexandra's Military Hospital, Mill-bank, Military Hospital, Tidworth, Military Hospital, Catterick, Military Hospital, Colchester, Military Maternity Hospital, Woolwich, Louise Margaret Maternity Hospital, Aldershot, Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, Royal Army Medical College, Army Medical Equipment Depot, RAMC Training Centre, British Military Hospital Hong Kong, British Military Hospital Rinteln, British Military Hospital Munster, British Military Hospital Hanover, British Military Hospital Iserlohn, British Military Hospital Dhekelia, British Military Hospital Dharan, Princess Mary's RAF Hospital, Halton, Princess Alexandra's RAF Hospital, Wroughton, RAF Hospital, Ely, RAF Hospital, Cosford, RAF Hospital, Nocton Hall, RAF Institute of Pathology and Tropical Medicine, RAF Institute of Health and Medical Training, RAF Institute of Aviation Medicine, RAF Brize Norton (Aeromedical Team Training), RAF Hospital, Wegberg, Princess Mary's RAF Hospital, Akrotiri. Those in Britain remain ready as back-up in strikebreaking operations against the NHS.
- 12 February 1975: Chancellor Healey warns against wage claims in front of the Electrical Engineers Association: "We have an unprecedented balance of payments deficit which must be reduced. In this situation, excessive pay increases will destroy jobs, not preserve them. Britain herself could be bankrupt if the national wage bill were too high this year. Inflation is the main threat to jobs in Britain now. Our rate of inflation is already higher than that of most of our competitors"
- 13 February 1975: Tony Benn fails to assist the Shrewsbury pickets in the PLP vote: "I simply sat stolidly and didn't vote and the request for a debate was defeated by something like 63 votes to 25" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 13 February 1975: Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denktas in cooperation with the Turkish military announces a unilateral declaration of independence for a separate state in Turkish military administered northern Cyprus.
- 13 February 1975: EEC Foreign Ministers meet in Dublin to coordinate efforts over the energy situation and the response to OPEC.
- 13 February 1975: Rail signalmen ASLEF and NUR operate another 24-hour strike.

- 13 February 1975: New pay settlement is announced for NUM. NCB claims the cost of the increase is £140mil and will mean an inevitable steep rise in coal prices. The settlement foresees underground coal face workers wages of £61 a week compared to the current £50 a week. Instead of actual wages the discussion is presented as wage claims leading to inflation. Joe Gormley welcomes it as "within the spirit of the Social Contract". Arthur Scargill states "The contract has been breached and to that extent I welcome the deal, but much more could have been obtained by a more militant and determined approach" NCB's real desire is for regional productivity agreements to break apart the nationwide unity expressed in the 1974 strike.
- 13-17 February 1975: Wilson and Callaghan hold discussions in Moscow with Soviet leaders for new areas of cooperation particularly science cooperation for industry, signifying a significant 'thaw'. At the conclusion Wilson announces Britain is extending credits totalling £950mil over a 5-year period, tied to specific industrial projects and contracts (presumably ones that will not cause competition for British exports).
- 14 February 1975: NUR's Sid Weighell 250,000 railway workers begins negotiations on terms lower than originally demanded.
- 14 February 1975: Press reports 8 Zimbabweans have filed legal claims against the Rhodesian Minister of Justice and Law and Order. They state Rhodesian armed forces continues to seize and torture civilian peasant farmers and villagers in an effort to secure information about guerrillas. Assaults by shackling, blindfolding, whipping and electric shock on a village school teacher and male and female village residents and children people who have never been charged or subsequently detained, allowing the legal claims to proceed.
- 14 February 1975: <u>Washington Post</u> Watergate investigative journalist Jack Anderson reveals that British intelligence, diplomatic pouches to its liaison offices at the National Security Agency outside Washington, kept the US agencies advised on negotiations between Leyland and Cuba to allow a CIA operation to torpedo the Oct 22 1964 shipment of buses to Cuba: "Suddenly out of the blue appeared a Japanese Hainashiro Oaru, which ploughed bow-first into the Magdeberg's side. Fidel Castro's buses wound up ingloriously in the Thames... competent sources have told us the forgotten mishap was quietly arranged by the Central Intelligence Agency to keep the buses from reaching Cuba We have now confirmed the fascinating details from sources in both the CIA and the National Security Agency."

- 14-16 February 1975: World's 40 major coffee producers under the auspices of the World Coffee Producers Group (WCPG) meet in San Salvador, El Salvador, to attempt to rescue coffee prices by forming, after falls in coffee prices from 1974 to 1975. The coffee-growing countries are being paid less for their main export while costs of imports of manufactured goods have broadly increased under world inflation. The meeting is in preparation for a second conference between WCPG and Western coffee consumers after the first in London in Jan 1975 produced no agreement.
- 15 February 1975: 144 states of the 'Group of 77' meet in Algiers to discuss a Third World response at the future United Nations Industrial Development Organization meeting.
- 15-28 February 1975: HMS Ark Royal docks at Mayport, Florida, exchanging gun salutes with the Naval Station. The crew visits Florida attractions including Kennedy Space Centre and Disney World.
- 16 February 1975: Ross Belch, managing director of Scott Lithgow, announces cooperative ventures deal with French consortium Campagnie Francaise d'Enterprises Metalliques: "We could soon become a major force in the offshore industry since we have the facilities, the skilled workforce, end the expertise required. So far we have an agreement in principle, but now we are involved in the harder task of establishing the market, the share of responsibility, liability, costs, and technical knowhow. It is a short to medium term development but with cooperation I would expect that by 1977 we should have orders in band and be started on fabrication work of some magnitude." The 2 firms work on design, marketing and production of steel production oil platforms, a prototype semisubmersible drilling vessel platform with a speed of 10 knots (held in position by submarine-shaped float platforms with propellers and thrusters) Scott Lithgow are already operating dynamically positioned drill ships worth £70mil, supply boats at Ferguson Brothers' yard, Port Glasgow, and tugs at Bowling. Councillor Tony McGlone. Greenock ETU branch chairman, welcomes the news: "We need more diversification in the specialised field because, with nationalisation, the Admiralty work, may well finish. We have a lot of people who are highly skilled and they could not all be absorbed into merchant shipbuilding in the group."
- 16 February 1975: <u>Newsweek</u> publishes a interview with Turkish Foreign Minister Melih Esenbel warning the recent creation of a Turkish-Cypriot autonomous state is "an irrevocable decision." He also threatens closing US facilities on Turkish soil if arms embargo is imposed: "the US and the North Atlantic Treaty Alliance (NATO)

are getting one of the beat security bar-gains in the world. Turkey controls the vital Dardanelles exit from the Black See and has permitted the installation of 20 American early-warning, listening and tracking installations which collect information on the southern Soviet Union and the entire Mid-East area. Either some US Congressmen have not been properly briefed or they have done something irresponsible that has jeopardised the defence posture of the entire Western alliance."

16-18 February 1975: Queen visits the Governor of Bermuda, Sir Edwin Leader and its premier Sir Edward Richards. All leave is called for the 400 police officers on the island. A general strike, called by the Bermuda Industrial Union, begins on 17 Feb 1975 in protest at authorities' failure to honour pay claims of its over 600 members. Dock workers, bus drivers, hotel workers and waiters, ferry workers, airport staff, petrol station workers and rubbish collection workers all participate in the action that extends beyond the union membership.

17 February 1975: Jardine Matheson, Hong Kong's largest firm, announces it is expanding South-East Asian investments. Henry Keswick, its chairman, announces the 500-room \$22mil luxury Manila Mandarin Hotel a joint venture with Philippines investors. He also states the firm is entering coconut oil milling in the Philippines: "We are seriously looking into other investment opportunities in this region."

17 February 1975: Roy Hattersley and Hans-Jürgen Wischnewski, Federal German Foreign Minister of State, at the Foreign Office, Whitehall, discuss plans for the EEC to leave off particularly tough decisions until after the Referendum: "the British government hoped the Commission would exercise caution during the period before the Referendum and not act in a way to lose favourable votes... Wischnewski said... they had completely understood Britain's situation and would behave accordingly. The two German Commissioners certainly understood that a forward position on the part of the Commission would not be helpful."

17 February 1975: Hong Kong court hears that police promotion has been by payment of considerable bribes over the past decades.
17 February 1975: 450 Paddington staff conduct a 24-hour strike to support a claim by those working on a newspaper train who have not been paid.

17 February 1975: Home Secretary Jenkins refuses permission for the Price sisters to attend their mother's funeral, but states "consideration would be given to the permanent transfer of the

- sisters to a prison in Northern Ireland." if IRA guerrilla activity remains on hold.
- 18 February 1975: Ford UK announces indefinite short-time working for over a fifth of its workforce, commending itself on having 'saved' redundancies.
- 18 February 1975: Thatcher rehabilitates the corrupt Reg Maudling, who has resigned in 1972 over the Poulson affair, as the new shadow Foreign Secretary. Sir Keith Joseph, is appointed responsible for policy and research, Sir Geoffrey Howe is appointed Shadow Chancellor. Prominent Conservative 'wets' Robert Carr, Peter Walker and Nicholas Scott are dismissed. Airey Neave, already head of Thatcher's private office who masterminded the vote wheeler-dealing for the Conservative leadership election, keen to trumpet military experience as a result of his participation in the culturally popularised 'escape from Colditz', is tasked with bringing 6 counties unionists back into an effective alliance against Labour, as Ulster spokesman. Lord Hailsham, without specific duties, Lord Carrington, Conservative leader in the Lords, charged with blocking and obstructing government legislation and James Prior Shadow Employment remain unchanged.
- 18 February 1975: After talks with Kissinger in Paris, the Shah states oil sales are "purely a commercial transaction" with no other considerations. "Our policy is to sell oil to those who will take it or buy it We have never boycotted any country. It is not part of our policy. We think politics and commerce are separate" he confirms Iran will continue supplying Israel with oil, and that an oil embargo is not likely. It gives Israel, which draws more than 50% of its oil from its militarily-occupied Sinai oilfields, to consider a peace treaty with Egypt.
- 18 February 1975: Israeli Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Mordechai Gur, reiterating Rabin's position, states that from a military point of view Israel need not "base everything" on holding onto Sinai mountain passes (Mitla and Giddi) ie losing Sinai is acceptable in return for detaching Egyptian support for Palestinian elementary rights.
- 18-20 February 1975: Queen visits Barbados where she conducts a joint British-Bajan military procession and conducts an open air knighting in front of thousands of West Indies captain cricketer Gary Sobers. She also opens the parliamentary session in Bridgetown
- 19 February 1975: Joan Lestor announces the transition to neocolonial independence in New Hebrides is proceeding adequately: "I met M. Stirn, the French Secretary of State for Overseas Territories. We were satisfied that appropriate action was

- being taken to implement the measures agreed between the two Governments last November."
- 19 February 1975: New York Times reports Kuwait intends to hire US military experts to instruct in the maintenance and use of American missiles, aircraft and transport vehicles purchased in a \$200mil Dec 1974 deal, including McDonnell Douglas A4 Skyhawk attack planes and Hawk missiles. Britain maintains a military liaison group of more than 100 in Kuwait. American civilians, employees of military firms, are engaged in the training if the elite National Guard in Saudi Arabia. Jordan, Oman and Iran likewise receive significant US training.
- 20 February 1975: ASLEF and BUR British Rail signalmen strike blocks out rail services across many regions of the country.
- 20 February 1975: Governor of US Virgin Islands King in his State of the Territory address calls for a spirit of sacrifice in the face of an "serious" economic situation with "problematic" prospects.
- 20 February 1975: <u>Morning Star</u> publishes photocopies of documents exchanged between royal officials and the Heath government. Instead of welcoming the public's access to important information, the government immediately calls in Scotland Yard to find victims to arrest over the Official Secrets Act.
- 20-21 February 1975: Queen visits Bahamas.
- 21 February 1975: JM Kariuki makes a well-attended rally speech calling for restrictions on any individuals owning multiple houses, businesses or farms.
- 21 February 1975: Police arrest 3 religious figures prior to and hem in a religious procession of over 5000 called by the Association of Major Religious Superiors, effectively Philippines' first political gathering since the imposition of martial law in Sep 1972 banning opposition rallies.
- 21 February 1975: A 24 year old painter and decorator is sentenced to 3 years in prison for a bag snatch theft upon a rich aristocrat the Duchess of Sutherland. Judge Joseph Grieves at the Old Bailey states: "It is an outrage that middle-aged ladles cannot go to the cinema or theatre without being attacked In this way it is necessary to make an example of you." Unsurprisingly, he does not recommend a charge against the Duchess for retaining landownership and rent capital acquired by force.

- 21 February 1975: Reuters reports US DoD publicising where its US military advisory teams are training foreign armed forces. It shows a total of 1,826 advisers in the Military Assistance and Advisory Group, training in management and military tactics. Iran has 209, Republic of Korea 200, Turkey 174, Thailand 174, Saudi Arabia 142, Cambodia 87, Ethiopia 84 MAAG advisers. MAAG teams are active in 47 Third World nations. A few days it has released a list of nearly 9,000 American contractors and some other DoD personnel who are training foreign military in the use of US produced weapons.
- 21 February 1975: Ford strongly defends a \$92.8bn defence budget in a speech to ROTC graduates.
- 22 February 1975: Rauf Denktas announces that proposals at the UN for the disbandment of the Cypriot National Guard for Turkish military forces to leave the island will be dismissed. "These proposals cannot be taken seriously. I will not even study them." Makarios states in an interview in <a href="Bild-am-Sonntag">Bild-am-Sonntag</a> he is ready to resign as President if a resolution of the bifurcation will be helped. "Of course, I would be ready any time to do just that, what is in the best interest of my countrymen"
- 22 February 1975: President of University of Singapore Students' Union, Tan Wah Piow, is sentenced to a year's imprisonment. Industrial workers Ng Waw Ling and Yap Kin Khong are sentenced to a month each for holding a protest outside the Pioneer Industrial Employees' Union HQ on 30 Oct 1974. The protest was urging NTUC-affiliated union to give strike pay to allow a sector wide strike to force the rehiring of 1,000 workers sacked with a day's notice and 2 days' pay. The general secretary of the union is Phey Yew Kok, president of NTUC, and a PAP MP.

As Tan Wah Piow is taken away to prison he declares to the judge: "I congratulate you on your future promotion to the High Court" After the judge warned him that he was being contemptuous, Tan continued: "I do not have to bargain justice with you. I will not go around shopping for justice in Singapore. I want justice now. There is no rule of law in Singapore. You can imprison my body but not my spirit"

Ng Waw Ling states "I am not asking Your Honour to lessen my guilt because I have not committed the offence"

Yap Kin Khong declares "Your judgement is very unreasonable and very unfair I have not committed the offence." (Straits Times, 23 Feb 1975)

22 February 1975: Another series of guerrilla attacks on foreign banks in Argentina takes place.

- 22-25 February 1975: Prince Charles, Lord Mountbatten, Laos Crown Prince Vong Sevang, Thailand High Prince Bhanubandhu Yugala, Bhutan Princess Ashi Wangchuk and a PRC delegation of Vice-Ministers of Foreign Affairs Chen Xilien and Han Nianlong, appointed by Mao in early 1972, attend King Birendra's coronation celebrations in Kathmandu. As monarch of a Hindu religious autocracy the crown is placed upon his head at precisely the correct time (in the darkness at 3.40am 25 Feb 1975) as decreed by Hindu astrologers.
- 22 February 1975: An Australian Foreign Affairs Dept spokesman says it is closely following credible reports that Indonesia is planning an invasion of Timor. In 1972 Australia, as military aid, began its transfer of 16 Sabre jet fighters and RAAF advisers on an instruction programme for the IAF.
- 22 February 1975: A South Vietnam Embassy spokesman announces that a former spokesman of the government, Bui Bao Truc, who arrived in Aug 1974, has disappeared from his diplomatic post in London along with his family and more than US\$50,000.
- 22 February 1975: Centre-right leads a campaign not to discuss the the reality what leaked documents show but to press blame upon Labour weakness over government secrecy. The Morning Star photocopies show Heath Government, civil servants and royal officers cutting a deal to keep details of the Queen's shareholdings secret, by excluding her from the requirements of the 1973 Companies' Bill, for disclosure of shareholdings. Thatcher trumpets the call for a public inquiry declaring: "If any leak has occurred, it has serious implications for the conduct of Government business." Peter Walker: "The disappearance of confidential documents from a major department of state to a Communist newspaper is a very disturbing factor." Unsurprisingly, centre-right charges for secrecy are not applied to nationalised industry where detailed production, marketing and sales strategies are demanded in order to give private companies a competitive edge.
- 22 February 1975: Following prior discussions with Kissinger, Arab central bank governors agree to a 750 million DTS fund for investment.
- 23 February 1975: EEC Commission confirms again that Britain will legally retain full sovereign rights over its North sea oil.
- 24 February 1975: Government announces it will not investigate British firms operating in any country other than South Africa: "Expenditure Committee regarded South Africa as a special case

- because of the presence of apartheid... We do not, therefore, propose to seek information on wages paid by British firms operating in other countries."
- 24 February 1975: British financial firm Grindlays announces its official purchase of 33% equity in GBTC General Bank and Trust Co, a Philippine private commercial bank.
- 24 February 1975: Chapman Pincher, Dally Express defence correspondent, confidant of MI6 reports an entirely bogus 'intelligence plant' story that Wilson under Soviet pressure has agreed to ban British military exports to PRC as part of a the *quid pro quo* for the Anglo-Soviet trade deal.
- 24 February 1975: Italian police shoot dead a railway worker in the commotion during a armed raid of a Milan railway station office.
- 24 February 1975: Financial Times publishes a special 8-page supplement on Malaysia. Its Asia correspondent Kevin Rafferty reports on race-based bumiputera nationalism. It warns of the pressure that a number of foreign firms have experienced and states:: "The Malays could perhaps afford to be chauvinistic If two special factors did not apply in Malaysia. It is a delicately balanced multi-racial society in which the Chinese are more than a third; and the Chinese do run large sectors of the economy and their cooperation is needed If Malaysia as a whole is to prosper." but concludes: "It must be reiterated that Malaysia is the best rather than the worst country In Asia."
- 24 February 1975: 10-year old girl is found murdered in a sack in a gravel pit in Shepperton 10 miles from her home after her abduction on 22 Jun 1974.
- 25 February 1975: Denis Healey: 'The key question is can we go on borrowing? We are living 5 to 6% above our earnings. It will be very much harder to borrow £3billion this year; may be we will have to go to the IMF or the OECD and suffer supervision.'
- 25 February 1975: Industrial Development Cabinet Committee meeting on NVT. Healey 'What is intolerable is that assurances have been given to trade union movement. We cannot have the Secretary of State for Industry talking to the trade unions.'
- Joel Barnett bemoaned the decision 'The Japs are now well entrenched in motorbikes; we can't compete.'
- Harold Lever's comment on the cooperative 'hot air and a recipe for the impoverishment of our economy' Tony Crosland echoed Joel Barnett's view, so Harold then said 'Well, we agreed £4.95 million for Meriden and £8million for the export credits but no more.'"

- 25 February 1975: Lord Dennis Greenhill, former Permanent undersecretary at the Foreign Office and head of the Diplomatic Service, alongside Tom McNally, Foreign Secretary Callaghan's chief political adviser, and Patrick Laver, head of the Foreign Office's Rhodesian Department arrive in Salisbury, Rhodesia. They begin a series of visits to Ian Smith and Joshua Nkomo. They attempt to bring the two elements together in order to sideline the more ZANU.
- 25 February 1975: Brunei's Sultan and British officials begin discussions over the terms of the (overwhelmingly white-officered) British Army Gurkha battalion and Jungle Warfare Training School.
- 25 February 1975: Indonesian government gives a signal suggesting the use of force over Timor. A spokesman for the President, Lieut-Gen Soedharmo, when directly questioned about reports that Indonesia is planning a takeover states Indonesia supports decolonisation, opposes 'aggression' and has not changed its policy on Timor whereby "if the people of Timor wanted integration with Indonesia this would be welcomed if it was in line with the Indonesian Constitution".
- 25 February 1975: Peter Godber, former senior British officer in the Hong Kong Police Force is sentenced in absentia to only 4 years in prison for a string of corruption offences. The Judge allows him concurrent sentences in an act of clemency.
- 26 February 1975: Reflecting governmental briefing world press agencies report: "Indonesia and Australia have expressed hopes that the voters will choose union with Indonesia. They see an independent Timor as a security risk for the region." (International Herald Tribune, 26 Feb 1975)
- 26 February 1975: Benn considers civil service obstruction: "We were talking about civil servants' obstruction and Joe said 'There are only two sorts of people who can defeat the Civil Service; the public schooll boys and the Arthur Scargills.'... I don't think anybody can beat them... the Civil Service is defending the class inetersts of owners and professional people... Industrialists don't worry about about Government intervention, they are not a bit worried about it. What they are concerned about is the thought that trade uinions might be more powerful"
- 26 February 1975: Government wins its proposals to increase the Civil List, annual public gift to the Queen by £420,000 p.a. with Conservative and Liberal support. 89 Labour MPs and 1 Liberal vote against the increases in the Civil List.

26 February 1975: Another new round of major NATO military exercises.

26 February 1975: Chancellor Healey: 'We have to maintain the confidence of businessmen... the whole of our future depends on the confidence of businessmen. And the speeches you [Benn] keep making undermine confidence all the time' (Tony Benn's Diary)

26 February 1975: Former Labour member, chairman of the Radio Authority, Minister for the Foreign Office under the 1966-70 Wilson government, current crossbencher, Alun Jones begins a debate and vote on 'subversion'. He states "the governing Party provide, in one way or another, shelter for a number of people" that are "subversive and extremist elements in our society" who "constitute a very real and serious danger to our democratic institutions." He goes on to attack: the Communist Party; prevalence of Communists amongst shop stewards and trade union officials; Labour Research Department; Counter Information Services; the Liaison Committee for the Defence of Trade Unions; Institute of Workers' Control; the International Socialists, International Marxist Group, Workers' Revolutionary Party particularly their role in industry and organising "flying pickets"; student teachers who are committed opponents of war in Vietnam.

None of the Left Labour peers can question how an appointed and hereditary House of Lords can possibly enhance "democracy", but tell the worriers not to worry too much because the subversives are so insignificant and suggest ways in which "subversion" could be halted. Chief Labour Speaker, John Harris, former special adviser at the Home Office, agrees that the CPGB's "political aims involve the destruction of Parliamentary democracy and the suppression of freedom as we know it" but not to worry because "the degree of support it [CPGB] obtains in this country is negligible compared with the support obtained by the Communist Party in France. The reason for that is the existence in this country of one of the most powerful social democratic Parties in the Western world." If you are worried about Communists, support us. He then lists Labour successes in anti-subversion: "The IRA was proscribed under the Prevention of Terrorism Act" which gives "the Secretary of State and to the police certain additional— and exceptional— powers which it was expected would be useful. That expectation has been fulfilled." In support of restrictions on IRA activity he declares "we welcome the action taken by the American authorities in relation to attempts made by the IRA to obtain material support in the United States." Of course "the police need the support of the public, if they are to carry out effectively their duties of maintaining public order" and police power can basically be extended without worry. He mentions "the value of

the Policing of Airports Act 1974, as a result of which policing responsibility at Heathrow was taken over by the Metropolitan Police" and the similar status for "Gatwick, Stansted, Prestwick, Edinburgh and Glasgow" and soon all "major municipal airports". He reiterates Labour's standard position that discussion of the internal security apparatus is off-limits: "the resources of the security service. Again it is inappropriate to comment in detail on matters of this kind".

His basic philosophy is for a national Labour solution to temporary difficulties: "Let us try to play our part to get our country out of its present difficulties." Bringing trade union executives into the machinery of government, 'national codetermination' is solution: "In industry, the best safeguard against the small minority of extremists... is a strong trade union movement, in regular and constructive consultation with the employers and the Government." He reasserts Labour nationalism: "I recall Lord Attlee's words towards the end of his life, that there was no country in the world in which he would have preferred to live his life than our own" a propaganda point to use against extremists. He stresses the point wider about Britain as "the envy of the world": "We have civilised traditions of decency and fair play which are the envy of the world." Barnett Janner, former Bevanite, former Leicester MP, Labour stalwart in Commons Committees for over two decades, adds: "the PLO is still continuing its terrorist activities, directly if not by itself, certainly by the organisation which Arafat himself has admitted is still being retained, and which is of course creating the terrorism which we have no need whatsoever to endure or to encourage if we want to save our society. ... Arafat still continues to rely on obtaining his ends by terrorism. Indeed his second-in-command boasted at the Arab Summit conference that he had arranged for the attempts to murder King Hussein of Jordan, and later said that it was still his intention." His particular answer for Britain's industrial problems is Israel: "if we really want to deal with our problems satisfactorily the illustration that is and has been given by Israel, how it has carried on, both before its creation as a state and after, would be considered exemplary, in so far as relationships between man and man are concerned."

Left former ILP member, Fenner Brockway, who served two prison terms during the First world war, states he agrees with Lord Jones who "began by saying that violence is not justified in a democratic society. I agree with him entirely." He asserts he is a revolutionary but "I should be utterly opposed to the use of physical violence for that revolution." So he attacks "the IRA in Ireland. I would say that there violence is not justified ... I would not define the activities of the IRA as violence for political purposes such as where one people's country is occupied by another people."

Bevanite former ILP member, Mannie Shinwell, who served 3 months in prison for "instigating and inciting large crowds of persons to form part of a riotous mob" before he was elected MP in 1924, says it is crucial not to damage Britain's prestige by too much talk of subversion or Britain's failures in the six counties: "if we create the impression abroad that a Police State is developing in some part of the United Kingdom, that will not help our prestige at all... something which noble Lords generally do not seem to have grasped- if we create the impression that there are elements in this country described as extremists, call them what you will, who are trying by subversive methods to overturn society and destroy democracy, then that, too, will not help our prestige." Presumably the fear is the talk will damage internal and external business confidence, business interests will divert investments elsewhere with fewer subversives.

He commends the developing 'social contract': "the trade unions have come to power, and I hope that they will behave a lot better [than Conservatives]. I am sure they will. ... I believe that as they go along the trade unions will do what they say in accordance with the traditions of the Labour Party." This new arrangement will "behave" better in securing business interests. He says "there are many associated with management who evince no dislike for worker participation. Indeed, they welcome it", hence "there is a change in the situation, and in the climate of industry" and partnership is the solution.

He stresses the loyalty on the Labour Left: "let me make it clear beyond peradventure, beyond any possibility of doubt, that if I believed that the extremists of the Communist variety, or the International Socialist variety, or any brand, intended to use violence immediately— that is the operative term— in order to overthrow our society and put an end to our democracy, I should oppose it with all the passion at my command". He reiterates that for "extremists in this country whose intentions were to organise the workers and use violence to overthrow either the Government or society" he "would condemn them with all the influence at my command, and I ask others to follow my lead." He states the Labour movement has been thoroughly opposed to that kind of "extremism", once pre-war wildness was converted into renewed electoralism: "before the First World War ... we used to forgather in tea-rooms. When we left each other, we used to say, 'See you at the barricades'. ... But we came down on the right side, for constitutional, democratic action. That has been the policy of the Labour movement ever since."

He states that "The Labour Party is a democratic Party" hence a loyal one and he "does not ... condone either extremist talk or extremist action." His main suggestion against subversion is "it would not be impossible to restrict the use, of ordinary and simple

arms which are now available to anyone, as I know, as a social worker", because he is "appalled at the ease with which a variety of arms can be obtained and used by ordinary people." As a 'pacifist' the variety of arms available to police and army units is a secondary issue, ordinary people must not have arms. Foreign kung-fu films are a particular problem: "the kind of attitude to the recent Japanese and Chinese films is, I think, a very dangerous accentuation"

27 February 1975: Cabinet. Crosland "I must say I am very cross that Tony Benn should criticise businessmen." Cabinet discusses EEC Steel Proposals. Callaghan half threatens resignation 'If we can't get this agreed well I might as well pack up my bags.' Harold Lever 'International disciplines must be enforced' (Tony Benn's Diary)

27 February 1975: Department for what I thought was the final round of talks with the Meriden people. Sir Dennis Poore said '... I must have a guarantee for five years [of exports, instead of an annual sum]... And I want an inflation guarantee'... Come off it, Well that's it, you'll have to close your factories. Every time anything is agreed, you want something else.' He left the room at this point" (Tony Benn's Diary)

27 February 1975: Defence White Paper is accepted by the Cabinet. It states: "we do not therefore think it would be right in the present circumstances to make any change in the arrangements we have with the Sultan of Oman." Unmentioned in the Benn diaries.

27 February 1975: Speaker at NAFF events, Monday Club chief John Biggs-Davison (Old Cliftonian) attends the Monarchist League's Annual Banquet alongside Old Etonian, former arms supplier to Francoist forcer Marquess of Bristol Victor Hervey, Old Westminster Guy Sainty, chief of Stair Sainty art dealership and various other aristocrats and deposed or 'pretender' royals, Infante Juan, Count of Barcelona, Prince Tomislav Karageorgevich of Yugoslavia, Geraldina Zog Queen of Albania, Emir Ali of Yemen among others.

27 February 1975: British Armed Forces confirm that the SBAs will become effectively intelligence-only bases. SBAs will hold signal-intelligence, communications and radar facilities with airfields to allow the take-off and landing of British and US intelligence aircraft. Around 1,000 personnel are to remain armed only to defend the base, on a limited basis. (Bagnall (Secretary to COS) to CBFNE, 'Cyprus Future Force Levels', COS 1055/733A, 27.02.75, DEFE 25/340)

27 February 1975: Another 24-hour signal workers strike.

28 February 1975: <u>The Times</u> reports another Powell speech saying immigration must be reversed to avoid "an England rent by strife,

by violence and by division upon a scale for which we have no parallel here and to which no ending that is pleasant to contemplate can be envisaged."

28 February 1975: <u>Tribune</u> reports "EMI bought the Italian company Voxson in 1972. The company manufactures TV sets and tape players at a factory near Rome, and employs 1,300 workers. After only three years EMI want to sell or close the factory. The Italian workers and unions are picketing the factory and refusing to let EMI cash in on unsold goods stored in the factory worth some £6 million. The unions say that EMI have made no new investment in the factory or in research and development."

28 February 1975: FNLA representatives request weapons via South Africa House, London.

28 February 1975: In a speech in Cambridge Home Secretary Jenkins, states inflation is "our biggest menace since Hitler" and "an essential pre-requisite is some hard and unpleasant analysis" meaning effectively the need for reduced social expenditure and wage payments.

28 February 1975: London Underground train crashes at speed into a dead end tunnel at Moorgate, killing 43 in total. Firefighters rescue the last living passenger after sixteen hours. A further five days and four nights of work completes recovery of the last of the bodies. Only a 4-day inquest is held.

28 February 1975: On Britain's insistence, the EEC's new sugar regime is officially finalised with Protocol No.3 allowing quota-based access for ACP (African and Commonwealth). It largely allows financial interests in Paris and London to hold onto significant profit creating opportunities in Barbados, Fiji, Belize, Swaziland, Guyana, Jamaica, Malawi, Mauritius, Swaziland and Trinidad. Britain's Ministry of Agriculture spearheading the new agreement is undertaken by Patricia Jamieson, who later leaves to become a director in Tate & Lyle Sugars.

28 February 1975: All 23 NUM regions vote to accept the pay deal recently reached between the NUM executive and NCB, hence solidifying the Social Contract.

28 February 1975: 31 full warships, 7000 armed service personnel and dozens of aircraft take part in Operation Sea Fox, a SEATO military exercise. It features Britain, Thailand, USA, Australia and the Philippines.

28 February 1975: Head of the South East Asia section at the FCO, Gavin Hewitt, outlines the basic British government attitude to

Timor: "Timor's eventual integration with Indonesia is probably the right answer in terms of regional stability" (Memo from G. W. Hewitt to R. E. Palmer, FCO South East Asia Division, 28 February 1975, FCO15/1714)

28 February 1975: Lomé Convention signed. After 19 months of negotiations, begun prior to the October war, Britain having insisted in 1973 using the French precedent, on special arrangements for Commonwealth former colony nations upon entry into the EEC. Final 1975 negotiations mark an EEC hardening of terms. It covers 1976-1980. 36 are African states: Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Benin, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Upper Volta, Zaire and Zambia. 6 are Caribbean - Bahamas, Barbados, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago. 3 are Pacific Fiji, Tonga and Samoa.

ACP states agree on protocols covering sugar, beef, veal, rum, bananas where quotas and STABEX minimum prices are set. The Sugar Protocol commits each state to deliver specific quantities of sugar to EEC at guaranteed prices based upon a fraction of the sugar price set under the CAP. Since many EEC states are also sugar producers, ACP in total is allocated 1,300,000 metric tones of sugar, split amongst themselves. It results in significant increases for many primary and semi-refined products. Asian Commonwealth countries attempting to avoid aid conditions tied to EEC remain outside the agreement and are locked out of the EEC's market.

What is achieved is done so on the basis of tough Third World unity against the Western EEC powers, dominated by Britain, France and Federal Germany. Shridath 'Sonny' Ramphal, Guyana's Foreign Minister, later notes that whilst "falling short of the ACP's aspirations, it far exceeded the original intention of the EEC" being the first time a 'North-South' economic agreement has been "negotiated rather than unilaterally imposed" (Lomé Briefing no1, Rekindling the spirit of Lomé, 1983)

March 1975: Labour Left Roy Hughes MP spells out a vision of 'Britain' continuing food and primary product imports from excolonies but export of manufactures and expertise as socialist, rather than 'right wing' opposition to EEC membership: "Now Britain as a nation imports large quantities of raw materials and 50 per cent of its food supplies, and these are paid for by the export of manufactured goods together with the provision of certain services such as shipping and insurance facilities." He asserts "We can no longer take the former colonial peoples for granted because they are now quite rightly seeking their place in the sun and demanding

realistic prices for their products. In many ways as socialists we should welcome this development and the gradual ending of an era when a small part of the world grew affluent at the expense of the rest which languished in poverty." [What "realistic prices", how "gradual" the "ending" should be is left unsaid.] For "Britain's economic situation ... our natural trading partners are the underdeveloped countries whose economies are complementary to ours. We should be supplying the capital goods and the expertise that they so urgently require, and here the Middle East is the outstanding example... as long as we remain in the Common Market, levies have to be imposed on these traditional imports and the proceeds handed over to Brussels. Our trade with the former colonial territories should be allowed to continue unrestricted, for this can be of mutual benefit. Certainly the obsession in recent years with the Common Market has meant that these countries have tended to look elsewhere, and the disruption of our sugar supplies is an example of this." (Labour Monthly, March 1975, Common Market)

March 1975: Rent freeze for council tenants is brought to an end, almost immediately rent increase of up £2 a week are imposed. 6 million household will face severe increases. Council house building rests at 10,000 council home starts each month. \*\*

March 1975: CIA reactivates its Luanda station. John Stockwell "an official CIA station is opened only with the approval of the State Department, generally under the cover of a United States embassy or consulate. Only in rare instances is the CIA station truly unknown to the host government. Hence, in deference to Portuguese sensibilities, the subject of reopening the Luanda station was inevitably vetoed whenever it arose" until "March 1975, when the Portuguese were finally disengaging and losing control".

March-Aug 1975: Dutch researchers Ton Dietz, Annemieke van Haastrecht and Rudolf Scheffer research the functioning of Tate & Lyle-managed but state-owned Nakambala Sugar Estate, Zambia: "INDECO (the Industrial Development Corporation of Zambia) also owned the majority of shares of the Nakambala Sugar Estate (51%), with UK-based multinational Tate & Lyle being the major other shareholder and having its management contract. The sugar estate had started off in 1966. By 1975 7,000 hectares had been planted with sugar cane, and the company employed 4,400 labourers, the majority of them cane cutters recruited from the western Lozi community, usually for eight months per year. We interviewed almost 200 of these labourers. In addition we gathered information at the level of the company management and spoke to various informants in Kafue Town and Mazabuka. (where many families also lived) ...

We had a nice time in Nakambala. We could make use of the staff club and its dining and sports facilities (where staff would aggressively ring table bells to order food and drinks) and we were frequent guests of a Dutch-Rhodesian couple who lived in a very luxurious house, and whose swimming pool was a delight. They were amused about our romantic left-wing ideas, and we were tormented by, what we regarded as racist and upper-class attitudes. With the labourers we had long discussions about labour rights, and wage levels, and as long as we were there we experienced heated debates among them, but no 'action'. Later, back in the Netherlands, we heard that soon after we had left there had been a spontaneous strike, demanding higher wages and better treatment. When the police came to arrest the agitators some people were shot dead, and the strike was over. We have always felt quilty for creating turmoil, and not being there to face the consequences.

...We spent five months in Zambia, between March and August 1975... In May 1977 we were involved in the organisation of a 'working congress' of the new Dutch radical geographers' and planners' journal Zone, together with the people around the Danish radical geographers' journal <u>Fagligt Forum</u>. The congress was entitled 'Imperialism and the spatial analysis of peripheral capitalism' (in English), and had keynote lectures by David Harvey, Mogens Buch-Hansen, and David Slater. Annemieke also presented a paper on our Zambian results, which, later that year, was published in Zone"

\*March 1975: Whitehall hosts a 'contents top-secret' conference about Timor between General Ali Murtopo (Indonesia's ambassador to Britain, France and Belgium) and Portuguese General Dr Campinos and Major Vitor Alves.

- 1 March 1975: Reg Prentice states that "trade unions must not welsh" but enforce the social contract.
- 1 March 1975: A highly suspicious bomb is exploded at a Nairobi-Mombasa coach stand killing at least 70, probably in an attempt to assassinate 'J.M.'. The bombing is immediately blamed upon a fictitious clandestine organisation called the Maskini (poor peoples) Liberation Front.
- 2 March 1975: Kenyan populist MP Josiah Mwangi "J.M." Kariuki, is disappeared from the Hilton Hotel in Nairobi by Ben Gethi a chief police officer, and members of Government's General Services Unit (GSU) and police. JM has introduced Parliamentary efforts against ivory contraband a threat to Mama Ngina, Kenyatta's current wife, Kenya's leading trader in ivory exports. Margaret Kenyatta, Kenyatta's daughter from a previous marriage, mayor of Nairobi, is

also involved in the ivory smuggling trade. Kenyatta family itself controls all Nairobi's gambling casinos, many coffee and sisal plantations, office buildings, manufacturing firms and tourist resorts. Kenyatta's bedrock allies are Kikuyu landowners, who have been threatened by JM's introduction of a bill limiting the size of land to be owned by one person. He opposes payments to British colonial landowners for land "Do not return me to Bunge if you expect that I will change my convictions on the land question; on the repayment of loans on land which we fought for and that is our God-given right; and on the necessity of land-ceiling legislation." He is also a strong opponent of the Kenyan government continuing to pay pensions to British colonial officers, and an opponent of lying down to Western business interests "dressed in a new cloak labelled economic adviser to such-and-such a ministry or to so-and-so... they advise us in their interests and we follow them like sheep." Ben Gethi, senior police officer head of the paramilitary units, at the Nairobi Hilton at the same, almost certainly involved in the murder later becomes Kenya's police commissioner, to whom Britain and USA later provide police assistance in the arap Moi era.

- 2 March 1975: "I went upstairs and discovered that Joshua was picking up my telephone call to Frances on his radio. So obviously there is a transmitter bug in my room... the portable radio wasn't even plugged in at all to his electrical system... an absolute confirmation of what I have long suspected." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 3 March 1975: Former US Attorney Gen. Elliott Richardson arrives in London to begin his post as US ambassador.
- 3 March 1975: A Maasai herder discovers what is JM's body in a forest-bush of the Ngong Hills, near Nairobi. The body has every one of its fingers cut off, both eyes gouged out, its penis severed and in the pocket of its coat, teeth pulled out wholly absent, skin and face disfigured with sulphuric acid and 12 bullet holes on each side. "Elders reported the discovery... to the Ngong police station.... normal procedures were ignored. No attempts were made at fingerprinting and the body was removed from the crime scene and subsequently dumped at the Nairobi city mortuary. Police reported that fingerprints on the body were untraceable, and yet on March 12, when fingerprints were taken to the Ministry of Labour, prints were identified within ten minutes."
- 3 March 1975: General Oscar Bonilla is killed in a UH1H helicopter crash flying on a misty morning from El Calabozo. "Within hours French technicians and the Air Force were on the scene. All were puzzled that the tail rotor had fallen so far away from the site of the crash. The investigation was taken over by the Army; an air force

corporal invovled in the original investigation was sent off to France to retake a course he had already taken; the French experts were injured in another helicopter crash, and the findings of that inquiry were marked secret. The authorities let it be known that General Bonilla had insisted on taking off at any cost" in spite of eyewitnesses at El Calabazo reporting his questioning 'Are you sure we can fly?' to the pilot before take-off.

- 4 March 1975: EEC Council of Ministers meeting over British renegotiation.
- 4 March 1975: An unofficial docks strike develops against the deletion of jobs in container depots.
- 4 March 1975: Thai government introduces its bill to remove foreign bases from Thai soil. Defence Minister, states: "This means that the total withdrawal of the American troops and warplanes will be done within 18 months after we formally take office." He says all 25,000 US military personnel, base facilities and 350 aircraft of various types, including B52 strategic bombers, must be removed. US planners begin looking to Britain as the first alternative.
- 5 March 1975: 300 workers begin a sit-in in protest at Imperial Typewriters Hull in protest at the plant's closure decision. The Leicester plant scene of dispute between white workers and NF shop steward and Asian workers closes without a trace of action. \*\* 5 March 1975: NGA votes very narrowly to accept a pay deal from the Newspaper Publishers Association.
- 5 March 1975: RAN HMAS Derwent begins its 5-month deployment in the Far East. It calls at Surabaya to participate in Exercise Orion with the Indonesian Navy, just as the Indonesian armed forces is preparing its invasion of East Timor.
- 5 March 1975: Kuwaiti Oil Minister announces the government's intention to purchase effective shareholder control of BP and Gulf Oil.
- 5 March 1975: Tony Benn succeeds in securing Commons support for financial assistance to NVT Meriden for the "asset sale for the Meriden site and a product sale, plus a marketing link. At a time when the world market for motor cycles is buoyant, that will increase Britain's capacity to produce motor cycles and to sell them abroad.... The men are ready to produce and the market exists... The House will also know that the workers at Small Heath were anxious lest they might be victims of the scheme... It was only after the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions had come in and called together representatives of the Wolverhampton,

Birmingham and Meriden sites that we were clear to go forward with the passage of this measure... I have had representations from them about their anxieties for the future and about their desire for a three-plant solution under public ownership. I have not been able to do more than to say to them that of course any proposals that come forward will be considered. [ie no total nationalisation] ... at one time this industry employed 8,500 people and had 60% of the market in the United States for the superbike. It now employs 2,500 and has only 20% of the market for the superbike."

Meriden itself has significantly lost its base as a substantial organised workforce, of 1,600 jobs that were initially lost and occupied the plant 18 months ago, only 150 of that workforce remain available for deployment, not having taken voluntary redundancy payment. Benn's plans envisage a plant working at much greater, intensified productivity with only 880 employed at Meriden (a loss in jobs of around a half).

5 March 1975: Labour Left Leslie Huckfield turns up anti-Japanese chauvinism bemoaning having to "see the police riding around Westminster on Honda motorcycles, and the police and local authorities having to equip their staff men and workmen with Hondas and BMWs?" when arguing for the Meriden cooperative. He praises the workforce for its concessions: "They were prepared to agree to a plan of voluntary redundancy. They were willing to agree to a plan for short-time working. They were willing to agree to a plan for work sharing. They were willing to agree to a reduction in the rates they were paid for waiting time when there was nothing to do. Our constituents were willing to make all these sacrifices to keep the industry in being."

6 March 1975: In the midst of an OPEC summit begun 1 Mar 1975, with pressure from other members to present a common front, Iran and Iraq conclude an agreement to abide by arbitration over the Shatt-al-Arab strip.

6 March 1975: Isolation and a constant press campaign against rail strikes means participation in the signalmen's 24-hour strike is much reduced.

6 March 1975: Conservative Central Office begins its process of reenergising after narrow electoral defeats: "Conservatives in constituency organisations should concern themselves not simply with recruiting the faithful but in searching out ideas and people in activist groups e.g. meals on wheels. Contact, SCF, ratepayers' and tenants' associations etc. The concept as I understand it, is that these groups should be encouraged to the view that Parliament in general and the Conservative Party in particular has a role in forwarding at least some of their aims and that we will tap a useful

- source of new ideas which will eventually find its way into our policy-forming activities."
- 6 March 1975: Kissinger attends a ceremony in Wales honouring Foreign Secretary Callaghan.
- 6-10 March 1975: Acting commander of Thai Armed Forces, General Kris Sivara holds talks with President Suharto and Indonesian Defence Minister Gen. Maraden Panggabeanon on Timor, guerrilla insurgency and the future of South-East Asia.
- 7 March 1975: <u>Le Monde</u> reports the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank intend a meeting in Manila in June to discuss Western aid to South Vietnam.
- 7 March 1975: All Italian government business halts as over 300,000 civil servants stage 24-hour strike for reform of the civil service and a higher pay settlement.
- 7 March 1975: Kissinger holds a breakfast briefing for Reg Maudling, Shadow Foreign Affairs and then holds talks with Wilson at 10 Downing Street.
- 7 March 1975: Hong Kong's Trade Development Council business group on a visit to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, announces orders totalling HK\$55mil with further deals totalling HK\$12mil in negotiation.
- 7 March 1975: US Treasury Secretary William Simon says oil exporting countries are beginning to recognise that lower oil prices are in their own best interest.
- 7 March 1975: Reuters reports the comments of 48-year old bachelor MP Charles Irving who states he is considering forming a trade union for the "obscene" hours MPs spend at Parliament meaning "quite frankly many of us are sex-starved".
- 7 March 1975: Convicted triad-assister and bribe-taker Hong Kong Police Chief. Supt. Peter Godber's lawyers right to appeal against his 4 year sentence is accepted.
- 7 March 1975: A Singaporean worker is arrested for being in Telok Ayer Basin Free Trade Zone without a permit. He is later fined S\$300. FTZs in South East Asia begin using apartheid-style passes to restrict entry to avoid unionisation drives. Telok Ayer was recommended by a World Bank mission in July 1963 as the site for an entrepôt goods FTZ. British firms and subsidiaries constantly use the docks and facilities there.

7 March 1975: General Sir Walter Walker in a classic case of smart psychological war states Civil Assistance, his rightist militarist force embedded within the army (and retired army that has contacts and favours within), has 100,000 adherents, as reported in the day's Times.

7 March 1975: Board of Ladbrokes announces that agreement has been reached with the board of Vernons Pools, the second largest football pools firm in Britain, for Ladbrokes to acquiring the whole of its issued shares.

8 March 1975 am: A triad-related arson fire kills 9 in Hong Kong. 8 March 1975: Queen's cousin, Lord Lichfield, the son of Viscount Anson and Danish royal Princess Anne weds Lady Leonora Grosvenor, daughter of Duke of Westminster, probably the richest man in Britain. "Lichfield... was a very amusing, rather sweet and extraordinarily handsome man with bouffant hair and apparently lots of money, and we used to go out together... to places like the then Sloaney nightclub Annabel's... He told me: 'When I'd go round to Kensington Palace for you-know-what, she had a little hand-bell which she'd use to signal to the butler, using a code she and the butler had agreed. One ring meant "Don't come in". And then, when we'd finished, she'd ring it again three times, which meant "You can come in now, we're finished! And we'd like some tea". Oh, she was so amusing!"('So tell me, Ma'am, why do you always look so grumpy', Ann Leslie, Daily Mail 17 Sep 2008)

The wedding means increased capital and connections allowing 'Patrick Lichfield' to sidestep competition in the photographer scene.

- 8 March 1975: Widespread press reporting of some army units "standing by" for action in Glasgow to break the refuse workers' strike. The first step in the military's psychological war.
- 8 March 1975: Eastern Region strike committee of signalmen accepts the NUR agreement and says it will discontinue participation in the weekly strikes.
- 8 March 1975: <u>Socialist Worker</u> announces IS future SWP line on the EEC Referendum: "A No vote, that is to say a defeat for big business, Tory, Liberal and right-wing Labour on this issue is in our interests. We are part of the left. We can no more abstain in the confrontation than we could abstain in last year's elections"
- 8 March 1975: Malaysia Special Branch detain University of Malaysia student Yeoh Boon Foo under ISA after the trial against him and 47 others for squatting on state land is adjourned because the defence lawyer Abdul Razak has remained under ISA detention.

- 9 March 1975: <u>Sunday Telegraph</u> reports Britain and Argentina increasingly clashing over oil exploration in the South Atlantic. It describes Britain as eager to continue North Sea oil but unwilling to invest significantly in the South Atlantic shelf, yet also determined not to offer economic access in its zones to Argentina.
- 9 March 1975: Venezuelan President Carlos Andrea Peres in French weekly <u>L'Express</u> warns that developed nations must reduce their extravagant luxury expenditure since over-consumption in developed countries is the "great sickness" of modern Industrial society.
- 9 March 1975: <u>Straits Times</u> reports "than 60 per cent of the 173,500 workers who joined Singapore's work force during the last four years were women, a Government labour force survey report discloses. Most were engaged in the manufacturing sector. The 173,500 extra workers raised the total labour force from 650.900 in 1970 to 824.400 last year."
- 9 March 1975: Sir William Collins "I hope to meet some of your local publishers who have been selling low of our books, and some printers too." He states the firm "hopes to do some printing here" and notes "I don't normally write books, but I have written one on people who are doing research with animals. This book will be published in a year's time." Collins has recently increased profits and begun expansion after successful publishing of Agatha Christie. Alistair MacLean, Alexander Solzhenitysn and others.
- 9 March 1975: Education Minister Mahathir Mohammed announces that over 1000 students have had government scholarships rescinded following 13 Dec 1974 student demonstration over rising living costs. He states only some may be reinstated to study in universities if they can denounce others and promise to concentrate solely on their studies.
- 10 March 1975: Foreign Office Minister Ennals states: "Her Majesty's Government have no doubt as to their sovereignty over the Falkland Islands."
- 10 March 1975: Rio Tinto Zinc announces it will make a £33mil rights issue to offset the effects of higher taxation liability in Bougainville, imposed by growing Papuan social struggle. However it states taxation In Bougainville is compensated for by improved results from subsidiaries Hamersley and Australian Mining and Smelting.

- 10 March 1975: Sir Charles Curran. the director-Ken era! of the BBC announces that cutbacks in production are permanent and staff cuts will continue. Current TV licence fee is £18 for colour and £8 for black and whit.
- 10 March 1975: Home Secretary Jenkins states Britain has a "relatively minor post-imperial role."
- 10 March 1975: Prof.-Gordon Stewart, medicine professor of community at Glasgow University, urges strikebreaking action to clear rubbish dumps as a result of the dustcart strike.
- 10 March 1975: It is disclosed consultants at Britain's leading ophthalmologic hospital Moorfields, King's Cross, London have set up a separate, special unit for private patients there to avoid ancillary workers' go-slow/industrial action against private patients in Wellington Hospital.
- 10 March 1975: US oil firm Occidental announces suspension construction of a Canvey Island refinery, primarily in order to secure greater power in the "planning agreements" to be finalised with the government.
- 10 March 1975: 12 internees facing further charges for an attempted escape from the Maze internment camp, escape from a Newry court.
- 10 March 1975: Tony Benn appoints the Boston Consulting Group Ltd, a private US firm, to undertake a commercial appraisal of strategy for the British motorcycle industry. Its managing director is Jim Van B Dresser, later a director of Merrimack Pharmaceuticals.
- 10 March 1975: 4 Asian children aged 2 to 8 are discovered stabbed to death in a bedroom in Greenwich, when their mother returns from work.

10-20 March: NATO Exercise LANTREADEX2-75.

10-11 March 1975: EEC negotiations in Dublin effectively complete Britain's renegotiation efforts. Budget contributions will be lower and Commonwelath import quotas will be increased particularly for New Zealand dairy, otherwise missing from Britain's food production. Wilson asserts his success: "We have the great advantage that Jim and I are a complete partnership. We pass the ball from one to another and break through the opposition."

Bernard Donoughue's assessment: "Everyone was laughing and chatting – except Germany's Chancellor Schmidt, who would have to pay for our Budget achievements.... Joe and I sat on St Patrick's throne, last used officially by George V, happily drinking champagne, and then toured Dublin's bars until the early hours. Our EEC partners had delivered what the British wanted. Wilson and Callaghan now made it clear in private, though not yet in public, that they would recommend staying in the Community." (p176) Britain will secure £125mil of 'rebate' such that Britain's contribution

to EEC budget will not be at a percentage point greater than the ratio of British GDP to total EEC GDP. A chorus of "Happy Birthday" is sung by fellow EEC prime ministers to Wilson on 10 Mar 1975.

- 11 March 1975: Commons approves government proposal in the manner and method of the referendum on EEC membership 312-262. The question as requested by the government will be 'Do you think the United Kingdom should stay in the European Community (Common Market)?'f
- 11 March 1975: Director-General of the Port of London Authority, Chairman of the International Port Development Committee of the International Association of Ports and Harbours (IAPH), John Lunch, gives the plenary of its biennial conference. He announces the formation of a regional centre of South-East Asia to train technical port staff and managers. He states the provision of training and advisory facilities to developing countries is more important now than ever before. Port facilities in the Third World are crucial for the West: "There have been enormous changes in the international scene due to the escalating price of oil and other basic commodities. These have divided the developing countries into two groups — the relatively affluent and the relatively poor." He explains the World Bank is prepared to finance the cost of training staff abroad or locally, varying from senior management to equipment operators and courses ranging from local training and schools to advanced management and engineering seminars in the IAPH venue in Singapore. Other speeches at IAPH include 'Port Co-operation in the Promotion of International Trade', 'Situation at British Ports', 'Growing Role of World Trade Centres As New Tools for Port Improvement'.
- 11 March 1975: British RAF Hercules aircraft evacuates many British embassy staff, businessmen, journalists and relief officials from Phnom Penh. Only a handful of Embassy figures remain
- 11 March 1975: Education Secretary announces that direct grant schools can become either independent, private schools or enter the LEA system, ceding the legitimacy of the private system. The government grant is to be phased out over a glacial seven-year period starting from Sep 1976. Conservatives oppose pledging to restore the grant but later endorse a new, more insidious Assisted Places scheme.
- 11 March 1975: 26 squatted houses containing 81 people in Tolmers Square, Camden, receive summonses to appear at the High Court in 10 days' time. Camden Labour council fail to act in spite of earlier appeals: "We are not prepared to hand over these houses to the bulldozers of the profiteers.... we therefore demand an end to the dithering of the Council. The Council must immediately declare that it has broken off negotiations with [propoerty firm owner] Levy

- and CPO all his property at minimal cost. It must embark on a programme of rehabilitation and rehousing. If Levy attempts to carry out any evictions before the CPO process is completed, we demand that the Camden Labour Party and Camden Council organise a campaign throughout the labour and tenants movement to resist any attempted eviction by any means necessary" (Leaflet of TSSAG, June 1974).
- 11March 1975: Defence Secretary Mason says the Harrier aircraft has good export prospects, because it can operate from a number of ships. It has operated from at least 14 foreign ships and from 15 different RN ships.
- 11 March 1975: Portuguese radio announces Former President Antonio de Spinola has escaped from an air base in central Portugal. With Brazilian militarist assistance Spinola continues funding the hard-right arson and bomb group ELP (O Exercito de Libertação de Portugal) targeting trade unionists, rural literacy workers trying to reduce Portugal's 36% literacy rate, peasant cooperatives.
- 12 March 1975: Press reports announce that a withdrawal date for the British Gurkha regiment in Brunei will not be announced in the Defence White Paper after accepting much of the Sultan's arguments in talks in London over defence arrangements. Press speculates Second Battalion of the Royal Brunei Malay Regiment will become operational by 1978 and a Third Battalion can be started then, which will clear the way for a neo-colonial
- 12 March 1975: Speaker of the House of Commons rules that ordinary business will continue in Parliament on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of a dispute by manual staff in Parliament. A state of no hot meals, cleaning, internal waste collection or delivery of mail continues.

withdrawal in late 1978 or 1979.

- 12 March 1975: A lorry driver is poisoned dead in his cab beside Pitsea chemicals waste dump. Poisonous fumes had been discovered at the site earlier.
- 12 March 1975: Former Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Abdulla Al-Tariki, current oil executive in Kuwait, at an OPEC conferences urges states to retain forms of participation by Western oil firms (by implication including BP, Gulf, Shell) in their industries.
- 12 March 1975: Callaghan announces he will visit PRC in 1976, but Eric Deakins, Trade Under-Secretary will do so by the end of Mar 1975.
- 12 March 1975: Callaghan states "As regards Dhekelia, our position has been made clear a number of times. It is not part of the Republic of Cyprus."

- 12 March 1975: Nairobi Police Commissioner Bernard Hinga confirms JM's body and helps institute a massive security lock down, shutting schools at noon, sending armed riot police sentries across the city and turning away traffic from JM's Aberdare Mountains constituency.
- 13 March 1975: Andrew Gellacher, governor of Saughton Prison, Edinburgh, states the delay in completing a prison at Shorts, Lanarkshire, will cause severe overcrowding problem for prisons in central Scotland.
- 13 March 1975: NUM Executive votes to ensure that any member of the Executive will be unable to speak on a platform on behalf of NUM in favour of a Yes vote in the referendum EEC, given that the membership endorse withdrawal from EEC. This is taken to be 'limiting free speech' by centre-right press even though any member can express his views explicitly as a personal opinion.
- 13 March 1975: John Bosco School Gorbals marshals its pupils to perform shopping duties for the elderly unable to face stairs, after the electricians' strike sees inoperative lifts remaining out of service. They are not paid for their efforts.
- 13 March 1975: PCI-dominated CGIL-ordered Rome-wide 3-hour 'harmless strike' occurs. Over 2 million workers participate but bus and transport workers confine their strike to 3 non-rush hours.
- 13 March 1975: Philippines officials announce government forces have shot dead 3 who police claim have burgled the homes of several US military servicemen near the US Clark Air Force Base, Angeles City.
- 13 March 1975: Morris Committee on Housing and Social Work reports with J. Morris, chairman of the Glasgow Christian Action Housing Committee, wife of the minister of Glasgow Cathedral, stating: "The authorities must get their housing and social work people in there and work together" It nonetheless endorses evictions for rent arrears amongst council home tenants since this action means a "realisation of their true situation" but "we believe, however that when an authority decides to resort to eviction it must provide some form of alternative accommodation if an evicted family would otherwise be homeless". In the real world of course, almost without fail, such alternative accommodation is substandard and overcrowded.
- 14-27 March 1975: London Conference on independence terms for the Seychelles ends without agreement, Britain refusing to accept payment of base leases. Seychelles remains under colonial rule with Britain convening a new conference for Jan 1976, where a compromise is reached.

- 14 March 1975: Labour MP John Mackintosh at Anglo-German Society's conference at Konnigswinter, Federal Germany, predicts the Labour Party will cease any dispute about the Common Market once the referendum was over, and will rapidly comply with sending a full delegation to the European Parliament.
- 14 March 1975: EEC rejects a US demand for it to end export subsidies on cheese, the diplomatic note declaring the EEC reserves the right to act against any US-imposed duties.
- 14 March 1975: In the first time *ever* that the TUC discusses abortion, the TUC Women's Conference carries an amendment against the Prior Abortion Bill.
- 14 March 1975: Prime Minister Brigadier Vasco Goncalves reassures Britain and the West that the decree nationalising banking is simply one "step so that we can effectively control our economy. This does not mean that we are going to nationalise the whole Portuguese economy, so that we are going to finish with private initiative."
- 14 March 1975: Scottish Office Minister Bruce Millan announces that troops are ready to break the Glasgow rubbish collection strike as soon as is required by the Labour Corporation.
- 14 March 1975: National Institute of Economic and Social Research explains "so far the Social Contract has failed" to restrict wage increases sufficiently.
- 14 March 1975: Spinola his wife and 15 other hard-rightist torturer-officers fly Iberia Airlines from Spain to Brazil to join Caetano and Amerigo Tomaz.
- 14 March 1975: Colonel Benito Guanes, head of Paraguay's military intelligence, circulates his urge for action against Paraguayan leftists in Argentina to military attaches in Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Uruguay, USA and Venezuela, urging firmer action as part of Operation Condor to induce militarist forces to clamp down emigre activities.
- 15 March 1975: Scottish POA votes for a reintroduction of capital punishment: "A lot of our charges have no respect for human life at all. The do-gooders have had their chance. Now let common sense prevail" An executive member defending the decision states: "Our members, are not bloodthirsty ogres.. We are merely ordinary people asked to perform an increasingly difficult task... we want adequate protection both for the public at large and for our members."
- 15 March 1975: In an unprecedented Saturday meeting of Glasgow corporation, as requested by the Lord Provost, Glasgow's local Corporation votes 84-10 to ask central government for

strikebreaking assistance and authorise military forces to break the Glasgow dustmen's strike.

16 March 1975: Defence Secretary presents the White Paper on Defence that sees expenditure increasing from £3,650mil for 1975 to over £8,000mil in 1980 on the grounds that "a government's greatest service to their people is that of the preservation of life and freedom". It states Defence assistance to the Sultan Qaboos will continue. It asserts that US collaboration in the Indian Ocean region, particularly Diego Garcia "reflecting inescapable obligations, notably to the security of our dependent territories".

16 March 1975: Old Etonians and Royal Engineers play a centenary match at Chatham army ground to mark a 100 years since the first F.A. Cup final.

16 March 1975: 'JM' Kariuki's funeral is attacked by police dispersing unemployed youths from entering the procession.

"Despite threats, working people, peasants, university students and politicians came in private cars, buses, taxis and trains from all over the country to attend JM's funeral. But it was also frightening to see heavily armed police in uniforms and plainclothes lining the entire way from the road to JM's home." (I Refuse to Die: My Journey for Freedom, Koigi Wa Wamwere, 184)

Where the events are covered in the Western press in the <u>Globe and Mail</u> (23 May 75), there is a basic assertion that such events are aberrations outside Kenya's democratic leadership: "For a country with Kenya's well-earned reputation for democratic orderliness the mortality rate among politicians is striking. Mysterious car accidents, killing of MPs and party politicians have been numerous."

17 March 1975: Hong Kong and EEC begin talks on a new textile restraint agreement, restricting the quantity of textile exports from Hong Kong into EEC member states.

17 March 1975: <u>International Herald Tribune</u> article 'Drift Left in Timor Provokes Indonesian concern' repeats unsubstantiated claims. It reports Timorese Catholic leader Monsignor Jose Ribiero declaring that Portugal's aim in decolonisation is "only a mask to cover the real objective of imposing Communism among Catholic Timorese". British press largely follow its journalistic oversights.

17 March 1975: Management Representatives, Chairman and vicechairman of the shop Stewards Committee send a letter to

"You accuse us of creating anxiety in the minds of our workforce. It is the Government which has created this anxiety by announcing plans to nationalise us without explaining the practical and specific ways in which they would benefit us. May we remind you that we live in South-Wales? Steel closures, railway closures, pit closures have all followed nationalisation. Our six yards have an average of

under 100 people. They are spread out over about 70 miles. What notice, however regionalised, can a corporation employing over 25,000 men take of such a minnow hundreds of miles from Head Office? You answer none of our questions and fears. You give us instead an 'assurance' which could mean anything or nothing... You have made no comment on our willingness to work with you through planning agreements, or on our offer to you to take a shareholding in our future. You have made no comment whatsoever on our suggestion that a referendum on nationalisation be held in our Yards."

- 18 March 1975: Prime Minister announces, what is common knowledge, the government will recommend a Yes vote in the referendum on the EEC. Cabinet is split 16 'Yes' vs 7 'No'. Labour NEC advises 'No'.
- 18 March 1975: Tony Benn declares EEC membership has cost nearly 500,000 jobs and caused industrial disaster. "All that was said by Mr Heath when we were taken into the Common Market has been shown by the facts to be false. We were told that Market membership would mean that we would sell more goods in the Market than we bought, and create jobs in Britain. The opposite has happened. We have bought substantially more goods from the Market than we have sold and we have, as a result, lost jobs in Britain." His unspoken plan for reducing unemployment in Britain, is presumably to sell more goods to the Common Market than are sold from it, to increase unemployment in other West European nations. The statistical thrust of his argument of '500,000' jobs also leaves him vulnerable to counter-attacks that suggest other larger numbers of jobs would be cost by withdrawal.
- 18 March 1975: NIO civil servants consider using Morecambe and Wise and other famous entertainment figures to participate in a Brighten Up Ulster pro-status quo, pro-government campaign. It is dropped in favour of more subtle measures (PREM 16/940)
- 18 March 1975: A march of thousands of Africans and Indians led by independent trade unions, supporting cane workers in dispute with Caroni Ltd, is brutally suppressed. Eric Williams regime's police open fire on the crowds, many are beaten and 29 arrested.
- 18 March 1975: Tunisia's National Assembly, in a stunning example of (pro-Western, pro-Israel-conciliation) democracy unanimously votes for President Borguiba to become President-for-life.
- 18 March 1975: Herbert Chitepo, ZANU leader, is killed in Lusaka by explosives planted by undercover Rhodesian Selous Scouts.
- 18 March 1975: Landing Savane is arrested upon his return to Senegal. It is supposedly connected with a series of raids and arrests Jan 1975 on members of the UTLS (Union des travailleurs libres du Sénégal) organising an illegal political party Xare-Bi.

- 18 March 1975: Maini, Iraqi head of research for OAPEC (Organisation of Arab Oil Exporting Countries) gives a speech at Okean 75. Noting the long term future of Arab oil production lies offshore and he states western European nations will have a major part to play in its production.
- 19 March 1975: Military strikebreaking begins in Glasgow against the city's refuse workers' strike. Over 600 of Royal Highland Fusiliers begin clearing refuse from pavements across the city. They are told the reasons for the action "a group of greedy dustcart drivers had decided they wanted more money than the country could afford and were prepared to create a health hazard" (Socialist Worker 26 Nov 1977) Police escorts guard them on the streets. Royal Corps of Transport also assist with heavy trucks. Royal Highland Fusiliers pipe band is present to display the act as one of an honourable operation playing "The Mockin' o' Geordie's Byre". comply or Soldiers who refuse to question aspects strikebreaking: "We were taken to the notorious Military Corrective Training Centre at Colchester and forbidden to tell the other inmates the real reason we were there. Like everyone else in Colchester we were put on restricted diet, which means you're permanently hungry." They spend their time working in isolation shining walls with boot polish or performing hours of repetitive arduous physical exercise. (Socialist Worker, 26 Nov 1977) 20-year-Corps of Transport describes one strikebreaker old Royal perspective: "As far as we're concerned, this is Just another job. Last month we were in Ulster. Now we're here and it's far from pleasant, but the job will be done and then we'll be off somewhere else, doing something different"
- 19 March 1975: Government confirms the ceiling on housing expenditure: When asked "the only way [local authorities] can hope to reduce large waiting lists is to buy up empty properties offered to them? Will [the government] ensure that adequate funds are available to those authorities which want to buy up empty properties in order to rehouse people on their waiting lists?" the response is "Unfortunately, in the present financial situation, I cannot say that there will be no ceiling on total national expenditure."
- 19 March 1975: COHSE calls on the government to end pay beds in NHS.
- 19 March 1975: Princess Margaret announces her divorce from the Earl of Snowdon.
- 19 March 1975: Government issues its Defence White Paper, which states that for "facilities in the Indian Ocean area in future, we shall be able to use Diego Garcia, where we have agreed to a modest expansion of facilities by the United Slates."

- 19 March 1975: Foreign Office Minister explains government's continuing support for turning Diego Garcia into a US military base, against the protests of Mauritius: "when the Chagos Archipelago was detached... it was made clear to the Mauritian Government that it was needed for 'defence purposes'. The Mauritians sought to place no restrictions upon this use. ... We have told the Mauritius Government that they would have the benefit of any minerals or oil discovered in this area. But the Islands are British sovereign territory and, in our view, this includes the territorial waters. .... At present there are some 300 US personnel stationed there and the number will increase gradually to some 500."
- 19 March 1975: Foreign Office Minister pours cold water on desires for a nuclear-free Indian Ocean region: "[On] the prospects of moving towards—if not an absolutely nuclear-free zone—a peace zone in the general area. ... There are real practical difficulties about organising such an area over a wide ocean....We found it impossible to support we did not vote against, but found it impossible to support proposals put forward at the United Nations in regard to the Indian Ocean, for quite substantial reasons... There are, of course, other considerations that we must bear in mind before we support positively well-meaning but, perhaps, not sufficiently thought out proposals in New York for conferences and arrangements ... the creation of such a zone should not diminish security or have a destabilising effect. This is particularly important in regions of nuclear confrontation between the great Powers."
- 19 March 1975: Labour Left MPs name 10 attaches at the US Embassy as CIA officers. Only 34 MPs sign a Commons motion urging Wilson to inform the US Government that evidence existed that they are associated with the CIA and "unless this can be disproved forthwith, each must be regarded as persona non grata and withdrawn from Britain immediately."
- 20 March 1975: Wilson threatens the Cabinet declaring "I cannot lead a Cabinet when its members mobilise outside agencies including the NEC. It is impossible for me to keep the Cabinet together on this basis. One Minister offered to resign last night, but I don't want to lead a rump.... it could be 1931 all over again. If we get disorganised... What I'm afraid of from this polarisation is a pro-Market coalition, a Tory-dominated coalition with perhaps a titular Labour leader and it would have much worse relations with the trade union movement than even Heath. Indeed, I doubt if democracy could survive, and I'm not going to play it this way. The Cabinet should discuss it and find a solution by 12.30 today."

- 20 March 1975: Government passes its plan to give state finances to political parties for their parliamentary work.
- 20 March 1975: "we are becoming the nuclear hawks of the world, despite the fact that we have nominally subscribed to the Downing Street agreement which intended that during the next 18 months or two years we should endeavour to find out whether it is necessary to have any reprocessing plants at all and to see whether we can curb the proliferation of plutonium, which can be converted into a crude but dreadful nuclear weapon." \*\*
- 20 March 1975: Hundreds hold a protest in Glasgow against the military intervention. Two of Glasgow's three incinerators are put out of use by workers walking out in response to the Glasgow Trades Council request for support faced with military strikebreakers supplying them with refuse. Army begins commandeering incinerators and also sends refuse to sites well beyond Glasgow.

## 21 March 1975:

- 21 March 1975: Sydney Morning Herald records FRETILIN's Political Affairs Committee, Jose Ramos Horta: "Indonesia is accusing us of being communist. This is not true, and they know it. They are just looking for a pretext to move in and take over. I can well understand the concern of Indonesia and Australia if we were to become a Communist state, but I do not see any danger of that. We know we cannot harm the security or interests of our neighbours. FRETILIN leaders are well aware of their responsibilities to maintain peace and security in this area"
- 21 March 1975: Milton Friedman meets General Pinochet in the Palace in Santiago as part of his 6-day advice visit to universities and the civil service. A letter exchange then follows, Friedman commending Pinochet, the latter following his advice to restructure the Cabinet and reduce inflation.
- 21 March 1975: Tony Benn visits the Meriden workers' cooperative "Meriden in the West Midlands. There was no one to meet us at first because they were all so busy, which was good. There are about 170 people working there now, at a flat-rate pay of £50 a week- a dream for them after eighteen months of privation. They have 2,000 applicants to work at what is £20 below the going rate in Coventry. No supervision, and no clocking in." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 22 March 1975: Fishing boats blockade ports in Grimsby and Immingham.

- 22 March 1975: Scottish Council of Labour Party votes to campaign against membership of the EEC in the referendum.
- 23 March 1975: Fishing boats blockade Tyneside ports. Other ports are targeted in the following days.
- 23 March 1975: Glasgow Corporation stands firm in the rubbish collectors' dispute: "We have an agreement with the unions for national negotiations and neither party at national revel has asked for these to be abandoned."

\*March 1975: Thatcher speechwriter, NAFF and ISC figure Robert Moss's book The collapse of democracy is published on familiar backlash lines. It sees Allende's Unidad Popular, Portuguese MFA and Euro-Communism as controlled, deliberate extensions of a Soviet assault on political democracy and pluralism, warning "with the growth of Euro-Communism, the battlefields are located in our territory" (p19). It considers the future if the battle is lost where inflation, taxation redistribution and the bankruptcies of newspapers leads to (close to implausible) only 2 national newspapers which has allowed a Workers' Government to come to power that prints money "to keep men employed in whatever business they happen to be working and at whatever wage they thought they should be paid" so that sterling is at an effective black market rate of 2/5ths of a cent, and the royal family has escaped to New Zealand-the "collapse of democracy". It is vehement in its opposition to trade union activity it raises the backlash call against agreement with trade unions since, it is not possible to turn "poachers into gamekeepers" (p116). The poachers being trade unionists, the gamekeepers management protecting the edifice of parliamentary democracy. It urges sensible use of militarist force to overcome all strikes: "Britain need not be governed in fear of strikes with adequate preparations — accumulation of stocks of coal and oil, organisation of private road transport, contingency planning for the use of resources and civilian volunteers" (p117)

One chapter titled 'The necessity of property' warns of the apparent danger of Labour's nationalisation plans: "Without economic pluralism, political pluralism cannot survive for long. We have seen already that the survival of a free society depends on the dispersal of power... This is as clear in economic life as in politics. If the State is the sole employer, then anyone who objects to its policies risks going hungry." He goes on to explain that property is essential because animals mark territory in the animal kingdom: "territory for animals, like property for human beings, satisfies three universal psychological needs: the need for security, for stimulation, and for identity with something bigger than the animal itself." It manages to forget that millions are currently experiencing hunger in politically plural and 'economically plural' 'Western' societies, from

USA to Australia (in spite of their reliance on exploited labour from militarist Third World areas). This unemployment and hunger is a result of private ownership that hacks away, in cyclical turns, at the provision of basic need in its welfare services.

Hayek recommends it in his 1979 work Law, Legislation and Liberty: A New Statement of the Liberal Principles of Justice and Political Economy: "the ever-increasing literature on this topic, some of the more recent books are: Robert Moss, The Collapse of Democracy (London, 1975); K. Sontheimer, G. A. Ritter Der Uberdruss an der Demokratie (Cologne, 1970)... Lord Hailsham, The Dilemma of Democracy (London, 1978)" This work seeks to insulate democracy from actual popular input and participation.

- 24 March 1975: Benn urges Britain "must now seriously consider an explicit commitment to a protectionist strategy for industrial reconstruction" (PREM 16/341, Benn to Wilson, 24 Mar 1975)
- 24 March 1975: <u>Glasgow Herald</u> encourages extension of military strikebreaking: "more suitable equipment should be made available as soon as possible. The clean-up operation will hardly rank among the battle honours of any of the units involved. But it is a battle they will have to win in the next few weeks if the health of Glasgow's citizenry is to be safeguarded through the coming summer months."
- 24 March 1975: Airey Neave holds talks with RUC, military and culturally loyalist figures.
- 24 March 1975: Brian Corbett, secretary of the Highland area health services branch declares ancillary hospital workers, acting against the boycott-strike by consultants elsewhere in the country in favour of pay beds, will abandon duties in private "pay bed" wings from 14 Apr 1975 unless government agrees to conclude a reasonable start to their withdrawal.
- 24 March 1975: 96 electricians and pipe fitters return to work at the British Leyland plant in Bathgate, after a 2-week unofficial strike failing to secure any increases.
- 24 March 1975: An RAF Victor refuelling craft explodes over the North Sea, killing 4 RAF personnel.
- 24 March 1975: House of Lords endorses, 125-48, amendments by Lord Goodman, chair of the Newspaper Publishers' Association, employers' organisation in the news industry, against the extension of trade union rights in newspaper offices by gutting aspects of the TULR Act.
- 24 March 1975: AUEW and EEF (Engineering Employers' Federation) agree a limited basic pay increase.

- 25 March 1975: 400 attend a NF procession-rally for a EEC Referendum 'No' vote, flanked by 2,000 police. They march through Islington with beating drums, the most popular chant 'We're going to get the reds' Around 300 antifascists gather opposite Islington Town Hall and shout at the procession, separated by police.
- 25 March 1975: Mirror Group Newspapers begin issuing redundancy notices to 7,000 staff following the dismissal of 1,750 SOGAT members fired for taking part in industrial action.
- 25 March 1975: A day of protest by the ATWU textile workers' union sees its workforce on a broadly management-endorsed one day strike.
- 25 March 1975: Lancashire-heavy textile workers march through Whitehall with yellow badges reading "Buy British textiles" and white ones reading "Lancashire Textile workers". At their rally in Westminster Hall, their basic demand is to block foreign imports, by introducing quotas limiting textile imports by volume to 25% of consumption in Britain, compared to its current 60% level.
- 25 March 1975: Rolls Royce Motors Chairman Ian Fraser announces record profits for 1974, up from £4.2mil to over £4.9mil. He states the Rolls Camarque will see better results for 1975.
- 25 March 1975: Mirror newspaper group dismisses 1,750 SOGAT employees to take on 'militants'.
- 26 March 1975: Dr. Joseph Luns, NATO Secretary-General visist RN Commanders in Portsmouth. He urges them to stiffen resistance against proposed cuts. Publicly he states "The southern flank [Greece-Turkey against USSR's Caspian South] is the most troublesome problem and we are always worried that what one country does might be followed by others."
- 26 March 1975: British rock group Genesis play the Turin Music Palace where Italian youths attempt to enter the concert without payment. Police enter the scene spraying tear gas, arresting dozens.
- 26 March 1975: Instead of immediate action to relieve unemployment, Labour delays its budget to 15 Apr 1975.
- 26 March 1975: A mass meeting votes to continue strike action at the Royal London Docks.
- 26 March 1975: William Hill announces that it has agreed with the All-England Lawn Tennis Club to operate the first betting tent at the Wimbledon championships.
- 26 March 1975: Tony Benn announces that Concorde will begin its services on the same date from Heathrow and Paris in Jun 1975.
- 26 March 1975: Callaghan pays a florid tribute to King Feisel and condemns his assassin: "his was a voice of moderation and statesmanship.... Britain has lost a good and valued friend."

26 March 1975: Callaghan explains how his year in office has strengthened Britain's and Europe's ties to USA: "there is little doubt that when Labour came to office our relations with the United States were languishing and our relations with the Commonwealth countries certainly needed considerable nourishment... From the first I emphasised that Britain would not be a party to building Europe against the United States; nor should we leave that great country out of account or in the dark when members of the Community hold their continuing political and economic discussions. There is now a general acceptance of this view in the Community, and Europe's relations with the United States have improved materially during the 12 months.... It must be our determination in the coming years to build a healthy Atlantic partnership between a European Community and North America, and it is on that that I take my stand"

He stresses that trade ties to Soviet Union are strongly supported by business interests and are essential in making Britain stronger vis-a-vis its competitors: "our agreement gives the opportunity to British industry to win many worthwhile orders in the Soviet market. I emphasise that the credit agreement provides a basis for increased Anglo-Soviet trade... [Conservatives] have shown a marked lack of enthusiasm and portray the credit agreement as some unique British "give-away" to the Russians. Let me say that their views are not shared by those who are commonly their supporters. I refer to those British industrialists who have welcomed the opportunity which this new agreement brings. ... countries such as France or Italy negotiated such agreements some years ago when the Conservative administration was in office. We lagged behind, and it is only now that British firms can compete in the Soviet market on equal terms with others of our Western competitors."

He stresses the "beneficial results to our trade" of détente in East Europe: "In the past 12 months there have been ministerial visits either to or from Poland, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Romania and Hungary, in some cases with beneficial results to our trade... Bilateral relations with the German Democratic Republic are developing... we have continued, and shall continue, our close relationship with Yugoslavia."

He mentions closer relations with the PRC: "we hope to welcome here Ministers from the People's Republic of China during the coming year, and I hope to visit China early next year. The Chinese Government have said that they will welcome me there"

Callaghan expresses confidence in the overall conservatism of Portugal's MFA and JSN: "We had had many connections with Dr. Soares in exile in the past... since then the British Government and I have done all we can to provide practical help and assistance... I look especially to the Armed Forces movement to recognise fully

that the democratic parties and their leaders should continue to play a full and active role both in formulating policy."

He stresses the use of the Commonwealth as bridging mechanism between Western 'primary producing powers' Australia, Canada and Britain to the Third World: "If we in the Commonwealth, having discussed these matters, could achieve a broad measure of agreement on the way to handle these [trade and export [prices] matters it would have an influence on the policies of the EEC, OPEC and the Group of 77 and the general attitude in the United Nations. This is an important way in which the Commonwealth is of value, and it is a way in which we can act as a beneficent instrument in world policy." He sees the Commonwealth as opportunity to weaken Third World defences "at Kingston we shall get no further than to be in a position to discuss broad objectives and perhaps agree on some suitable procedural machinery. But this in itself will be a major step towards practical solutions to these problems and a step away from sterile confrontation."

- 26 March 1975: Faced with growing alcoholism as a result of recession, National Council on Alcoholism urges laws similar to First World War "no treating" restrictions that make buying drinks for another person illegal: "There is no doubt in our mind that the greatest single pressure to drink alcohol in this country today is in the round system"
- 26 March 1975: Mirror group printers halt production in protest at the retrenchments, the <u>Dally Mirror</u>, <u>Sporting Life</u> and <u>Reveille</u> are suspended from publication. Mirror group accelerating its action begins issuing redundancy notices to over 7,000 of its 9,000 London employees.
- 26 March 1975: OECD's annual survey and forecast for Britain is released, summarising continued business pressure: "Fixed investment in manufacturing and distribution industries is also expected to fall considerably. Depressed business confidence, poor prospects for profitability and a continuing tight financial position of companies combined with weak demand produce a weak outlook for business investment... a considerable fall —of about 7 to 10%—in productive investment through the year seems likely."
- 27 March 1975: In response to fishing blockades of ports government announces new minimum frozen fish import prices are announced, effectively increasing fish prices, but ensuring that a greater section of the market is kept protected for British fishermen and British food firms.
- 27 March 1975: "Bob Wright of the AUEW and Jack Service came to discuss Ferranti. They said the Ferranti brothers... had tried to persuade the unions to agree to just a 25% government holding so

that the family interests in the firm could be preserved. In fact, we are going to have to go up to 75% or 85% holding as a result of the need to put in large sums of money and to value the shares correctly." (Tony Benn's Diary)

27 March 1975: Tony Benn receives what he considers good news on the nationalised workers' cooperative <u>Scottish Daily News</u>. I had told my colleagues that the Action Committee were £40,000 short and recommended that the Government put in the difference, but I had had no favourable response at all. I [telephoned] Allister Mackie ... I apologised for not succeeding and he said, I never thought you would. Maxwell is going to put up the extra money.' I literally leapt for joy."

28 March 1975: London Port Employers ensure the distribution of thousands of letters to London picket-lines, falsely stating it is the "most serious", strike since previous strikes including 1972 and 1947 are deeper and more prolonged, threatening cut-backs and lockout: "The current unofficial dock strike is by far the most serious in the history of the port of London. No longer can we rely on shipowners to use this port. Competition is fierce and other ports have had ample opportunity to demonstrate their ability to capture London's traffic. The losses to port employers in the first 10 weeks of 1975 are crippling — approaching £6m. The effect on our trade and reputation has been catastrophic. Each day that this dispute continues, the job of every man in the port becomes progressively less secure. In addition, the jobs of thousands who works in the surrounding community and whose livelihood depends on the port must also be in jeopardy.... Your future is at stake — you should return to work immediately. Every day counts."

- 28 March 1975: Dan Duffy, a member of the strike committee TGWU national executive urges: "The employers will have to offer at least an interim settlement similar to the  $\pounds 2.50$  paid in Liverpool to get our men back to work, but we are not too hopeful that this will happen."
- 28 March 1975: Republican Movement Workers' Party, with its ceasefire OIRA, urges a No vote in any EEC referendum.
- 28 March 1975: Conservative MP Neil Marten, chairman of the National Referendum Campaign, says of the pro-EEC government paper: "This While Paper is just whitewash. Weak Ministers have! given in to the Establishment. I do not think the British people will be hoodwinked by those whose record of judgement has proved so appalling." It carries on the vigorous suggestion that those opposed to the EEC are not part of the 'establishment'.

28 March 1975: Trade Secretary Peter Shore after a 3-day official visit to Poland, announces both sides: "noted the progress of negotiations between British companies and Polish enterprises on a number of projects in particular the chemical and paper making industries. Also identified were new opportunities for further cooperation in the fields of agriculture, food processing, and packaging equipment, in the development of non-ferrous metals, and in coal mining. It was decided to conclude as soon as possible a double taxation agreement between one two countries aimed at assisting future UK-Polish commercial activities."

28 March 1975: Uganda Radio announces Saudi Arabia has granted Uganda a loan of £12mil.

28 March 1975: IDF Navy admits it has shot dead 1 and seriously injured 4 on an Egyptian fishing boat in the Gulf of Suez.

28-29 March 1975: Workers on British Rail Sealink ferries operating to the Channel Islands, France, Holland and Germany conduct a 48-hour strike trying to force management to rescind closure of the Heysham-Belfast BR Sealink service.

- 29 March 1975: General Yakubu Gowon, Nigerian President inaugurates the start of the Third National Development Plan (planned to last until 1980). Nigeria takes 55% share ownership of multi-national oil firms via the Nigerian National Oil Corporation (NNOC). It does not, pointedly, assume control of management or boards in any subsidiary. "Nigeria's controlling interest formed part of a general policy of indigenisation that increased Nigerian access to foreign capital but avoided total nationalization of the oil industry. While the oil companies continued to finance exploration and production, the government expanded its share of the take by increasing ... profit taxes from 50% to 61%." (The Pan-African Nation: Oil and the Spectacle of Culture in Nigeria)
- 29 March 1975: <u>Socialist Worker</u> reports CPGB hostility to picketing strikebreaking soldiers in Glasgow's dustbin worker dispute. CPGB secretary of Glasgow Trades Council states the IS are "fleas in a bed who turn up at other people's picketing" because Glasgow IS have issued a leaflet to troops asking 'Would you have to act like this if you had your own trade union?'
- 30 March 1975: <u>Sunday Times</u> special report correspondent reports he has bought parents of Indian origin on plantations are selling their children because they can not afford to feed them. One reporter has bought a child for 40 SLR to return it to its family. British-owned tea and rubber plantations maintain differentials in the treatment, rations and wages of Tamil-Indian against Sinhalese families.

30 March 1975: London Press Club begin a Far East visit to Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia. On their return their basic point about Indonesia is trade and investment opportunities.

31 March 1975: Alexander Shelepin, Soviet Chairman of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions, arrives on the invitation of the TUC General Council, increasingly committed to the idea of CPGB-Labour Left Unity. Shelepin has been Komsomol chief at the Moscow Institute 1936-9 assisting the second round of Stalin's purges; Chairman of the KGB State Security Committee 1960-61 launching waves of arrests in Georgia, organising operations of Warsaw Pact state security apparatuses; First Deputy Prime Minister in 1962 during the Novocherkassk massacres and full Politburo member 1964-1975. He is met by Soviet Ambassador Lunkov and Len Murray in a secluded lounge in Heathrow Airport after his arrival is brought forward secretly by two days to outfox protest organisers.

31 March 1975: Nearly 50 ports are picketed by inshore fishermen or blockaded by fishing trawlers demanding a 50-mile exclusive territorial fishing limit and the restriction of cheap imports of fish from non-EEC sources. Over 1,000 boats are involved, Aberdeen, Newcastle, Preston, Invergordon, Heysham and Fleetwood are fully blockaded.

April 1975: Gaston Thorn, Luxembourg prime minister in a leading article in the month's <u>NATO Review</u>: "The European Community must move towards increasing cohesion in every sphere including defence."

April 1975: Race Today issue reports young black people's experiences: "You walk down the street and you are an ordinary person. But once you step into the social security office you are not that person any more. The person behind the counter treats you as if you are just a layabout, a tramp, someone you don't have to have manners to, someone you don't say "can I help you sir" to. They just ask you what you want, come at such a time, don't do this, don't do that, where do you come from, who is your girl, how many dogs you got, what do you eat, where is your doctor, and you get fed up, man. And this is why a lot of guys don't bother to sign on. They would rather just hustle. Not that they enjoy stealing money. But the state wants you to work. And they tell you the best way is to sign on and while signing on they will get you a job. But it's not like that. It's totally different. And you just say "well fuck it man", and you go and start hustling, and you are independent again. And everyone wants to be independent."

"I am not going to work at a place for 40 years and not have anything to show for it. After 40 years they just have a little watch. And one man owns a house and he alone lives there, and the house is so big with all 200 rooms, and I have to walk the streets. That's not right. Because if a house has 200 rooms it means that 200 of us can stay there."

April 1975: Committee of Inquiry on Rossendale Hospital headed by chairman Baird McNeill QC reports a large geriatric ward with one "wall dripping with damp, with no curtains or carpets, the windows did not fit and the old people might as well have been in the open air". 9 patients have died of exposure in winter 1974-5 leading to the report.

April 1975: Defence Minister Roy Mason visits Port Louis but rules out any changes to the 1965 deal handing over the Chagos archipelago to USA.\*\*

April 1975: Shadow Defence Minister visits Ankara, Turkey. Turkish military commanders express anxiety over the US arms embargo and limited sales to the Turkish military compared to largesse bestowed upon the Shah. This is later related to the Ministry of Defence. \*\*

April 1975: Black Paper 1975 edited by Professor C. B. Cox and Rhodes Boyson is published, it again demands 'rigour', selection and high culture.

It proposes testing for national reading and comprehension standards, administered at 7+, 11+ and 14+, a precursor to SAT Literacy tests that measure differences in financial resources allocated to particular schools and particular individual pupils. Educational vouchers as a means of making schools 'responsive' to parental wishes are supported by several contributors. Its introduction states its case "the educational scene is very sick indeed... Industry complains of increasing innumeracy. Some 650,000 children play truant every day from our schools and teachers flee from city schools because of lesson resistance and insolence by pupils. Adolescent violence increases and universities show signs of a student and staff intolerance of free discussion which threatens a new dark age. Genuine cultural participation falls steadily and a non-value pop culture becomes dominant." The ugliest contribution is novelist Iris Murdoch, presumably a symbol of "genuine culture" who authors a chapter entitled 'Socialism and selection' as an assault on comprehensive education: "Selection must and will take place in education and those who banish rational methods of selection are simply favouring irrational and accidental ones. The children who will be lost forever are the poor clever children with an illiterate background who on the 'chance' system [her denigration of comprehensive education] are being denied the right to a strict academic education which can only be achieved on

the basis of some sort of selection. Why should socialist policy, of all things, be so grossly unjust to the underprivileged clever child, avid to learn, able to learn, and under non-selective education likely to pass in relaxed boredom those precious years" (Black Papers, p9)

\*April 1975: Police Federation staff side present a large claim for pay increases. It calls for the starting rate to be raised from £1,632 to £2,784, and for a potential rate of £4,029 after 15 years as against the present rate of £2,562 after 17 years. Similar increases are claimed for other ranks. Since police officers are given special dispensation as loyal functionaries, very few reports are printed of obscene anti-nation '70% pay demands' by 'greedy staff representatives'.

\*April 1975: Sir Julian Tennant, chief of C. Tennant & Sons Ltd, hosts a City lunch to honour and talk with (retired general) Sir Walter Walker, recently commander-in-chief of NATO's allied divisions. Walker meets board figures from Consolidated Goldfields, Anglo-Eastern Bank, Lazard Brothers, M&G Unit Trusts, Cazenove and Cater Ryder & Co. Nicholas Ridley MP, Heath-appointed 'butcher of Clydeside', speaks of dangers ahead. Walker later describes Ridley is "talking in riddles" and "it seemed to me that what he was trying to convey but didn't have the guts to say openly was that the only hope for the country would be a military coup."

- 1 April 1975: Fishing boat blockades reach South Coast ports trapping the French car ferry, Valencay, in Newhaven and blocking the BR Sealink ferry, Senlac from making its return journey.
- 1 April 1975: ITV begins its broadcast of Edward VII a historical dramatisation series of the life of the monarch. It is fairly unquestioningly royalist. His presence on Gladstone's Commission on housing for the masses is twisted into the act of 'a friend of the working man'. The assassination attempt in Brussels is characterised as the demented lunacy of inferior Europeans.
- 1 April 1975: Jewish and East European émigré organisations hold demonstrations in London against Shelepin. Press almost uniformly concentrates on protests by anti-communist and Zionist organisations. Some ultra-left and other organisations also join protests. Over 1,000 protest, some throwing bottles and cartons at his motorcade through central London. "Shelepin Murderer!" is the most common chant.
- 1 April 1975: A presidential order directing all Asians remaining in Malawi's rural areas into 4 urban areas Blantyre, Limbe, Zomba and Lilongwe -takes effect. Banda is able to sweep up the more

expensive rural property giving the Asians meagre shops and sites in the cities. Virtually zero interest in Britain over these events, only when 134 Asians, with British passports, are expelled, much later in 1976, do demands for development aid restrictions and description of Banda as a "Black Fascist" (Bob Mellish) emerge.

2 April 1975: Sir Jack Callard at ICI's AGM states: "The Industry Bill contains some provisions which could prove damaging to British industry. The provisions that cause the greatest concern are parts of the disclosure of information clauses. Over the years, ICI has developed a good system of regular discussions with Government; and we have developed with our employees good consultation procedures. We are all in favour of improving such arrangements, and we are continually doing so. But some of the information that may have to be disclosed under the proposed legislations commercially very valuable and, therefore, highly confidential. Overseas competitors, would give their back teeth to get it; as we would to get theirs. It is very much in the interests of us all that commercially valuable information should not be put at risk."

He generally makes the case for an unfettered ICI for the good of the 'nation': "in 1974, just over 40 per cent of our sales were in the United Kingdom, while just on 20 per cent were in exports from the United Kingdom and the remaining 40 per cent arose from manufacture overseas. The advantages we get from our wide spread of business were never more evident than in 1974. With a 58 percent rise in exports we became the country's largest exporter and we made a positive contribution of £280 million towards the balance of payments. It is also important to note ICI exports to the "Eight" exceeded its imports by £95 million. Our experience supports the view, which we hove constantly expressed that membership of the European Economic Community is advantageous to the Company, to all employed in it, to those who invest in it, to so many who buy from it;—in effect to all of us."

He restates the general problems of the profit squeeze: "although we are cushioned by our wide spread of products and the geographical spread of our sales and manufacture, we cannot escape the effect of a downturn in the volume of world trade. In addition, there is little evidence that cost inflation in the United Kingdom has been brought under control and so long as inflation in this country remains higher than in other countries, such, as Germany and the United States of America, our competitive position is bound to suffer. We hope that trading prospects will improve as the year proceeds, but it is unlikely that profit in 1975 will be maintained at this same level as in 1974."

2 April 1975: Spike Milligan participates in a protest at ICI's AGM, but only against its use of animals for testing for cigarette substitutes.

- 2 April 1975: Daily Mirror Group issues a lockout threat that it will close two newspapers the Sunday People and Reveille unless action by SOGAT is ended before Apr 9. The <u>Daily Mirror</u> has not been printed in London, but has been produced in Manchester and Glasgow. Ken Morgan, General Secretary of NUJ: "I believe the closure of a national newspaper would be a matter of deep social and political concern, besides concern for the employment of our members." He states the Daily Mirror has dismissed 1,700 members of SOGAT over recent years, and 9,000 have been given notice of dismissal and 20% have their contracts ending the following week.
- 2 April 1975: Shelepin holds talks with the TUC, including Len Murray and James Jack, largely on trying to increase Soviet-British trade and joint ventures. He says these talks are "an historical event. We think that the ice has started to move and that the process of consolidation is under way." Ukrainian emigres at Prestwick protest with banners demanding the release of political prisoners. Shelepin attacks the protests in this manner: "It was a small group, and they were each given £5 for shouting. I did not have time enough, but I wanted to confront them. I wanted to tell you [them] "you have been given £5. I am ready to give you £20, now go home."" TUC announces nothing beyond platitudes except that the Anglo-Soviet trade union friendship committee dissolved by the TUC will be recreated.
- 2 April 1975: Robert Brown, Army Minister, visits strikebreaking military units in Glasgow commending their efforts and announces more troops will be dratted bringing the total up from 1,300 to 1,500, when necessary.
- 2 April 1975: Fishermen representatives hold talks with Fisheries Minister Hugh Brown, who promises several import restriction measures.
- 3 April 1975: Brigadier E. Burgess, newly-appointed Director of Army Recruiting, announces that the number of recruits to armed forces is increasing throughout the country. Army recruiting in Western Scotland is 20% up and 80% up for youth (under-18) recruits, compared to a year ago.
- 3 April 1975: Fishermen protesting against cheap fish imports call end their blockade of about 50 ports across Scotland, England and Northern Ireland.
- 3 April 1975: Royal Navy warships begin their part in Exercise PenangEx 6 in the South China Sea, as part of the Five Power Defence Agreement between Singapore-New Zealand-Australia-Malaysia-Britain, formed in the wake of withdrawal 'East of Suez'.

- 3 April 1975: <u>Daily Mail</u> page headline 'The Infant Muggers' features a long article explaining to the drift away from 'traditional education' as the central source of young school age muggers.
- 3 April 1975: Chairman of security firm Securicor Group, at its AGM states: "Demand for our services remains gratifyingly high and my general sentiment is that of cautious optimism."
- 3 April 1975: After a 3-year-old is knocked unconscious beside a kerb, Mothers and children block the Kenmure Avenue-Willowbrae Avenue junction in Edinburgh in protest against the absence of traffic control measures 30 minutes during the morning rush hour and 30 minutes during the evening rush-hour. Edinburgh Corporation later agrees to a traffic survey being carried out.
- 3 April 1975: Lieutenant-General Blair, GOC Scotland, welcomes the moves for extra troops. Lieutenant Colonel Brian Campbell, 1st Battalion commanding officer says of his unit returning to the 6 counties: "We would like to have finished the job we started, but we've got another job to do." The job is understood by senior officers as crushing the strike, not maintaining health, since the maintenance of healthy conditions is not "a job" that can "be finished"
- 4 April 1975: BSC's Ebbw Vale steelworks completes its first batch of 200 redundancies. The rundown at Ebbw Vale continues with 700 in Jul 1975 and is planned to continue until 1978, resulting in the ending of another 4,000 jobs. Redeployment vacancies are heavily dwarfed by job losses.
- 4 April 1975: 380 TGWU Glasgow refuse workers on strike vote to continue their strike.
- 4 April 1975: Whitlam again meets Suharto urging a similar line in favour of integration with Indonesia by means of some sort of slight of hand. (Record of Conversation between Whitlam and Soeharto, 4 April 1975 in Australia and the Indonesian Incorporation of Portuguese Timor, 1974-1976, 244-248)
- 4 April 1975: Sir Jack Callan addresses the ICI annual meeting warning of decreased profits from British operations but stable profits from overseas subsidiaries.
- 4 April 1975: EPEA (Electrical Power Engineers' Association) votes 19,700-11,300 to maintain a ban on CPGB members holding any office in the union.
- 4-7 April 1975: Inquest on Moorgate crash. It ends without any significant explanation. No further investigation is ever conducted.
- 5 April 1975: Compass Rose III, a North Sea oil survey vessel leaves Dundee for the North Sea. Soon all contact with the vessel is lost. A crew body is found on 14 Apr 1975. All 16 crew members have been killed.

- 5 April 1975: Successful enrichment of uranium begins at the Valindaba complex near Pretoria.
- 6 April 1975: <u>Sunday Times</u> explains the delicate rationale behind the Defence Review, it urges the importance of "considering the effect of a communist Vietnam on Malaysia and Singapore. Britain has large tin, rubber and trading interests there, and also, even after the Defence White Paper, a 'consultative commitment'. This looks like a legal and moral obligation to be involved in Malaysia's defence without a military capacity to fulfil it. A British government may one day have to decide whether its interests rather larger than the Americans' in Vietnam are at stake in Malaysia"
- 6 April 1975: Princess Anne participates in the Rushall horse-riding trials, South Wiltshire. Press reports the following day find it very important to stress that she has fallen into water.
- 7 April 1975: A programme to re-equip the four Phantom squadrons in Federal Germany begins. The first Jaguar arrives in RAF Bruggen.
- 7 April 1975: Army units begin using bulldozers to clear refuse, severely blocking traffic in Glasgow in the process. It is aimed at reducing any potential work available to refuse workers the longer the strike continues.
- 7 April 1975: Britain accepts the expansion of US U2 aircraft on Cyprus. The additional personnel and ground equipment arrived by American transport aircraft which were requested to arrive and depart after dark, to avoid local curiosity (Leslie (DS8), 'American U2 Operations in Cyprus', 07 Apr 75)
- 7 April 1975: The Guardian reports on folktales about NUM "The wild stories told about Mr Scargill are now so many that it is hard to keep track of them. They began by saying that the National Union of Mineworkers was building him a bungalow costing £20,000 as a reward for his leadership of coalfields strikes. This was followed by a story, told in both Manchester and London, about the Czechoslovak Government deciding to "reward him" with a new Skoda car every year. After this the floodgates opened. Arthur Scargill was said to be receiving ever more lavish cars, including a Jensen, and houses that became more expensive with each new telling. (The most recent story has him buying one at £39,000). Each story named a different village as the site of the house or bungalow, from a village near Wetherby in the north to one on the Lincolnshire border in the south. And then further adornments were added. Arthur Scargill, it is now said, is "having a house built with an electrified fence all the

way round, with guard dogs roaming the grounds." And where was Arthur Scargill when all this was going on? He was living in the bungalow he owns, and has no desire to leave, in a village near Barnsley. It cost him £3,000 some years ago, and he reckons he got a bargain, in spite of the cracks that have appeared in it because of mining subsidence. He has recently changed his old car for a Volvo, by no means an extravagant car for a man in his position. There is no Skoda in his garage, and certainly no Jensen."

7-11 April 1975: A retreat-seminar for transport trade unions in West Africa is held in Freetown, Sierra Leone. A British fulltimer from the ITF also attends. It is funded by the AFL-CIO union International Association of Machinists. Its international chief Ben Sharman, on the Executive Council of the ITF and International Metal Workers, has "offered his union's support for projects in the region [of West Africa], even where, as in this case, his union had no direct industrial interest in the topics involved." IAM's President Floyd Smith, for who Sharman was previously an aide, is Vice President of the AFL-CIO union, under George Meany.

The seminar is based on extending the principles of trade union participation, just as largely unofficial strikes are breaking out across dockers in francophone West Africa, in opposition to the imposition of new containerisation regimes. Minister of Transport and Communications, Edward Kargbo, and Sierra Leone's Commissioner of Labour, part of the intensifying APC-Stevens dictatorship, both attend. M. King, General Manager of Sierra Leone Ports, gives a series of talks. Its final resolution adopted includes a call for "the ITF, to consider, as a matter of urgency, having consultative status with the Economic Commission for Africa and the Port Management Association for West and Central Africa."

7-11 April 1975: Government's Lord Chancellor, Lord Elwyn-Jones, tours Australia as a guest of the Australian government. He meets among others vicious anti-trade union Liberal Premier of Victoria, Dick Hamer.

8 April 1975: Glasgow refuse workers vote to return to work and begin in the afternoon.

8 April 1975: British officers gladly accede to US-requested spy flights to investigate Syrian ports Latakia and Tartus, which would need to be discreet, numerous and at short notice because there is "no suitable US programme that would provide the intelligence". They assert: "when faced with attempting to provide some return for the enormous amounts of intelligence material provided by the US, the UK is always at a disadvantage by having so few opportunities to gain information, especially air photography. To redress the imbalance, any opportunity that presents itself should be exploited to the full. The reconnaissance of the ports of Latakia

- and Tartus is such an opportunity, especially as it has resulted from a direct request for assistance" (Adams (JARIB) to DS8, 'US Navy Request for Reconnaissance of Eastern Mediterranean Ports', 8 Apr 75, AIR 2/18991)
- 9 April 1975: ROK Defence Ministry announces it has executed 8 students, convicted by a military court for a student antigovernment plot.
- 9 April 1975: Mexican Navy was launched yesterday »' the Bowline, yard of Scott and Sons. Ltd.
- The FeUx Romero was named by Senora Eha L. de C.'r>-j. wife of Admiral Hose Cubna Patau, chief executive of manne affairs in Mexico, the fifth shtp is due to be delivered by the end of this year.
- 9 April 1975: TSSA, NUR Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions accepts a £145 a year award for train supervisors to maintain "differentials".
- 9 April 1975: City Chambers Glasgow's manual workers GMWU "curators" (working on lifts, cloakrooms, security and repairs) begin an overtime ban by picketing a function in the City Chambers for 200 delegates to a Strathclyde University-sponsored engineering conference. They request simply the right to make up their own rota system for evening functions. A curator explains "the only people who will be left to look after security will be the police and there are normally only three on the premises."
- 9 April 1975: Officials of NUJ, NGA, SGA, NATSOPA, Slade, AUEW and TGWU reject a proposal for an afternoon edition of the Scottish Daily News, as proposed by Pergamon chief Robert Maxwell and endorsed by the government.
- 9 April 1975: Government-tabled motion recommending a Yes vote in EEC Referendum passes 396-170 (Labour 136-144) in the Commons on an unwhipped vote, more than doubling the 112 of 1971.
- 9 April 1975: Wilson dismisses Labour Left Eric Heffer as Industry Under-Secretary, for defying his directive that anti-EEC Ministers cannot utter anti-EEC sentiments within Parliament.
- 9 April 1975: Governor Ronald Reagan visits Thatcher in the House of Commons. She tells him about prominent LSE Head of Economics Department Prof Hayek. The two are later to cement their relationship in the contra war in Nicaragua, with Thatcher persuading newly-independent Belize to authorise the construction of signal stations for anti-Sandinista contra black propaganda.
- Thatcher recollection: "I met Governor Reagan shortly after my becoming Conservative Leader in 1975. Even before then, I knew something about him because Denis had returned home one

evening in the late 1960s full of praise for a remarkable speech Ronald Reagan had just delivered at the Institute of Directors. I read the text myself and quickly saw what Denis meant. When we met in person I was immediately won over by his charm, sense of humour and directness." (Thatcher, The Path to Power)

- 9 April 1975: Following the meeting with Milton Friedman, General Pinochet sacks all 16 'civilian' and 'military' members of the cabinet, on his advice, to impose technocratic-monetarist rule.
- 10 April 1975: Sir William Gray, Lord Provost of Glasgow, attends a special ceremony at the Strathclyde TA HQ in Maryhill, Glasgow, presenting a special mug and bottle of whisky to the commanding officer of the First Battalion Royal Scots "as a token of thanks to the 2,000 men who had cleared 41,500 tons of refuse"
- 10 April 1975: British officials report sympathetically how complete fabrications of events in East Timor by the Indonesian Antara news agency or derived from the daily Armed Forces newspaper <u>Angkatan Bersenjata</u>, (an ultra-militarist sheet heavily subsidised half of its print-run distributed free of charge) are being "obligingly carried by the foreign press" (Memo from R. E. Palmer, South East Asian Department to G. A. Duggan at the British Embassy in Jakarta, 10 April 1975, FCO 810/30)
- 11 April 1975: 26-year-old Lucy Russell, Bertrand Russell's granddaughter, self-immolates in a churchyard. The subject becomes an innuendo-laden talking-point with which to attack political aims and devotion. The concept of nuclear family itself, however, is not challenged.
- 12 April 1975: Ford Administration sends a secret note to the EEC Foreign Ministers as they meet in Dublin. It calls for the EEC to provide aid for the South Vietnam government and a plea that member states individually use their influence to stop North Vietnam military operations.
- 12 April 1975: General Sir Frank King, General Officer Commanding Northern Ireland, in a public address at the St. John Ambulance Brigade's Annual Medical Conference at Nottingham University that PIRA would have been "defeated" in a few months if government-IRA ceasefire had not been agreed upon. The general theme of the conference is related to seeing how the St. John Ambulance Brigade can assist military forces in confrontations at demonstrations and processions. So far, the government has released about 200 internees but over 350 remain uncharged, un-sentenced in the various prison camps, as part of its ceasefire. Sir Frank King's call is one for effectively sustained internment and all-out war.

- 12 April 1975: OIRA member Paul Crawford is shot dead by INLA/IPLA operatives.
- 13 April 1975: Military coup in Chad sees one neo-colonial ruler replaced for another as Gen. Noel Odingar, interim army commander, takes, over killing President Ngarta Tombalbaye in the process.
- 14 April 1975: Northern Ireland Defence Minister defends Sir Frank King "This report has caused a problem, but I think the General's security advice is always of the best and it is security advice that I want from Frank King." He later states to him "You have never played at politics and I have never played at being a soldier; that's why we have got on so well."
- 14 April 1975: <u>Washington Post</u> reports US Nuclear Corp. has exported 45 kilos of highly enriched uranium to South African.
- 14 April 1975 UDT's Lopes da Cruz visits Indonesian leaders in Jakarta, ensuring Indonesian support if they consent to 'association' with Indonesia. UDT communiqué is issued 27 May, 1975.
- 14 April 1975: <u>Daily Express</u> reports an order from Kenya for weaponry worth over £60mil might be lost as Kenya switches over government delays in authorising the sale.
- 14 April 1975: 400 airport managers, including those from Britain and Iran, meet under the auspices of the International Federation of Air Traffic Controllers to share information on how to neutralise airborne guerrilla activity.
- 14 April 1975: Department of Trade criticises a strike in the London estuary dock area as the cause of export trade figures released showing greater cost of imports than exports.
- 14 April 1975: Ford Administration admits it has made several shipments of weapons-grade enriched to 94% Uranium 231 to South Africa since the Jan 6 licence issued to the US Nuclear Corporation to ship to South Africa.
- 14 April 1975: Northern Ireland Secretary Rees meets General Sir Frank King only to speak to him in public but leave him in charge of the armed forces in the province to reflect his hard-right beliefs onto his military inferiors.
- 14 April 1975: Sterling falls to equal its lowest ever level on currency markets in anticipation of Budget announcing few give-aways to increase profitability. A general anxiety over NUR and ASLEF workers with a significant pay claim and intermittent 24-hour strikes also continues, as does concern over the EEC Referendum unleashing unwanted forces. It means most dealers involved with

sterling have already concluded the Budget will be a 'holding operation'.

15 April 1975:  $4^{th}$  Budget. Healey announces cuts of intended expenditure of around £1,000million at 1974 prices. Increase in VAT to 25% for certain goods including electrical equipment, furniture, sports footwear and equipment. Motor vehicle licences are increased for all by 60%.

Healey attacks pay again: "The immediate effect of excessive wage settlements is to increase private consumption, with damaging effects on the balance of resources in the economy... within six months the wage increases will feed through into the prices of the goods and services produced by the workers concerned. The higher rate of inflation damages both our competitiveness and our credit as a nation.... it also destroys business confidence, disrupts the increased planning of industrial investment and leads to unemployment and short-time working. If the wage settlements in the public services are as large as they have been recently, they must add substantially to the public sector deficit, and so put pressure on the Government towards restrictive budgetary policy [cuts]..... Unless, however, the voluntary policy achieves stricter adherence to guidelines laid down by the trade unions of their own free will, the consequence can only be rising unemployment, cuts in public expenditure, lower living standards for the country as a whole"

Healey states that unemployment will rise to just under 1million by Dec 1975 but thereafter "as world trade begins to grow vigorously again... I would expect to see a a reversal of this trend set in, and a continuing fall in the number of unemployed."

15 April 1975: OAU's Dar-es-Salaam Declaration urges the cultural and economic isolation of apartheid South Africa. Even though resolutions favouring endorsing aid to guerrilla movements is not accepted, the Black Africa's desire for Western powers to end links with South Africa is manifest. Since the first meeting on 7 Apr 1975, Zambia, Tanzania, Malawi, newly independent Mozambique and Botswana are strongly criticised for economic support and/or diplomatic warmth towards South Africa. Considerations of black Africa slowly begin to weigh more heavily upon Foreign Office planners.

15 April 1975: EEC approves \$5mil in aid to South Vietnam. Britain argues on US lines for the EEC to call on Hanoi alone to end hostilities. Outnumbered, it settles for the EEC calling on both sides to respect the 1973 Paris peace accords.

16 April 1975: Willie McCusker Cumbernauld Trades Council delegate to STUC states in response to the budget: "We keep on being told that the government has a small majority... that we mustn't rock the boat, that we must give it chance. How many chances does it need?"

16 April 1975: <u>Birmingham Evening Mail</u> reports Slade becoming tax exiles: "The four members of the group, who are all from the West Midlands, will leave the country in June. Noddy Holder said "...it will probably be the last time we do any concerts here for about two years. We just have to get out of the country because of the amount of money we are earning and the amount of tax we have to pay." Guitarist Dave Hill now has a luxury home In Solihull.

"Slade made the shock announcement this week that they would be quitting Britain for a couple of years because of crippling taxes they have to pay here. ... Chas Chandler: "With regard to taxes, the amounts payable by a group of Slade's earning capacity are crippling — and Slade's overseas tour will provide the time for us to take stock." (Record Mirror, 26 Apr 1975)

""We have worked solidly in the last year and out accountant told us that we would have been just as well off if we had done nothing." Their fee for a performance has risen from £17.50 when they started out to £10,000. Their annual income is around £200,000. They will probably live in New York — but they promise not to desert their fans." (The Sun, 28 Apr 1975)

"We've achieved so much in Britain, for apart from records we've made many successful tours and played some of the biggest venues, drawing huge crowds on the way. Our visits back to Britain might well focus on one or more concerts at such venues as Earls Court or Wembley". Dave found group agreement when he continued: "We're proud to be British and Britain to us is home. However, there is little incentive in earning when most of our money is taken by the taxman". (Top of the Pops Magazine May, 1975)

16 April 1975: At least 62 peasants are arrested in Sarawak First Division, Malaysia, for giving food to guerrillas. Interior Chief Minister Rahman Yakub publicises the arrests on 3 May, 1975, as part of a propaganda campaign for vigilance with the fall of the South Vietnam regime.

17 April 1975: Tony Benn: "This week I had the opportunity to meet 600 members of middle management and 250 shop stewards... There is a chance here with this experiment for Harland & Wolff to be in the forefront of achieving industrial democracy in the United Kingdom." (Tony Benn's Diary)

17 April 1975: Arts Minister announces the Public Lending Right to subsidise authors (whom large, profit- and capital-heavy firms will not give contracts to) will be delayed: "further studies and practical tests need to be carried out before conclusions can be reached on the precise methods to be adopted for the implementation of a right. ... the Government have decided that it is right to defer our plans to legislate until the further investigations have been completed."

18 April 1975: Jack Millar, Treasurer of BMA: "If the award is 35% it is no more than I had expected and no more than the profession had expected. This brings doctors into line with comparable professions."

19 April 1975: Healey appeals on a national basis: "We cannot go on like this and it is the painful duty of a Chancellor to save the economy and save the country when things are going wrong."

19 April 1975: BBC gives a several minute long celebration of Healey's speech for wage restriction, and eleven words for any alternative 'Tribune' vision: "He [Healey] wants more modest wage deals and better output per man. Without it he forecasts prices will be rising twice as fast in Britain as in those countries competing with us. The message from the Chancellor called for belt-tightening and the party meeting rejected a call from the left-wing Tribune group for an opposite give-away budget. This afternoon MPs were gloomily forecasting higher income tax."

19 April 1975: "President Kaunda: I first met Melo Antunes when he was Minister without portfolio. When I recently met with him as the new Foreign Minister I asked how he looked at Savimbi. Melo Antunes said he was worried about Neto who was supported by the Communist Party in Portugal, and because of this he could not support him. Melo Antunes further said the Portuguese could not support Neto because he had repeatedly embarrassed them.... Melo Antunes said he would rather support Savimbi. I told Melo Antunes that we Zambians had the same problem with Neto...

President Ford: Most of us did not approve the tactics or the methods of the previous [Caetano] Portuguese government, but now we do not want to see a big swing from the extreme right to the extreme left. Frankly, it is difficult at this stage to see where Portugal fits in. How soon do you think it will be before the situation in Angola comes to a head?

Secretary Kissinger: Will you keep in touch with Savimbi?

President Kaunda: He was in Paris recently and he agreed to disagree with the French authorities who are supporting FLEC.

Secretary Kissinger: Because of oil interests in Cabinda.

President Kaunda: Savimbi also had discussions with the British." (Memoranda of Conversation: April 19, 1975- Ford, Zambian President Kaunda and Foreign Affairs Minister Vernon Mwangaa)

20 April 1975: Len Murray responding to Healey's speech: "There is very much agreement between the. TUC and the Government on what needs to be done, and there is a great willingness to find the means of doing it" Jack Jones declares that unions must try even harder to observe the social contract in moderating wage claims.

20 April 1975: United Nations forces assume a 300m wide position to prevent Greek Cypriot women conducting a 'peaceful' 'women's' march Turkish military occupation Famagusta/Magosa that have ejected them from the area in 1974. Turkish military forces instructed the UN forces to keep the military protesters away from Turkish lines or face consequences. "outsiders who have visited north Cyprus and seen the new Turkish settlements there say there is no indication any Greeks win be allowed back Greek shops, hotels, farms and villages have been taken over by the Turks. All signs written In the Greek language have been painted out and replaced by Turkish." (AP)

20 April 1975: In an ugly display of sexism within 'humanist' circles retired surgeon, Dr George Mair, at the Scottish Humanist Society's annual meeting declares: "perhaps a sophisticated social worker or a professional girl, who might one day become a member of a new profession, could oblige by providing some form of love play" for terminally ill patients.

20 April 1975: Betty Veal, chair of the Disablement Income Group, states a burning need is for employment and greater income for those disabled who are unemployed: "Until disabled people can take part in society as fully paid-up members of the consumer society there will be no real in integration."

20 April 1975: 4 women chain themselves to Parliament railings in protest at delays to and weaknesses in the Equal Pay Act.

20 April 1975: Oman announces its secret courts have sentenced 4 to death for assisting guerrillas and 13, including 2 women, to prison terms from 3 years to life imprisonment.

20 April 1975: SWAPO again urges Britain to pull out of the Rosing deal exporting Namibian uranium to Britain from 1977. On the same day, instead of Tony Benn dealing with the exploitation of South-African occupied Namibian natural resources he has instituted with his 1968 agreement, writes to Thatcher urging her to announce whether the Conservatives in a future government will accept a No vote in the EEC Referendum and withdraw.

20 April 1975: Whitelaw attends conference of the Institute of Public Relations, attacking the concept of referenda: "Parliament has voted

- overwhelmingly in favour of staying in, and should the referendum result in a negative or unclear decision, Members of Parliament would be faced with a choice between following their own judgement or their electors. The alien device of the referendum could provoke an unparalleled constitutional crisis, especially if our present European partners proved less than over-willing to help our Government undo complex legislation."
- 21 April 1975 am: Hector Laing, United Biscuits chair, in the shareholders' report urges loosening price controls on food: "For recovery to be sustained it is important for Governments to adopt a consistent approach to [price] control measures so that efficient firms can make an adequate return on investment and retain sufficient funds 'or future investment."
- 21 April 1975: Thatcher responds to Benn's letter, declaring Conservatives will not be bound by the EEC Referendum result, basing the decision on Wilson's assertion that a Referendum is not binding on Parliament.
- 22 April 1975: <u>The Times</u> reports the Nottinghamshire chief of the Police Federation calling for the complete withdrawal of fixtures for football clubs whose supporters have been involved in violence. Unsurprisingly the same demand for firms guilty of killing their workers is never made, being closed fown and taken over, is never made.
- 22 April 1975: Rhodesian Minister for Law and Order Desmond Lardner-Burke confirms that Rhodesian authorities are from this point forward withholding details of state executions. 8 executions in the past week have not been publicised. The deterrent effect of execution in Rhodesia has already been established, further details ease the organisation and focus of international solidarity work.
- 22 April 1975: Savimbi's London visit. BOSS representatives meet him, all hidden from the press.
- 22-25 April 1975: Chief of Defence Staff, Sir Michael Carver, visits and inspects Yugoslav armed forces.
- 23 April 1975: St George's Day demonstration at the Arts Ministry sees writers the institution of the Public Lending Right legislations, as promised by Arts Minister Jenkins on 20 Dec 1974 (Hansard HC Vol. 883, c.632.)

- 23 April 1975: In London, Chancellor Healey warns that unless wages are reduced, the result will be rising unemployment and cuts in social expenditure.
- 23 April 1975: Prof Ronald Brech, Cambridge University economist formerly Cabinet civil servant on its Long-term Programme Committee, former head of Unilever's economics division, and assistant editor of <u>The Economist</u>, praises Healey's budget for "its brilliant analysis of the present economic mess of the country" but condemns it for taking no tough action to solve it ie wage reductions.
- 23 April 1975: Foreign Secretary Callaghan activates the final contingency plan in Vietnam. The Embassy in Saigon is closed, sensing the collapse of the southern regime, all personnel are transported with British military forces from naval carriers.
- 23 April 1975: British Leyland company newspaper company newspaper, the <u>British Leyland Mirror</u> interviews Lord Stokes who states greater productivity is needed: "There are a few men who believe that Government intervention will solve all the problems" but that this is untrue, impossible and the government disagrees as well.
- 23 April 1975: Sir Monty Finniston, chairman of BSC British Steel Corporation, attacks 'government interference' and warns that at least 40,000 workers will have to be reduced from pay-rolls in the steel sector by 1980.
- 24 April 1975: Government Whip in House of Lords, Lord Ian Winterbottom describes the continuity of government policy in defence collaboration with USA over the Harrier: "it is almost axiomatic that the lead must come from this country. This is something I accept completely. We simply cannot wait for other countries to take the first step, since this is a British concept which has to be carried into effect by British scientists and British factories. We as a nation have to take the first step, and then I personally am satisfied that other orders would come.... Do not let us forget that 8 Harriers have been sold to Spain by way of the United States of America, so there are now three countries using this aeroplane. ... we have since April 1973 been co-operating with the United States Navy in a series of studies to see whether a worthwhile common project based upon a derivative of the existing Harrier could be established. The main British firms involved are Hawker Siddeley and Rolls-Royce, which have played a full part in the joint studies and have commercial agreements with their American counterparts ... McDonnell Douglas and Pratt & Whitney. ... Our interest in these studies has been in the context of our own

future requirements. We are not working in a vacuum. We are working with the United States on what is the improved Harrier and its suitability for the battlefield aircraft of the 1980s. Commensurate with their leadership in the V/STOL technology, Hawker Siddeley and Rolls-Royce are playing a full part in any United States programme which might eventually be approved. ... Even as it is now flying, the Harrier may become a much more efficient weapon of war than it was when it first entered into service. All one can say is that close, detailed, active and 1131 honest collaboration is taking place between the Americans and ourselves in order to see whether the improved Harrier can meet our requirements in the 1980s."

He continues: "may I speak about the needs of this country? This is perhaps more important than anything we have spoken about today. It is rather longer term but the need is there. The Harrier and the Jaquar that we now have are not here for ever. They must be replaced with some other aeroplane. One of the potential replacements for both the Harrier and the Jaquar is the improved Harrier. A wide range of aircraft options are being investigated and one of them is the Harrier itself, although perhaps the Hawk or the Buccaneer or the multi-role combat aircraft [MRCA] or the Jaquar itself might become the battlefield aircraft Of the 1980s. Nevertheless, the improved Harrier is an important element ...it is much better that we should wait a little, so that when an order is placed we know it will be carried through, rather than place an order and then have to cancel it because of a critical situation.... the money for the maritime Harrier is in the forward costings of the Naval Vote. ... [British] Navy want it. If the Navy have it, then there is a great probability, although not a certainty, that the Shah of Iran will buy not only his naval maritime Harriers from us but also the ship which will carry them. This is a much more important export project than just the aircraft themselves. ... there is a convention that one must not name other nations which are interested [but] six other countries are similarly interested in this aircraft.... Nobody else will put their hands in their pockets and order the maritime Harrier unless we order it first. ... the Government are making real efforts to look into the future, to see what can be done with the Harrier technology over the next decade. It may mean that there will be a halt in the production of the Harrier as it now is. That does not mean that the factory will close, that nothing will be done or that no money will be spent on the advanced Harrier, the maritime Harrier or the improved Harrier. Something is obviously going on, because it is too important a project to let it drop into the sink. It is too important for that... I believe that the Harrier technology must be developed and used for the benefit of this country"

24 April 1975: As part of his Arctic adventure tour of Northwestern Canada, Prince Charles eats some seal liver. The doctor assigned to him checks at a hospital that there are no side effects. "The doctor travelling with the royal party made a special trip to the hospital to ask the local physician if there was any cause for concern. He was assured that seal liver is full of vitamins." (Jonathan Dimbleby, Prince of Wales)

24 April 1975: Ryder Report is published to mould BL into the statecapitalist firm of the future. £1.4mil is the headline figure for state investment over the next 7 years, with the government taking majority share ownership. Tony Benn telephones Alex Park to confirm that he will become the new Chief Executive. He is a new face - northern, from Grangetown, and from a working class family - who has been a manager at various levels at Monsanto subsidiary Chemstrand, Cummins Diesel Engines and Xerox – who talks 'no nonsense', a suitable figure for the image of the new nationalised firm. The Report hopes for "industrial democracy" ie trade union official participation in replacing capital with labour: "The most crucial factor in improving industrial relations at BL and in creating the conditions in which productivity can be increased is that there should be some progress towards industrial democracy" (p8) '... a new structure of joint management/union councils, committees and conferences, in which BL's shop stewards and particularly their senior shop stewards will have a major role ... Trade union members will have to recognise the new responsibilities which the shop stewards are exercising on their behalf and ensure that the right people are chosen to exercise these responsibilities.' (p11) 6 of the 15 chapters of the Ryder Report are never published "for reasons of commercial security", but senior shop stewards on the BL Cars Council are shown the information. It is presumed that part of this information involves discussion of foreseen closures. It totals 246 existing separate bargaining units in the whole of British Leyland. For manual workers in the Cars division alone there are currently 58 bargaining units and 324 pay rates and considers this inefficient. "Apart from the far left, and probably the majority of the British Leyland blue collar workforce, the report was widely welcomed. The government, the management, the TUC and the trade union leaders, and the Communist Party all supported it." (Inside Cowley: Trade Union Struggle in the 1970s by Alan Thornett

Accepting the Ryder Report, Wilson makes clear that any further release of funds will be conditional upon improvement in "performance [profitability] and industrial relations [reduction of strike action]".

25 April 1975: Tribune sees a central 2-page advertisement by Bristol Channel Ship Repairers against nationalisation. It is a wellcrafted backlash effort that challenges nationalisation: "You accuse us of creating anxiety in the minds of our workforce. It is the Government which has created this anxiety by announcing plans to nationalise us without explaining the practical and specific ways in which they would benefit us. May we remind you that we live in South-Wales? Steel closures, railway closures, pit closures have all followed nationalisation. Our six yards have an average of under 100 people. They are spread out over about 70 miles. What notice, however regionalised, can a corporation employing over 25,000 men take of such a minnow hundreds of miles from Head Office? You answer none of our questions and fears. You give us instead an 'assurance' which could mean anything or nothing.... Over 75% of the employees of Bristol Channel Ship Repairers have signed this petition. Yet Mr Benn refuses to meet us. Could it be that the specific and practical answers to our questions would show that nationalisation would bring no benefits to our employees or customers?" It opposes nationalisation since it is in the profitable division of specialist engine ship-repair.

25 April 1975: Guerrillas opposing British assistance to Argentine militarists, and AAA forces burrowed within them, explode a bomb outside the British Embassy residence in Buenos Aires.

25 April 1975: New Zealand announces that "assisted passage" for immigrants will be ended. This means the poor and unskilled will be excluded whilst those with sufficient capital will still receive permits. British emigrants are in the latter category.

25 April 1975: Portuguese elections for the Constituent Assembly are held and propagandised as stage two of the revolution - one year on, as opposed to the anarchy of workplace occupations. 92% of voters participate. PS triumphs. José Batista Pinhiero Azevedo becomes prime minister to Gen. Francisco da Costa Gomes. Financed by a collective effort of the Socialist International, it manages to gain the blessing of the Catholic Church and several landowners who instruct tied workers to vote PS. At the time of the elections, British Petroleum, Shell, ICI, Unilever, BP, British Leyland, Plessey, British Insulated Callender's, Rio Tinto Zinc, Courtaulds, Allied Breweries, Anglo-Portuguese Bank, Avery's, Babcock & Wilcox, Baring Brothers Bank, Barton Mayhew & Co, Beecham, BAT (British American Tobacco), British Oxygen, BSC (British Steel Corporation), Cable & Wireless, Charter Consolidated, Coats-Patons, Consolidated Tin Smelters, Richard Costain, Distillers Co, Drake & Cubitt Holdings, Engineering Company of Portugal, EverReady Co, Eucalyptus Pulp Mills, W. Y. Graham & Co, International Synthetic Rubber, Laporte Industries, Lazard Brothers Bank, Lisbon Electric Tramways, the banking firm London & South America (Lloyds &

Bolsa), Marks & Spencer, Matthews Wrightson Holdings, Metal Box Co, Mitchell Construction Holdings, Pearl Assurance Co, P & O Steam Navigation Co, Portals Holdings, Powell Duffryn, Racal, Rank Organisation, Reckitt & Colman, Reuters, Rothschild & Sons Bank, Rubber Latex, George Sandeman Sons & Co, Sena Sugar Estates, Silva & Cosens, Smith & Nephew, Tate & Lyle, TPT, Thompson Organisation, Trust House Forte, United Gas Industries, Vickers, Wellcome, Warre & Co, Watney Mann, Western United Investment Co. are the British firms operating in Portugal. Many employers are nervous at the spread of 'general assemblies' combining all kinds and grades of workers, 'workplace occupations', 'egalitarian practices' where foremen are removed or reintegrated into the general labour pool, the imposition of hiring quotas by threat of industrial action etc. These often run in parallel with 'workers' commissions' comissão de trabalhadores, instituted by government. Over 200 plants have been 'occupied' in Portugal beginning with Sogantal textiles in June 1974. British banks operating in Portugal in particular are beginning to find that important business circles are in paralysis over their investment details being fully exposed. The experience of the comissão de trabalhadores in Portugal can explain, in part, the CBI's eventual hostility to the Bullock Committee's proposals. The comissão de trabalhadores have begun to keep records of the movement of capital and shipment of goods in an attempt to lock down capital within the plants. CBI is worried that worker-directors will not smooth labour relations but succeed in divulging management records of capital investment to the shop-floor.

Several of Marks & Spencer's shirt production plants have been occupied in the course of pay disputes. A series of occupations has occurred in Plessey plants. British firms begin to take part in the general counter-attack against popular mobilisations, big British business, with sufficient resources, begins transferring production and investment out of "restless" parts of the country. It leads to shortages in furniture, paper, household goods, inflation and a black market. Some British firms seek to form a relationship to provide succour to the military, inviting army officers to become joint managers and guaranteeing supplies for army units.

25 April 1975: "I learned from Ron Vaughan that Harold Wilson had arranged that in future all former Prime Ministers were to have their own car and chauffeur for life.... until 1970 even the Leader of the Opposition didn't have a car and a chauffeur. It was Heath who agreed that for Harold. Of course now Harold has returned the favour, but he has also given a car and driver for life to Home and Macmillan. The drivers in the car pool are saying, 'The crafty bugger must be preparing to get out, and then he'll have a car for life.'" (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 26 April 1975: Labour Party Special Conference votes against Britain's continued membership of EEC, 3.7 million to 1.9 million votes. The pro-EEC side trumpet the 'socialist' revisions secured at Dublin, and the anti-EEC announce that Commonwealth partners will lose out, and that 'socialist' national trade protection and subsidy will become more difficult as the EEC continues.
- 26 April 1975: Rolls Royce, GEC General Electric, Shell and Lucas sign technical agreements with the Soviet Union.
- 26 April 1975: Former South Vietnam President Nguyen Van Thieu flies to the guarded Taipei, Taiwan, mansion owned by his brother. He is later accepted into Britain.
- 26-30 April 1975: Queen attends the Commonwealth Conference in Jamaica and again appears to act as figurehead for the entire grouping even though many members have disposed of the monarchy. She is photographed in the centre of photographs and takes a seat at a banquet at a raised central chair.
- 27 April 1975: Formula 1's annual visit to Francoist Spain sees a race car crash killing 4 and severely injuring 9, mostly spectators. 27 April 1975: Ted Heath in <u>Sunday Express</u> writes an article 'Are you voting for a Communist take-over?' over endorsing the Labour Left in the EEC referendum vote. It makes a sharp reminder of pro-Nazi German voices in Britain before confrontation in the Second World War stating "Could anyone really be sure, if the Communists threatened Britain, whose side Anthony Wedgwood Benn would be on?"
- 28 April 1975: <u>The Times</u> attacks the 'No' campaign with an article 'Mr Benn tries on the mantle of leadership' warning an anti-EEC vote will aid Benn becoming Labour leader and prime minister with disastrous consequences for Britain etc.
- 28 April 1975: 2 rightists turn up to harangue Tony Benn as traitor and leftist after Bristol Channel Repairers, in its anti-shipbuilding nationalisation advertising campaign runs a series of printed adverts urging protests against Benn with Benn's home address.
- 28 April 1975: Zaire begins moving another 1,200 troops into northern Angola to assist the FNLA. Zaire armed forces have already been active in northern Angola alongside the FNLA since Feb 1975.
- 29 April 1975: New York Times reports on Britain's military supplies to Ceacescuist Romania: "The Warsaw Pact anniversary is receiving such scant attention that a Soviet diplomat has complained to a

Western colleague that Rumania had not even replied to a request for coordinated celebration by all members of the pact. Dumitru Margieanu, editor of the party daily in Timisoara, the country's third-largest city, said in a conversation that he did not even know a Warsaw Pact anniversary was approaching.... When the British Derense Secretary Roy Mason, visited here recently and was fully briefed by the Rumanian military leadership—itself an unusual departure—members of his party were struck by the consistent suggestion that Rumania stood alone militarily. Last week the Rumanian press carried the terse announcement that Rumania and Yugoslavia were jointly developing a fighter aircraft. The announcement did not mention that the plane is to be powered by a [British] Rolls-Royce jet engine."

29 April 1975: Community Land Bill allowing nationalisation of 'development land' from commons or by compensation to landowners is passed.

29 April 1975: Iranian students hold a peaceful protest just inside the grounds of the Iranian embassy, home of overseas SAVAK agents, in London, against the SAVAK execution of 9 political prisoners in Iran. Armed Metropolitan Police units arrest many of them, around 25 later begin a hunger strike in detention on May, 2 1975 against their being denied bail and access to lawyers. Whilst in detention, homes are raided by the police, rooms turned upside down, documents and books are removed. They are eventually released a week later on a specifically high bail of £250 plus £250 sureties each.

29 April 1975: 'No' campaign visits Brussels to prove EEC will mean more expensive essentials in a press announcement. 'Yes' campaign later follows up by visiting Norway to prove exiting the EEC will mean more expensive essentials.

29 April 1975: ITN's Ten O'Clock News asserts that whilst real wages are basically falling for most workers, wage increases are responsible for inflation: "Prices in Britain rose at their fastest rate ever between December and February, mainly due to high wage settlements, according to the Price Commission report published today. In three months up to last December, the Commission approved an average of £350 million in price increases each month, particularly in nationalized industries, but as subsidies started to be phased out and the big pay-increases started to push labour costs higher, the Commission were forced to allow an average of £1,105 million in increases each month between December and February. This quarterly figure is about as large as the previous nine months combined. Well, here with a report is our industrial correspondent. Giles Smith.

Giles Smith: Today's message from the Price Commission is grim and it's no less grim because it's not a new one. Inflation is now rampant and. according to the Commission, wage inflation is almost entirely to blame. Ominously, they say the pace of the prices explosion has so far been understated. In the three months covered, the retail prices index went up 5.8 per cent, wholesale prices 6.5 per cent, but the Commission's own index, which should be more up to date, rose 7.5 per cent. For this the Commission firmly blame wage-cost increases."

29 April 1975: "Department of Industry "officials were completely taken aback but the truth is they can't defend the market economy any more – it does not produce the goods, or solve the problems or get investment, and this is what I am trying to get through to them, though as yet with no effect." (Tony Benn's Diary)

29 April 1975: "King Hussein: We were approached by the Omanis for help with the rebellion in Dhofar. But the urgent point is the way the British friends seem to be conducting their operations there. I want to say very frankly to you, sir, that they have left many parts of the world and they will have to leave Oman, but we believe that they should do so in the best possible way... [Their help] is exploitative, and perhaps even malevolent.

Kissinger: The British are in Oman in their last colonial war. They seem to want to perpetuate their presence while at the same time taking no risks with the loss of life. It is not a very effective way of pursuing the job.

King Hussein: Even more than that, we have good reason to believe that some of the British mercenaries have tended to create incidents— they have become the rebels themselves in the sense that they harass our forces. [Britain is employing Frank Kitson's counter-gang approach]

King Hussein: Saudi Arabia, too, believes that there must be as much support as possible for Oman. On the difficulties with the British, the Sultan faces some important choices. If they continue on, he may well have to ask them to leave, or his own people—his own officers who see all this going on—might move against him... We have told them fully of our feelings. The problem in the area is very simple, we seem to have been misled by the British. They are getting enormous sums of money from the Omanis which seems to have seriously affected their financial situation. They have an annual revenue of about one billion, 200 million. Right now they need \$80 million to carry them over. Their defense budget has just risen to r180,000,000. That is over \$500 million. That is three times our own defense budget for a force of 5,000 men. Prices are escalating and the Omanis are in difficult shape." (Memoranda of Conversation April 29, 1975 - Ford, Kissinger, Jordanian King Hussein)

29 April-6 May 1975: Wilson meets Commonwealth heads at a summit in Kingston, Jamaica over commodities and mineral resources within the EC. Roy Hattersley later explains: "We have all noticed the aggressive attitude adopted by some developing countries. The object of the Kingston initiative of the Prime Minister was to convince them that in these matters co-operation is better than confrontation."

Commonwealth Conference also endorses that the next Commonwealth Conference be held in London in 1977 specifically to coincide with Silver Jubilee celebrations, and royal British prestige.

30 April 1975: HMS Hermes having docked at Port Everglades, sees Prince Charles fly on a Royal Navy aircraft to Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Highway police then escort him to Miami. He later attends a dinner for about 75 members of Florida's social scene who have paid over \$2,000 each to charity to be in the same room as him.

30 April-3 May 1975: A pre-emptive militarist FNLA and UNITA bid for complete control over Angola, sees MPLA counter-action leading to conflict killing around 800 in Luanda.

30 April 1975: An important meeting of George Kennedy Young, former deputy chief of MI6, supporter of MOSSAD, head of Britain's efforts in Operation Boot-AJAX, important trainer for establishing SAVAK, planner of an operation (overruled by the CIA) to lead a coup in Syria, deposition of Ibn Saud with a more amenable Saudi royal and the overthrow of Nasser in a well-funded backlash campaign in 1955-6, (author of the memo for anti-democratic rule by spies "it is the spy who has been called upon to remedy ...deficiencies of ministers, diplomats, generals, and priests... spies...live closer to the realities and hard facts of international relations than other practitioners of governments. We are actively free of the problems of status, of precedence, departmental attitudes and evasions of personal responsibility, which create the official cast of mind... the spy finds himself the main guardian of intellectual integrity") and General Sir Walter Walker, founder of Civil Assistance from 1973-4 that later becomes Unison, which Young also joins.

The meeting hosts and 20-30 Conservative MPs including Sir Frederic Bennett, Airey Neave and Geoffrey Stewart Smith, advisor to the British Military Voluntary Force that worked to provide mercenaries for UNITA, editor of <u>East West Digest</u>, and director of the Foreign Affairs Research Institute (FARI), that derives its tidbits from Brian Crozier and MI5, MI6 sources.

30 April 1975: "A journalist from the Daily Mail turned up at home and asked Caroline how Joshua was in hospital. ... Then the

reporters went to the school and asked the same question. They went to Hilary's house, and even tried to get in touch with Stephen at Keele University. It was hysterical harassment" (Tony Benn's Diary) It is the "eighth time the Daily Mail have said that one of our children was in hospital" [when they are not]

30 April 1975: Patrick Gordon Walker, former Secretary of State for Education and Science under Wilson, reiterates the importance of Labour for anticommunist struggle: "The hope of all these various bodies, the Communists and so on, is first of all to penetrate the Labour movement. This is, and I think it will always be, a situation where only the Labour movement can effectively hold the danger in check. It has done so all my life, and with very real success. ... when infiltration from these various subversive bodies gets too obvious and direct it has been possible to rally the membership of these movements to resist the danger. There are some signs today of this happening again. But this battle is never won outright. As in many things in democracy, the battle has to be fought again and again. It has been fought again and again, and is now being fought. We will fight also against future dangers."

30 April 1975: House of Lords, the highest appeals court in the country, give a ruling 3-2, on consent in rape that a man charged with rape cannot be convicted "if he honestly believed the woman consented to sexual intercourse, no matter how unreasonable that belief was." One of the judges says: "Rape to my mind imparts at least indifference as to the woman's consent" in explanation of his part in the decision, and one of the dissenting judges in describing his disagreement said, "A respectable woman who has been ravished would hardly feel that she was vindicated by being told her assailant must go unpunished because he believed, unreasonably, that she was consenting to sexual intercourse with him." "One prominent British legal source has said that the ruling would make no difference at all to the rape law, since juries would decide whether an accused rapist believed a woman consented, and that they would probably convict if it appeared to be an unreasonable belief. But a conviction does not seem at all 'probable' if the jury must make a factual determination in light of this decision by the highest court - a legal precedent to the contrary which they would be instructed by the judge to consider for their verdict." (Off our backs, May-June 1975)

May 1975: 608,000 foreign visitors arrive in the country over the month — a 12% rise on the previous year. (Department of Trade, British Tourist Authority figures)

May 1975: Sir Val Duncan, chief of RTZ, hosts a dinner at Carlton House Terrace, RTZ's London residences. Invited are Bill Deedes, Telegraph editor, Peter Hardiman Scott, chief BBC politics editor,

Harold Evans, <u>Sunday Times</u> editor (who sends features editor Bruce Page in his place), Mike Molloy, deputy editor at <u>The Mirror</u>; Lord Robbens, Hector Laing and many other businessmen and several retired generals and admirals. He asserts "The country is in trouble – it's time to tighten our belts. What we need is a coalition, a government of national unity ... When anarchy comes we are going to provide a lot of essential generators to keep electricity going, and we invited you, the editors, to tell us if you can maintain communications to the people. Then the army will play its proper role." Bill Deedes approves and starts writing positively of RTZ: "As well as supplying uranium, copper and other metals, Rio Tinto Zinc is also in a position to furnish a coalition government should one be required." BBC man Hardiman Scott says at the meeting he will do his "part". Only Wilson supporters, Molloy and Page, are opposed to the plans.

May 1975: <u>Ulster Commentary</u> reports on the increasing role of 60 RUC Community Relations Officers, who do not conduct arrests or perform conventional patrols, but nonetheless: "They continually emphasise that they are policemen first and community relations officers second, and that the Community Relations Branch is just another specialised unit which a modern police force requires if it is to serve the community properly by reducing or preventing crime and helping to produce responsible citizens."

May 1975: To win the referendum vote the Labour Left enters into the 'Get Britain Out Campaign'. A sample of attendees of its meeting in Liverpool: Merseyside Anti-Common Market Committee, Committee of Catholics and Anglicans against the EEC, National Campaign against Inflation, Conservatives against the Treaty of Rome, British Constitution Defence Committee, Union of Workers and Pensioners. Christians against the Common Market, Liverpool Trades Council, Liverpool Labour Party, Liverpool Communist Party, various trade union branches.

May 1975: Race Today reports the words of a young Brixtoner "All that they have been telling us about the black youth, I tell you it's all lies. It's all lies. They say they are black youth this and that, it's all lies man.... They have a project like this and when they want to find us they just come here. The project can be a good thing but they still make it so that it is an advantage to them. They must see things coming that's why they give the money. They build up things like the West Indian youths have a whole bunch of problems...They make it sound that the West Indian youths have a whole heap of problems. Which problems we have that they don't have? It's problems that they put on us." (Race Today, May 1975)

May 1975: Cornish Nationalist Party is established aiming for Cornish independence, with a publication An Barter Kernewek.

- \* May 1975: CBI Council approves a policy position calling for a 2-or-3 year programme of pay restriction to bring down inflation from its current levels close to 30% annual rate (36% on a 6-month basis) to under 5% annually. It urges the Government to sponsor a policy on these terms with the TUC, where pay limits must be determined by reference to an acceptable rate of future inflation.
- \* May 1975: Police Federation of England & Wales delegates and observers heckle Home Secretary Roy Jenkins. He says "you must not make me think I'm dealing with the International Marxists" meaning IMG. Calls to push for the right to strike are rejected. The press slowly builds up a campaign over the plight of the benighted, scorned police officer.
- \* May 1975: NUPE leadership and General Secretary Alan Fisher argue passionately against motions in opposition to the Social Contract declaring "we do not need to throw it out of the window" (NUPE Report of 49th National Conference)
- 1 May 1975: A pay strike by 700 clerical workers cuts production at a British Leyland car plant by half with 8,000 workers temporarily laid off.
- 1 May 1975: Well over a year into its term, Tony Benn finally releases the white paper of nationalisation by merging 20 shipbuilders and 4 large aircraft firms into 2 giant nationalised firms.
- 1 May 1975: Rhodesian embassy in Lisbon finally closes, under persistent pressure.
- 1 May 1975: Around 200 TGWU Stable-lads on strike picket Newmarket racecourse on the first day of the Guineas meeting. It is largely condemned by the press as a dangerous, divisive diversion from sport. "The underpaid and unorganised stablehands at the Newmarket races had the audacity to ask for more money. Their few pickets were set upon with whips and fists by a mob of well-fed racegoers and aristocrats" (Britain in Between, Matthew Blaire, Ramparts Magazine, August 1975, pp. 10-13)
- 1 May 1975: Trade unionists in a large May Day rally in Colombo, Sri Lanka call for Britain and USA to abandon its construction of a large military base on Diego Garcia, since it is encouraging militarisation of the Indian Ocean.
- 1 May 1975: Singapore Airlines, which operates a large number of London-Singapore-Far east City transit flights, announces its overseas offices in London, Sydney, Melbourne, Hong Hung, Tokyo and Osaka will be linked with a £23mil computerised reservations system. This replaces the labour of updated hourly telephone calls.

- 1 May 1975: Director of Malaysia's CID, Abdul Hamid bin Abdul Latiff (whose organisation has benefited from British police training) suggests the public form voluntary groups to maintain security and protect areas from subversive elements, fearing the growth of Malaysian guerrillas or social movements in the aftermath of the triumph of Socialist Vietnam.
- 1 May 1975: Sir Walter Walker gives a speech at an event for directors, managers and large investors of British & Commonwealth Shipping. The British & Commonwealth Shipping chief Lord Nicholas Cayzer, the richest owner in British shipping, donates £10,000 to Civil Assistance writing: "I see the army, the police and such a body as Civil Assistance standing between the wreckers and the vast majority of this country"

Already supportive Gen Sir Walter Walker in 1977 becomes increasingly vocal in defence of South Africa. Repression and strikebreaking in Britain can be dismissed more easily with 'it's not South Africa', hence a need for South Africa to survive. Sir Walter Walker accepts payments from South Africa's Information Dept to visit and meetings are are set up with P. W. Botha, SADF chief Magnus Malan and MID chiefs, writing a book *The Bear at the Back Door* on South Africa via its Valiant Publishing firm.

- 2 May 1975: Centre-right Conservative MPs table a request for urgent legislation to reverse the ruling by the House of Lord that juries should in rape trials, not consider the "reasonableness" of a defendant's belief that a woman would generally consent to intercourse. It is eventually defeated with Liberal support, but delays discussion into amending the law where anyone married cannot be charged with rape etc.
- 2 May 1975: Chairman Lord Duncan Sandys at Lonrho's annual meeting says significant expansion will occur over the forthcoming year. It announces profits of £46.48mil over Sep 1973-Sep 1974. He says Lonrho has proved analysts, talking in 1972 of Lonrho's liquidity crisis and possible takeover or collapse, wrong. Its current account deficit has become an operating surplus of over £10m. He attributes the firm's success to 3 points: an extensive diversification of its business, the wide geographical spread of its operations, increasingly close links being cemented with powerful interests in Arab countries that see the firm as a "suitable partner in various projects". Chief executive Tiny Rowland says he is extremely optimistic about likely future profit levels adding "We shall continue to expand as we have in the past."

- 2 May 1975: Hong Kong development firm Li Ka Shing and H.S.B.C. Continue the gentrification of Hong Kong announcing plans for for the redevelopment of a site in Hong Kong's central district. Li Ka Shing, also chairman of Cheung Kong (Holdings), has purchased the buildings from Chinese Estates in 1974, demolition is to begin before 1976.
- 2 May 1975: After 2 days of negotiation, Britain secures its main aim at the Commonwealth Summit in Jamaica, Kingston. The Summit agrees to try and reconcile rival proposals by Britain and the Caribbean nations for a new deal on world food and raw material prices. The terms of debate are drawn away from 'radical' proposals for a 'new economic order' as presented by several Caribbean nations. The Caribbean proposals, which would have indexed commodity prices to inflation levels in Western nations, are thus rejected. as Wilson strongly asserts his rival commodity pricing scheme.
- 2 May 1975: Thatcher argues in a speech in Derby, the government should provide first aid for ailing major private firms, but there should be no nationalisations. "The basic principle of Government policy for British Leyland- and for any other- ailing firm must be to find a recipe for success. The Ryder report put excessive demands on taxpayers in return for... no commitments whatsoever from the unions."
- 2 May 1975: Reuters reports British Leyland, FIAT and Mercedes have won contracts to construct commercial vehicle assembly plants in Nigeria.
- 2 May 1975: Reuters reports 7 leading British aristocrats have founded a new cooperative firm Magnificent Seven to encourage more fee-paying tourists to visit their ancestral homes. They include the Duke of Marlborough Blenheim Palace, Duke of Argyle Inversary Castle, Marquess of Bath Longeleat House, Marquess of Tavistock Woburn Abbey, Earl of Harewood House, Lord Montagu Beaulieu Abbey and Lord Brooke Warwick Castle.
- A spokesperson: "Once they were deadly rivals in promoting their properties, and competed for sightseers with safari parks recreation areas and cafeterias in then grounds". Lord Tavistock: "This cooperation will bring considerable advantages in production costs and allow much wider distribution of our advertising material."
- 3 May 1975: Swan Hunter's shipyard, Newcastle, Wallsend: "talked to shipyard workers who gave me a copy of their plan for workers' control in the yards... they were frustrated at the possibility of a delay in implementing the Bill. I tried to reassure them... At 10.30

the Special Branch drove us to the Swallow Hotel... The Special Branch told us openly that they keep a close on political groups." (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 3 May 1975: Around 3000 UN Secretariat employees boycott work in a 5-hour protest at the failure to grant a family allowance (for workers with children) to general service workers (non-professionals including clerical, secretarial and other support staff). Telephone switchboards are left unanswered and clerical work is abandoned as an unprecedented 5-hour rally takes place in the General Assembly Chamber. They assert inequality in allowances is only a symptom of "larger evil" and the salary system contains "many anomalies injustices and discriminatory practices." and urge UN management to address their plight "as a matter of urgency."
- 3 May 1975: Stable lads at Newmarket on strike picket the final day of the Guineas meeting today. Several collections have been held in local factories in response to the strikebreaker violence. Another confrontation breaks out driving stable-lads away from the main entrance.
- 4 May 1975: UUP triumph in the Northern Ireland Convention elections.
- 4 May 1975: 'The World Market for Marine Valves', research report from consultants W. Kinnard notes that, by value, Japan's share of the total world market for marine valves, key shipbuilding components is 42%, whilst Britain is at 5%.
- 4 May 1975: Sunday pro-EEC Referendum rally in Trafalgar Square sees Heath attack Michael Foot and Peter Shore in the presence of pro-EEC Labour figures.
- 4 May 1975: First edition of 'workers' cooperative' <u>Scottish Daily News</u> is published in Glasgow but sales figures are disappointing.
- 5 May 1975: Ted Short, Bob Mellish; and Patricia Llewelyn-Davies, Labour Chief Whips in the Commons and Lords respectively, urge a slow-down in the Industry Bill for a NEB "none of them give a damn whether the Bill goes through or not. They can get the Prevention of Terrorism Bill through in a day" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 5 May 1975: <u>The Guardian</u> raises its prices by 25% from 8p to 10p, yet nonetheless its broad editorial line is against pay increases for workforces.
- 5 May 1975: Irish Foreign Minister welcomes Airey Neave who states Westminster rule must continue and that power-sharing cannot be imposed on those who would not share power, effectively predicting the collapse of Northern Ireland Convention.

5 May 1975: South Africa begins broadcasts of television after a 4-year break in transmissions. BBC begins to export its programmes in earnest in 1976 when a South Africa colour service is announced. These assist the normalisation of white South African existence. A bitter struggle between BBC management and broadcast unions and Equity develops.

5 May 1975: High Court's Justice Phillips rules that charges levied on rates-payers by Devon Council under the Water Charges Order 1974 have been illegal since sewers for certain homeowners are not part of the local authority main sewer, but a private drainage system. It is a triumph of backlash efforts for 'taxpayer rights', where public goods are undermined by finding exemptions for rich business owners and professionals. Unsurprisingly such arguments are simply rejected out of hand when dealing with militarist forces and public subsidies towards them.

5 May 1975: <u>The Goodies</u> episode 'The End AKA Encased in concrete' is broadcast. It features Bill Oddie, smeared with black coal paint, playing a traditional 'lazy black man' 'Sambo' character called Rastus Watermelon.

5-15 May 1975: Retailing firm David Jones, with artefacts flown by British Airways, hold, in Australia, their "Best of Britain '75" store promotion, backed by BOTB to boost British exports. Sample advertising: "Great Britain in all her glory on show at David Jones for everyone to see. Wandering minstrels, puppets, precious silver and gold, historical gloves and the best of British merchandise are all here. See a dazzling life-size display of 64 kings and gueens, from Alfred to George V, all authentically robed. And, the most exciting of all, for the first time ever outside Britain, the Winston Churchill Exhibition that includes his paintings, letters, uniforms and dozens of photographs charting his life. See it all, the Best of Britain at David Jones. Keith Robson, Viyella designer. Carole Sproull from Simplicity Patterns gives advice. Horatio Nelson Exhibition Market Street store. Freddie Fox, milliner to royalty. Ballantyne warms up winter. John Siddeley's genius in design. Royal Doulton figurines on exhibition."

6 May 1975: It is announced Prince Margaret's children Sarah at Francis Holland School, and David, at Middlebrook School, will have their fee-requiring education at Bedales. As recipients of the Civil List, the cost is borne directly from general taxation. Kensington Palace: "Lord Linley and Lady Sarah Armstrong-Jones have both individually passed their entrance examination to Bedales School where they will go together as boarders in September this year. The choice of the school was made by both Princess Margaret and Lord Snowdon in collaboration with their children after being so

impressed by the academic and artistic reputation of the school and after visiting it last year."

6 May 1975: Evening Standard publishes a cartoon featuring Tony Benn congratulating an artist, who has just painted a massive tableau with Moses' phrase 'Let My People Go' next to Tony Benn as a towering Moses-God figure with a tablet of Commandments headed "Thou Shalt Not" (Benn six times the size of individuals in a crowd beneath him adoring him in a swivelled-eyed quasi-lunatic fashion).

6 May 1975: Eric Varley in Houston for an offshore technology conference tells a hall full of US oil executives: "We are not trying to drive the companies out of the North Sea. Our aim is a commercial partnership between the public sector and the private sector, who should continue to be rewarded for the risks they have taken and the many millions of pounds they have invested." (Reuters)

6 May 1975: EEC announces a £4mil loan to the British Steel Corporation.

6 May 1975: CBS on its main evening news report sees its anchor journalist Eric Sevareid declare: "Britain is drifting slowly to a condition of ungovernability. It is now a debatable question whether Parliament or the great trade unions are calling the tune. The country as one English writer puts it, is sleepwalking into a social revolution, one its majority clearly does not want and does not know how to stop. As a rough analogy, Wilson's government is at the stage of Allende's Chilean government when a minority tried to force a profound transformation of society upon the majority – not that the backlash in Britain need be militaristic, but some kind of backlash is building up"

6 May 1975: Roy Mason explains the government has protected massive defence spending because defence cuts "would have served notice to the NATO alliance that Britain had lost interest in a continuing balance. of power in Europe. I was not willing to contemplate such a course" and they would be "putting the NATO strategy in jeopardy and risking undermining Western security."

6 May 1975: 2 Labour MPs on the Standing Committee on Sex Discrimination reinstate gender apartheid by continuing restrictions upon employment on the basis of gender, officially blocking males from being employed as midwives by exempting midwifery.

Renee Short displays ugly chauvinism declaring that her North East Wolverhampton constituency's large number of Indian and Pakistani immigrant families' husbands would never accept male midwives in the presence of their wives. Roderick MacFarquhar, argues that chaperoning for male midwives could mean a male midwife might never 'go solo'. The clause is won by gender-segregationists 9-7.

- 6 May 1975: Queen & Prince Philip inspect a parade of the Royal Gurkha Brigade in Hong Kong.
- 7 May 1975: <u>The Times</u> makes a plea for coalition government: "The British people are in fact crying out to be properly governed. They do not believe they are the most difficult people to govern in the world: on the contrary they know that they are among the most reasonable and the most resilient."
- 7 May 1975: At an NEDC meeting, both Chancellor Healey and Shirley Williams endorse the concept of opposition Conservative places on the NEDC to determine industrial strategy. Healey declaring: "We want a broad consensus between political parties" meaning a standard anti-industrial democracy over investment consensus.
- 7-8 May 1975: Harold Wilson holds warm talks with Ford. Gough Whitlam follows him and the 2 also talk, following the Kingston Commonwealth Conference.
- 7-13 May 1975: An IMF team led by Alan Whittome, director of IMF's European department, visits London for its annual consultations. They find Whitehall concerned with high inflation and slow growth. They sense ministers and officials alike have accepted the need for further depreciation of sterling to sustain exports, in order to resolve the current account deficit. IMF is content with this policy. (W. John Woodley to managing director, 13 May, 1975, IMF C/UK/810 'Mission: Woodley and staff May 1975')
- 8 May 1975: Treasury makes the case for cuts via a shortened acceptable time-frame for the correction of the balance of payments because of Britain's deteriorating credit rating arguing the government must make "a very substantial reduction in public expenditure for the year 1979 perhaps rather more than £3 billion at 1974 prices" (T 277/3055, PCC (75) 49 (revised) 8 May 1975, annex, p6)
- 8 May 1975: State-owned National Freight Corporation shows a £12.3mil loss, on a turnover of £264mil. Unsurprisingly so, since freight rail costs have increased relative to road transport. Sir Daniel Pettit, chairman, states: "This year shows all the signs of a substantial worsening which only a sharp reduction in [labour] resources can temper."
- 8 May 1975: <u>The Times</u> bemoans a situation where Britain is "near the end of the line" and calls for "nothing less than a revolution in

the spirit of the nation" meaning essentially "nation-minded", reduced, not "selfish" pay claims.

8 May 1975: Chief of National Defence General Molongya Mayikusa, at the Zairean MPR (single party) cadre school urges greater ideological efforts to use and propagandise the armed forces: "By its essential character as the holder of force, protector of institutions, and guarantor of public order, the Army incarnates power." Mixed patrols composed of armed forces, gendarmerie and rural police units begin to expand across vast restive areas, commandeering, looting and using violence against the Zairean population. There is virtually zero discussion of atrocities, until FNLC querrillas are forced to hold white engineer managers as hostages in Kolwezi, when virtually all media discussion is fixated upon Cuban and Angolan support of 'native' 'black savagery'. An Amnesty International report 'Zaire Reports of Torture' based on field logs conducted in May 1975 records the armed forces GAZ are "synonymous with extortion, looting, murder, rape, and utter disregard for the protection of lives and property."

8 May 1975: "Lee: I told Thieu he couldn't rely on the one-for-one replacement and had to build a self-generating society.

Ford: Could they have become a viable society?

Lee: If he had turned from leopard spots to competing economies, he could have won. But not just shooting it out.

Kissinger: If we had given one-for-one, could he have held?

Lee: Yes, with the threat of bombing. But he would have faced it in '77. But we shouldn't waste time on this.

Lee: ...Given what could be a veto-proof Congress, the maximum achievable is not to lose any more big pieces. Just calm it down. The Thai are not in immediate danger. Laos is a goner. Cambodia is a struggle between China and Hanoi... Khukrit is surprised he is Prime Minister. He is writing his own press articles. He is acceptable to the military. They don't knock him down because they think the King is not ready and it would be messy. The Chief of Staff is openly contemptuous. I told Khukrit that you have a Congress which can block the President. But then there will be a new Congress and by then remorse and regret will have set in, I said "Don't lose your cool. Say what you have to say to the students, but keep your options open until November 1976. If it's a McGovern, throw the Americans out. But I don't think it will happen that way. So don't throw out the baby with the bath." The Chief of Staff is saying just the opposite - he wants Utapao open, but he is too simple also. He thinks if he keeps it open he will get more aid for the insurgency. The military is contemptuous of Khukrit. The Government won't last a year, so you can discount sixty percent of what he says.

Kissinger: Won't the Army take over?

Lee: After the King wants it and the civil population has had a belly full [of the ongoing investment strike]

Kissinger: Do you think the Chinese will work with Thailand to block Hanoi? Should we cooperate?

Lee: No. Because it would look like an American plot. You should delay it by stepping in and doling out aid until they say the insurgency can't be solved that way, but only by reforms. This government won't last and will be replaced by a government sympathetic with the Army. The number three Army man is being groomed for the top job. I would be dishonest if I said Thailand would be a happy peaceful place....

Kissinger: Can Indonesia keep stable?

Lee: With the oil, yes. There is no danger from the outside.

Kissinger: Will he take out an insurance policy?

Lee: He has no need. He can't be overthrown from outside. You can work with Suharto but don't back foolish policies. Don't support building a big military machine because that could lead to his overthrow from within.

Kissinger: What are you saying about Malaysia?

Lee: Malaysia has to get more queasy before you can be effective. Razak has made a move to Habib. We want joint training in counterinsurgency, the way you learned it in Vietnam. But he can't do it alone, only with me. But I can't do it like the British in Malaysia. I have to lance the cancer." (Memoranda of Conversation: May 8, 1975 - Ford, Kissinger, Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kwan Yew)

9 May 1975: An example of the standard Labour Left approach to EEC and socialist trade. In Tribune article titled 'So what's wrong with a 'siege' economy-at least it could be socialist!" the proposal: "Government should establish a state trading agency, with powers to enter into long-term contracts with other countries to ensure the means of paying for essential raw materials and foodstuffs. The agency would invite domestic firms and nationalised industries to tender for its export contracts on the basis of agreed criteria, while it could audit its import supplies to domestic wholesalers. All exports from, and imports to, Britain would be covered in its activities, with the aims of reducing the overall growth rate of imports from its current alarming rate of 18 per cet per annum by reducing the volume of imports and of preventing the emergence of a balance of payments deficit. State trading yields the advantages of bulk-buying and gives stability to the economy is a whole. Nor is it entirely novel to Britain; the Joint Ministerial Commission for British-Iran trade set up in 1972 has been largely responsible for our trading success there. ... State control of foreign trade provides the indispensable platform from which to launch planned increase in Britain's investment programme from its current level of £3,200

million a year to the £6,000 million a year recently suggested by Tony Benn. Such an increase will prove effective only if directed by the Government in accord with the national need to rebuild British manufacturing capacity."

- 9 May 1975: Parliament renews the PTA and exclusion order powers with only 10 opponents or abstentions.
- 9 May 1975: Environment Secretary Crosland gives a speech at Manchester Town Hall declaring that for local government "the party's over" and expenditure must be reined in. It inevitably means a frontal assault on women's incomes and participation in society, since local government's workforces have greater densities of women.
- 10 May 1975: Barnsley anti-EEC rally sees Scargill, Benn and Douglas Jay, former President of the Board of Trade address 1,000 mostly NUM delegates.
- 11 May 1975: <u>Sunday Mirror</u> sees Woodrow Wyatt attack the Labour Left and a large scoop (briefed by Wilson) article 'Bye, Bye Benn' warns that Wilson will remove Bennism from the Industry Ministry as soon as possible, and possibly dismiss Benn from the Cabinet. "Eight press cars outside the house, full of photographers and reporters who kept coming to the door. They've taken a flat opposite my house, so we are now under siege. I couldn't even go out for a walk" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 11 May 1975: Soldiers and large numbers of police escort Jordan's King Hussein at Heathrow Airport on a private visit. He is a prime target for guerrillas, for having launched the Black September crackdown against Palestinians in Jordan.
- 11 May 1975: On Sunday lunch-time radio and TV interviews recorded at Chequers, Wilson attempts to persuade that there is no currency attack: "People are frightened of the mirror of themselves that ft held up to them. Don't let us work ourselves into a neurosis." He rules out import controls, attacks the strikers at Chrysler UK, reaffirms Labour's commitment to private and public owned economy, with no nationalisation of banking or insurance firms and the NEB as simply a "prudent merchant banker" He announces he is thinking of setting up a new national wage-fixing council composed of government, employers, trade union chiefs and "other useful people." He attacks arguments against the social contract: "If you were going to take, any of you, more in salaries, wages, profits, capital gains or anything, out of the economy more than what is left, then either we have to take it back in taxes or in insurance stamp contributions, or we have got to cut the social services, and

then try and get some kind of pre-Budget consensus of what the country can afford to or what they will work to."

- 12 May 1975: "Michael Meacher, Roy Williams and I had lunch at the American Embassy with Elliott Richardson" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 12 May 1975: Chrysler UK workers at its engine plant in Stoke, Coventry, reject a call by trade union officials to return to work in an unofficial dispute over management practices.
- 12 May 1975: Merlyn Rees, Northern Ireland Secretary, threatens to further slow the release of internment detainees, if the PIRA end their four-month long ceasefire. Over 300 are still being held in Long Kesh.
- 12 May 1975: NFU begins a 3-month ban on all but emergency call duties to support their demand to reduce the working week from 48 to 40 hours and improved extra shift allowances.
- 12 May 1975 Flixborough Court of Inquiry publishes findings, it declares one faulty installation the cause of the explanation. Not a single executive is prosecuted.

It is subsequently considered an incorrect and partial judgement that does not reflect difference of opinion, for fear of casting doubt on other high-tech chemical plants: "The 20" line hypothesis did not blame anyone outside Nypro and was preferred by the process licensors and plant constructors, the Factory Inspectorate and everyone already on public record in its favour. These were pressing commercial, institutional and personal objections to the 8" line hypothesis. None of the parties represented at the hearings would benefit if it were adopted. Its adoption would have obliged the Court to highlight a frightening large number of defects in plant design and construction (loose bolts, gasket integrity, vulnerability of stainless steel in contact with zinc, the hugely damaging potential of a jet fire, an excessive inventory of superheated cyclohexane). ... the Court held firm. Their report reasserts that the 20" line was the sole item at fault: "The disaster was caused by the introduction into a well-designed and constructed plant of a modification which destroyed its integrity". ... If they had endorsed the more credible hypothesis, with all its attendant lessons, it could have exacerbated fears about the location of chemical plants. The Nypro plant was ½ mile from the nearest village (Flixborough) yet 72 out of its 79 houses were damaged. It was thought to be one of the most modern plants in Britain at that time and built in accordance with the best practice of the day. If two loose bolts initiated the Flixborough events, was anyone safe living close to a chemical plant? These, I am sure, are the reasons why the Court reached its scientifically perverse decision. They were impelled to blame the totally unsuitable 20" line as a one-off cause of the disaster - and give the rest of the Nypro plant (and, by implication, all others in Britain) a clean bill of health. This decision was predictable and

- signalled well in advance of their Report." (Flixborough revisited, The Chemical Engineer, April 2005)
- 12-15 May 1975: NGA members' unofficial action stops publication of London editions of the <u>Daily Telegraph</u>.
- 12-13 May 1975: Socialist International Bureau meeting sees the Dutch DvAP lead criticisms of the inclusion of the Singaporean PAP. In Oct. 1975 it places an amendment arguing for the PAP to be expelled unless it answers charges of its continued repression and imprisonment of dissidents.
- 12-18 May 1975: Panguna revolt. A large miners' revolt of over 1,000 workers takes hold in the copper town of Panguna in Bougainville operated by RTZ. RTZ calls on Papua New Guinea police and military forces to break the strike. Close to 800 are arrested. Production restarts after a week with a smaller replacement workforce.
- 13 May 1975: Home Secretary Jenkins attends a pro-EEC Press Conference where Ted Heath also on the platform attacks Tony Benn and Michael Foot, he fails to respond at all.
- 13 May 1975: A fortnight after the fall of Saigon, Britain finally recognises the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam, the guerrilla Viet Cong government, that has established itself in most provinces in South Vietnam since 1972.
- 13 May 1975: London Transport announces that fares will rise by 25% in November.
- 13 May 1975: Defence Secretary Rodgers states: "There are about 130 members of the British Forces and ancillary personnel in Malaysia at present, of whom some 80 are on training courses."
- 14 May 1975: 500 police in 13 coaches, including full riot gear, break up a 25-day sit-in by 200 students in Warwick University's administration building. They pull away students and arrest some desired "ringleaders".
- 14 May 1975: Royal Brunei Airlines begins its first commercial flights to and from Brunei Hong Kong and Singapore.
- 14 May 1975: RN including Vice-Admiral Leach's special Task Group begin joint exercises with the militarists of the Brazilian Navy. "To make room for three SH-3D Sea Kings from HS-1, which was normally embarked in the Brazilian aircraft carrier *Minas Gerais* two of 824 Squadron's Sea Kings were disembarked to RAF Olven."

- 15 May 1975: Cabinet agrees on "the supply of spares which really means ammunition for the weapons we sent... air traffic control equipment and gas masks for the South African Navy... Roy Mason and Eric Varley thought we should 'It will threaten our uranium supplies from the Rossing mine in South-West Africa if we don't go ahead," said Eric... Roy Hattersley was for going ahead and Harold said "Spares are all right." Shirley didn't think we should press South Africa noe because of the situation in Rhodesia" (Tony Benn's Diary) Almost certainly some of the armed forces operating in Soweto in 1976 will have used British ammunition.
- 15 May 1975: <u>Le Monde</u> reports France's SDECE, formerly heavily involved in manipulations of the Katangan and Biafran movements, has been actively courting the Congo-Brazzaville wing of FLEC, headed by Alfred Raol, former Prime Minister of Congo-Brazzaville. The other wing is already utterly dependent on Mobutu.
- 15 May 1975: 2,000 registered blind people attend a rally outside Parliament demanding a £5 weekly supplementary benefit instead of £1.25. This benefit has increased by only 50p in equivalent terms since 1947.
- 15 May 1975: Defence Secretary Roy Mason announces government will go ahead with development of the Sea Harrier aircraft. Royal Navy deck cruisers, officially designated Carriers Assault Helicopter (CAH) will also proceed.
- 15 May 1975: Justice Gwyn Morris, sentences six West Indian youths for robbery in Brixton, suggesting patrol groups to protect women in south London from potential immigrant muggers.
- "These attacks have become a monotonous feature in the suburbs of Brixton and Clapham, areas which within memory were peaceful, safe, and agreeable places to live in. But immigration resettlement, which has occurred over the past 25 years has radically transformed that environment." (The Guardian, 16 May, 1975) The judge owns, amongst other property, Pen-y-Lan stately home, near Swansea. The 19 acres of Wales he owns there include apple and fruit orchards, a paddock area, an ornamental lake, 20 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, studies, cellar, breakfast room, laundry room, summer area, finger panels in Swansea pottery, antique furniture from 15<sup>th</sup> century France, scores of valuable paintings, marble statues and crystal chandeliers.
- 16 May 1975: <u>The Times</u> publishes an anti-EEC column by Benn nonetheless it is portrayed with caricature depicting Benn as a mental disease patient.
- 16 May 1975: <u>The Times</u> also reports in full a speech by chairman of the Press Council, head of the operation to regulates press

behaviour, Lord Shawcross declaring Tony Benn as amongst those committed to destroy 'Britain's civilized and democratic way of life"' 16 May 1975: Defence Secretary Roy Mason flies in the passenger seat of a Harrier Jump-jet taking off from RAF Wittering on the Lincolnshire-Cambridgeshire border. The publicity stunt attracts several major newspapers who provide breathless reports the following day.

- 16 May 1975: UPW delegates at Special Conference in Blackpool vote 6,800-4,400 to lift restrictions on the mechanisation scheme, allowing the introduction of Royal Mail management's automatic post-code handling programme.
- 16 May 1975: In what is almost certainly a case of kleptophilia (sexual desire derived from stealing 'sexual' or fetishised items) gone wrong, Colin Jordan, Old Warwickian, chief of the British Movement, hard-rightist and former leader of the White Defence League, is arrested for stealing 3 pairs of women's underwear from a Leamington Spa Tesco store. Michael McLaughlin becomes BM chief and broadly continues its tougher stand support for Irish reunification on 'national' and 'racial grounds' is separate from the NF, although numbers of young people do become attracted to BM's National Youth Movement after reading NF literature. paramilitary organisation the Leader Guard begins to encourage all to join the Territorial Army. BM under McLaughlin, follows the NF example, and begins to avoid overt praise of Nazism.
- 17 -31 May 1975: Given assistance from state-maintained British Overseas Trade Board for a trade tour, Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry visits apartheid South Africa for trade opportunities to supply industry and government.
- 18 May 1975: Tony Benn press conference where he claims the trade deficit with the EEC has lead to the loss of 500,000 jobs. It is poorly expressed and leads to the understanding that Benn believes there would be 500,000 fewer unemployed in Britain if it was not an EEC member.
- 18 May 1975: Enoch Powell gives a strong anti-EEC speech in West Bromwich.
- 18 May 1975: British Rail raises its fares by at least 15%, some tickets by 19%, with another rise planned for Sep 1975. British Rail official has explained, according to regime ideology: "It is clear that these higher fares are not likely to close the gap between the increases in cost and revenue. With negotiations still in progress with the trade unions on their current pay claim, a further price increase cannot be ruled out." (18 Apr 1975)
- 19 May 1975: <u>The Times</u> analyses Thatcher in an interview with her about politics in the standard sexist manner: "She is a trim and

comely woman, quintessentially English in her features and manner. Her face is fine-boned, her eyes grey-blue, frank and alive" before spending over 100 words on her fashion and jewellery.

- 19 May 1975: A large TUC demonstration in London featuring mostly Welsh but some other steelworkers against BSC and Finniston's redundancy plans.
- 19 May 1975: "Caroline told me that the school had received another call today saying that we had moved our children from the comprehensive school into a private school- another canard going round." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 19 May 1975: Prevention of Terrorism Act is presented to the House of Commons for renewal.
- 19 May 1975 10pm: After TUC Steel committee and BSC talks, it is announced that all unions agree to a six-point plan for efficiency measures to avoid the need for compulsory redundancies by massive productivity increases. Bill Sirs, head of the ISTC is chairman of the Steel Committee and remains so throughout the period.
- 20 May 1975: Cabinet's Misc 83 Committee under Harold Lever concludes with "a strategy of unemployment. Anything that prevents unemployment is regarded as an attack on the macroeconomic strategy." Sir Kenneth Berrill said "You can't save jobs when your economic strategy is to have higher unemployment." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 20 May 1975: South African Foreign Minister Mulder confirms it will continue full co-operation with Rhodesia.
- 21 May 1975: Government announces its new Defence Paper noting: "It is becoming increasingly difficult to persuade people of the needs of defence and of the unique dangers of lessening our security" But "we could not, and should not, cut our basic contributions to NATO, because this could have caused a crisis of confidence in NATO and could well have unravelled the Alliance as the weaker members saw Britain reducing its commitment and its contributions. Nor did we want to eat too heavily into the defence industries. We had already reduced job opportunities in this field by the Defence Review and further reductions would have meant cutting the equipment programme of the forces—and hence the quality of our front line. It was decided 228 that the cuts must fall on what is called the 'tail' and not the 'teeth'. As a result the burden has fallen on civilian numbers" The militarists remain strong, civilians are weakened. "economies in the support area are being implemented and reductions in Ministry of Defence Headquarters' staff are planned... In all, some 10,000 civilian jobs will disappear, in addition to the 30,000 already planned to go under the earlier

Defence Review" But still "full-time professionals... are backed up by nearly 250,000 reservists and 300,000 civilians. On the mainland of Europe, we commit no less than 55,000 soldiers and a large tactical air force. A high proportion of NATO's immediately available maritime forces in the Eastern Atlantic and Channel areas is provided by the Royal Navy"

Overall "our major equipment programmes—our weapon systems of the future—have come through intact.... On the naval side we attach great importance to the antisubmarine warfare cruiser and the nuclear powered fleet submarine programmes. Together with the RAF's Nimrod aircraft, they will be the core of our future antisubmarine warfare capability. ... cruisers [let] us to deploy ... our Sea King helicopters. Each Sea King helicopter has the equivalent anti-submarine warfare capability of a present-day frigate"

"we are also developing the Sea Suka, helicopter-launched anti-ship missile, and negotiations have been opened to purchase from the United States the submarine-launched anti-ship missile known as the Sub-Harpoon." "the Sea Harrier" "Milan, a light-weight infantry anti-tank missile" "the collaborative 155-millimetre gun [and] self-propelled version—the SP70—will follow later"

"our decision to order... 385 MRCA aircraft for the RAF... is of major importance to the British aerospace industry"

21 May 1975: Conservative opposition commends the rise in enlistment numbers as a result of unemployment: "one is very glad to see that figures for those enlisting in the Services today show a very marked and welcome increase."

21 May 1975: The Shipbuilding Industry (Northern Ireland) Order 1975 comes into effect as "a basic scheme" drawn up "in consultation between British Shipbuilders, Harland & Wolff and the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions."

The main problem according to the government in shipbuilding is "the collapse of the world shipbuilding market, which has resulted almost entirely from the massive world tanker surplus" and the foreign threat of competition "unjustifiable expansion of shipbuilding capacity—again almost wholly for tankers—in Japan and other countries." This means "excess world capacity in employment terms of about 40 per cent".

"It is for British Shipbuilders, in consultation with the trade unions, to decide the shipbuilding industry's operational and corporate strategy ... given the uncertain future for shipbuilding in the light of world market conditions, there may be some workers—perhaps those nearing retirement—who would prefer to leave now, at a time of their own choosing, if given a suitable cash inducement to do so. the Bill envisages that the schemes will operate only for a limited time—two years in the first instance, which may start from 1st July last year

"situation which has arisen as a result of a sudden, once-for-all structural change. The purpose of the Bill is to alleviate the social effects of that part of this worldwide process which this country is unable to avoid. It is not to put shipyard workers in a privileged position in the ups and downs that are part of ordinary industrial life."

21 May 1975: Faced with the western-supported Iranian militarists combining with Iraqi militarists against the Kurdish rebellion, and thousands of refugees spilling over into mountainous Iranian Azerbaijan and Turkey, Home Secretary Jenkins states he is "prepared to grant applications for resettlement by Kurdish refugees who have a record of Crown service or who have some other connection with the United Kingdom" however "in all cases... responsible sponsorship in this country" barrier will remain.

21 May 1975: Foreign Secretary Callaghan declares, in support of submarines for the Chilean militarists: "We have at the moment about £200 million-worth of arms orders for ships in Latin-American countries. This is a considerable benefit to us in many ways. ... we could not maintain an independent arms industry unless we were prepared to engage in this trade."

21 May 1975: Q: "Will [Foreign Secretary] express the concern that many people feel about statements that have been made concerning internal repression in Brazil, the treatment of critics of the present régime, the stories of torture ...

[Foreign Office Minister] Ennals: I have had their assurance that they [present regime] look to the significant opportunities and value of their own economic relationship both with the Community and with Britain. ... I shall not go around making comments on the country's internal affairs. Neither do I expect Ministers from other countries who come here to discuss political and trade relations to do so."

- 22 May 1975: Cabinet. Wilson decides on "asking officials to proceed with the expenditure survey on the basis put forward [£3bn cuts at 1974 prices to be achieved by 1979] to "ensure they would have available sufficient options later in the year should major cuts have to be made" (CAB 128/56, CC (75) 25<sup>th</sup> Cabinet Conclusions, 22 May, 1975) In the Cabinet meeting Jenkins states "the survival of society is threatened" if cuts are not passed. Health Minister Castle simply passively states "we are drifting to catastrophe" (Barbara Castle's Diary)
- 22 May 1975: In arguing against the proposals Benn concedes "I accept that public expenditure may need to be re-planned in the full employment context and even cut back, especially where high import content may be shown to exist" (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 22 May 1975: Defence Secretary Rodgers in his written answers notes that the value of exports of defence equipment have increased with the onset of Labour government. From £423mil in FY1973–74 to £475mil in FY1974–75 (1 Apr 1974-31 Mar 1975).
- He also states there are 530 service personnel in Masirah, Oman and 5 Forces personnel "on the permanent staff of Her Majesty's Embassy Muscat". 188 service personnel are "on loan with the Sultan of Oman's armed forces" but "it is not our practice to give the numbers providing direct assistance to the Sultan's forces in the campaign against the rebels in Dhofar."
- 22 May 1975: A written answer reports "good relations with Bolivia. Traditionally we were the largest market for Bolivia's main export, mineral ores, but this position has now changed with Bolivia's increasing capacity to refine her own ores. Our exports averaged about £2 million annually for several years, and in 1974 they increased to £4.3 million."
- 22 May 1975: Saudi government announces a £62bn economic development 5-year plan relying heavily upon foreign investment, inevitably meaning British engineering and construction contracts.
- 22 May 1975: <u>Financial Times</u> reports continuing British firms' contracts in training and maintenance for the Saudi Air Force. Saudi contingents of forces remain in Jordan, YAR and elsewhere. An estimate states it will take at least 7 years until Saudis can operate their equipment effectively and significantly reduce any reliance on Western firms (International Herald Tribune, 19 Jul 1975). British personnel and liaison teams also remain in the sheikhdoms of Bahrain, Abu Dhabi and Ras el Khaimah, although from 1971 the official cost of these services are borne from local budgets.
- 22 May 1975: Barbara Castle announces state pensions will be increased in November but that the Christmas bonus given to state pensioners, currently at £10 will no longer be issued.
- 22 May 1975: General Medical Council announces it will no longer recognise degrees from *any* Indian medical school. Indian doctors qualifying from now on will no longer be eligible for registration (full or provisional registration) in Britain. Instead they will have to apply for temporary registration—passing the linguistic and competence tests which are being introduced for many foreign medical graduates from next month. This will allow them to work in a post approved by the GMC. The approved posts are usually the unwanted positions of British doctors.

The registration must be renewed whenever they change a job, meaning any resistance to government or management policies will become much less likely. The one advantage is they are forbidden from private medicine, however this restriction does not apply to indigenous British doctors. A spokesman for the Indian Medical

Society responds: "I would like to ask the GMC why India was singled out, and why the White Commonwealth universities are not even mentioned. Why only India and not Australia and New Zetland as well? Powellism is creeping into the field of medicine." Dr Abdul Sayeed, chairman of the Overseas Doctors' Association, stresses the decision will cast doubts on qualifications and standards of all foreign-looking or sounding doctors. The concerns are broadly dismissed as irrelevant.

When introduced in Jun 1975, GMC's medical competency English language tests before temporary registration sees of 60% doctors fail such tests but the "cream of the crop" - those most likely to embody and enhance the values of the British medical establishment, those trained in the most elite institutions in their countries of origin, inevitably pass the test. Doctors from Old Commonwealth countries are exempted.

- 22 May 1975: Tom Fraser, chairman of the Scottish Local Government Staff Commission announces in Edinburgh there are actually fewer people employed in local government in Scotland today than there were before reorganisation. Contrary to media stories of 'needless pen-pushers in local government', local authorities have followed government circulars restricting recruitment in 1974 to an effective hiring freeze, there has been heavy natural wastage through death, retirement and early retirement incentives.
- 22 May 1975: 2 RN pilots from the Royal Naval Air Station at Culdrose are killed when their Gazelle training helicopter crashes in Cornwall.

22-23 May 1975: NATO Defence ministers of 13 states meet in Brussels. Portugal is represented by a lower level defence department official to assuage domestic protests. Nonetheless Portugal states it will remain a NATO member and "behave in a loyal manner toward the alliance." They agree further spending to study a joint multi-billion dollar purchase of the controversial Boeing AWACS (Air-borne Warning and Control System). The estimated cost for a single plane will be \$100mil, according to a Pentagon Apr 1975 analysis. Defence ministers agree informally for a "substantial increase" in arms purchases in both directions across the Atlantic. In its communiqué NATO will aim for "modest annual increases in real terms in defence expenditures". It is noted that France (which has withdrawn its military forces from NATO Command in 1966), nevertheless coordinated fleet movements with Mediterranean fleet to ward off dangers of Portugal and minimise the effects of the Greece-Turkey breach.

In general in dealing with NATO under the Labour government, from the perspective of a British negotiator: "The sort of problem that

- springs to mind was the danger in Portugal after their revolution. They had Communist ministers who in theory had access to NATO intelligence and so forth. It began to be a problem which we had to tackle. Then there was the Icelandic 'cod war' but in general the problem at NATO at that time was how to keep the western defensive shield up in the face of constant demands on governments to cut their armed and their defence budgets." (John Margetson)
- 22-23 May 1975: CENTO Ministerial Council in Ankara meets, fails to take any action over Turkey's invasion of Cyprus. Kissinger, after talks with Foreign Minister Caglayangil says: "We had a very good exchange of views on bilateral relations between Turkey and the United States"
- 23 May 1975: Wilson interviewed by Robin Day. "Oh well, Mr Benn is a bogeyman like Lloyd George and Churchill and Bevan." Robin Day said "But you've attacked him yourself, called him an Old Testament Prophet" "Well he dreams about the future but what he says isn't Government policy"" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 23-25 May 1975: ACTT 72-hour strike in ITV firms blacks out ITV to over two thirds of British receivers. It is attempting to force management to honour its promised payments of £231 each to 3,500 men, who accepted frozen wages during the wage restraint period.
- 24 May 1975: Police attack anti-fascist protesters outside Kingston Halls, Glasgow, protesting a NF rally, led by John Kingsley Read, who agitates NF to stand firm by straight-arm salutes. 65 are arrested on the day and all arrested antifascists are brought to trial. Police baton charge an antifascist crowd of over 300. An inquiry into police behaviour is later held by John Nicol, assistant Chief Constable of Grampian police, finding the police guilt-free.
- 25 May 1975: <u>Sunday Express</u> headlines 'Bosses win their battle against Benn' with news that Wilson has informed the CBI Benn will be dismissed after the Referendum. Its 'Crossbencher' column profiles sympathetically Edmund Dell, merchant banker, who is commended as a good figure for the role of Industry Minister because of fifteen years' "experience" in "industry".
- 26 May 1975: <u>Daily Mirror</u> attacks anti-EEC position in headline article 'Lies, Lies, More Lies and Damned Statistics'. Press uniformly report in a positive fashion Chancellor Healey's statement that "truth is the first casualty in war" warning of lies in the anti-EEC campaign.

- 27 May 1975: At the launch of the Loch Marine, second of 2 refrigerated ships for Scotstoun Marine, Charles Connell, shipbuilding chief says shipbuilding is an industry that makes a "prodigious contribution" to the balance of payments, despite rampant inflation and a severe recession, and should not be nationalised. "With the mixture of fresh taxation thrust upon us by this government, we can only conclude it is the Intention of some of its members to kill the private sector of industry."
- 27 May 1975: Heath in Lancaster Town Hall attacks Tony Benn vociferously, perhaps to appease a crowd that features a significant number of rightist anti-EEC elements.
- 27 May 1975: Liberal leader Thorpe urges Labour Left anti-EEC leaders to pledge resignation of the EEC Referendum vote is Yes.
- 27 May 1975: Wilson states big league US industry will not invest in Britain if its outside the EEC.
- 27 May 1975: Home Secretary Jenkins attacks Tony Benn by name stating "I find it exceedingly difficult to take Mr Benn seriously as an economic Minister. It is this technique in which you just think of a number and double it, and if challenged you pretend that you have not been challenged, and react by thinking up some new claim." Radio 4 sees pro-EEC rightist political commentator Tom King explain that Jenkins' remarks mean that press attacks on Benn have indeed been correct and appropriate.
- 27 May 1975: Coach accident at Dibble's Bridge, from Pateley Bridge to Grassington, Yorkshire. 32 are killed, 14 seriously injured. Department of Environment vehicle inspectors' official reports blames the "failure of the brakes resulting from the poor condition of the braking systems, which were defective because of serious faults in the offside rear brake unit, compounded by faulty adjustment of the front brakes"
- 27 May 1975: An unemployed 20 year old is sentenced in Edinburgh High Court to 5 five years in prison for using non-violently fraudulent savings books in the Post Offices to gain £5,920, which has been used on his circle of largely unemployed friends and family.
- 27 May 1975: James Shaw Grant, chairman of the Pitlochry Festival Society Ltd. Says provincial theatre is being decimated by local authority cuts, but ticket prices are not rising as high as necessary to cover the balance, leading him to warn "If things go on like this, fewer people can be employed in our theatres, and engagements will be shorter"
- 27 May 1975: Foreign Secretary Callaghan attends the IEA Governing Board meeting.
- 28 May 1975: Leeds United-Bayern Munchen at the Parc des Princes stadium, Paris, sees Leeds United fans attacking the pitch with torn

out metal seats and later serious confrontation between rivals fans. It leads to a 2-year ban by UEFA on Leeds United participating in its competitions, announced on 13 Jun 1975, which is then reduced to only a year on 30 Jun 1975.

28 May 1976: Queen Mother visits another private school, Oundle, to mark its centenary celebrations.

28 May 1975: Thomas Carle, general manager of BP Chemicals International at Grangemouth, sums up the main pro-EEC case. He states Europe is the biggest market available for the kind of chemicals Britain produces, at least 5 times bigger than that of Britain alone. "At a time when the Government, the TUC and everyone else is calling for greater investment in Britain, we could be doing ourselves ft lot of harm and losing a big opportunity for our industry and the people who work in it by leaving the Market. We would also be denying ourselves many extra jobs and risking the ones we already have" Expected future profits to BP (aided in part by Tony Benn's oil initiatives) have lead to greater confidence in making openly 'political' statements.

28-29 May 1975: Britain-chaired OECD meeting. Foreign Secretary Callaghan chairs the first day, Healey, the second day. The British aim in chairing is to secure a common approach by Western powers at the 7th special session of the United Nations. Trade Secretary Shore urges OECD action to encourage investment in other parts of Western Europe from Federal Germany, that is running a balance of payments surplus.

28-29 May 1975: A 48-hour unofficial strike amongst French and British unions of seamen and dockers occurs in protest at the implantation of a German-owned ferry business to operate the Southampton-St. Malo ferry route.

29 May 1975: Home Secretary Jenkins warns of joining the Soviet Bloc without realising it, if Britain stands aloof from the EEC.

29 May 1975: A 22-year old unemployed, homeless man is sentenced in Miami, Florida, to 150 years of prison for having injured a British tourist during an attempted mugging in August 1973 when aged 20. Court judge states the sentence is "in an attempt to protect society" particularly the inflow of tourists.

29 May 1975: BBC Chairman Sir Michael Swann gives the annual Queen's lecture in Berlin 'Freedom and restraint in broadcasting — the British experience."

29-31 May 1975: Wilson (29-30 May) and Callaghan attend NATO summit in Brussels, originally proposed by Callaghan, as a reaffirmation of member countries' commitment to NATO as an alliance for all its members.

30 May 1975: <u>New Statesman</u> reports Rev William Arlow, Secretary of the Irish Council of Churches, mediator between IRA and British secret negotiators, announcing that the IRA had been given an undertaking by British officials that they would withdraw from Ireland. This has been a false assurance, designed to immobilise the IRA as British intelligence gathering and 'turning' continue.

30 May-5 June 1975: An unofficial strike of ground engineers at Heathrow airport is successful in winning a claim for night-shift "flexible working" allowances.

June 1975: IMG paper Red Weekly carries an interview with Labour Left Sidney Bidwell where he states: "all Socialist organisations including the Communist Party, should stop contesting against the Labour Party electorally and should apply for affiliation to the Labour Party. I have always been against bans and proscriptions. Red Weekly readers and young Marxists, including members of the IMG, should forget about the romance of other countries... and understand that you can't bypass the Labour Party... I believe that all Socialists particularly young Socialists, should join the Labour Party and get into the mainstream. I think the various Trotskyist groupings should assess the situation carefully and without romance, and should then help to take hold of the Labour Party locally and nationally for Socialist purposes."

June 1975: 6 months after the absolute deadline of December 1974, foreign-owned firms failing to comply with the Nigerianisation (National Enterprises Promotion) decrees stand at over 600 firms, over 66% of all affected foreign enterprises. Those who have not complied include many British firms including UAC International. The government report on the NEP Decree 1972 concludes: "severe concentration of ownership was the 'unintended' result of the decree, frequently accompanied by 'fronting' ... in almost all instances, the devices employed by the foreign owners could not have worked without the active support and connivance of some misguided Nigerians'." Foreign firms have sold to reliable 'fronting' Nigerian shareholders, from whom capital can be extracted. Ownership has become more concentrated with the onset of non-expropriation nationalisation not less – a Nigerian business elite is being slowly built up.

June 1975: Police Federation agrees on a settlement before the imposition of the pay limits of July 1975, cunningly sidestepping the £6 a week limit: "The agreement meant that a Constable would start at £2,400 and his top pay would be £3,402.... Had the staff side gone to arbitration, it would have lost the negotiated rise and police pay would have risen by a flat rate £312. From being the people who had sold the service down the river, the negotiators

were now the wise men. ... The proviso in the White Paper which allowed groups with increases already agreed but not implemented to go ahead, may well have been written with the police in mind, as they were the only significant group that had not completed the current pay round." (Tony Judge, Force of Persuasion)

June 1975: General Gowon, whose recent form includes announcing in Oct 1974 indefinite military rule rescinding his pledge of civilian governments by 1976, arresting further students throughout 1974 and 1975, and repression of a whole series of strikes in Jan 1975 dockers, lorry drivers, medical staff and bank workers, is awarded an honorary degree from Cambridge University.

"Cambridge... had just given me an honorary degree there where they described me as a man of "muscular Christianity". I really liked that turanci, that big grammar. It was beautifully done." (Gowon opens up: Day I was overthrown, Express Nigeria May 2012)

eJune 1975: The oil rig 'Monster', where later 168 workers are killed and 62 severely injured in an explosion then fire ('the Piper Alpha disaster'), is towed out to sea on large barges. It has, like most oil rigs, been given only a rudimentary safety examination of coping with a blow-out.

- 1 June 1975: <u>Sunday Times</u> records preliminary investigations which reveal that "last week's crash might have been avoided if the coach had been equipped with an extra braking device, such as an electromagnetic retarder which is being fitted to an increasing number of coaches".
- 1 June 1975: With favourable opinion polls, a large Keep Britain in Europe Rally has the sense of a victory celebration as Reg Maudling and Home Secretary Jenkins laugh and joke with one another on the platform.
- 1 June 1975: Manchester United, currently a second division side, plays Indonesian side PSSI Tamtama, taking part in a 2-match mini-tournament alongside Ajax and Indonesian side Waskito. It receives at least \$25,000 in addition to expenses. Manchester City's fee request is higher and so Manchester United is preferred. Governor of Jakarta Ali Sadikin, who has recently introduced a system of residency-card apartheid to harass the unemployed rural migrants streaming into Jakarta, alongside various other militarists, attends the match.
- 2 June 1975: Special BBC Panorama, produced by Roger Bolton with David Dimbleby as host tackles the EEC Referendum.
- 2 June 1975: Hard-rightist Monday Club man, chief of 1922 Committee, Edward du Cann makes his first statement for a No vote in the EEC.

- 2 June 1975: Reuters reports Malaysian promoters have been covered by \$5mil insurance over the fight between British boxer Bugner and Mohammed Ali in Kuala Lumpur. From this total Joe Bugner has already had \$50,000 deposited in his account, Ali \$100,000 even if the fight does not take place for any reason.
- 2 June 1975: Colonial Hong Kong sentences an apparent Taiwanese agent to 6 months in prison and deportation for breaking no laws other than attempting to induce Chinese citizens to report on internal, non-propaganda reality in PRC.
- 2 June 1975: Portugal's PS announces import tariffs of up to 30% on numerous products including sewing machines, washing-machines, vacuum cleaners, medical equipment, motorcycles, stationery but not oil and food. Inevitably exporters to Portugal are severely affected, whether private firms or cooperative firms, they are applied, Meriden loses export orders as much as Chrysler.
- 2 June 1975: AP reports share prices have risen sharply in FTSE in growing optimism that 'Yes' will be the result of the 6 Jun 1975 referendum.
- 2 June 1975: <u>Daily Telegraph</u> reports a virtually wholly inaccurate story that black African nations are hiring former British soldiers to carry out sabotage in Rhodesia.
- 2 June 1975: Thailand states that the US fleet of B-52 bombers that have incessantly bombed northern Vietnam will start its full withdrawal in this (3-8 Jun) week.
- 2 June 1975: TGWU officials of a three-week old strike which has severely restricted production at Chrysler UK plants agree to recommend a return to work to 4000 workers following a minor pay increase.
- 2 June 1975: <u>Aviation Week</u> reports (Special Report: Expanding the Global Market, Exporters Battle for middle East Sales, p187, 2 Jun 1975)

"Petrodollar-wealthy Middle East is the prime target of US and European aerospace manufacturers for new export sales... The Middle East region as an entity was the single largest export market last year for US transport aircraft manufacturers, who, with orders for 53 aircraft, captured almost 100% of the transport orders coming from the area.

This is expected to be the year of the wide-body aircraft, with several Middle East operators now defining their requirements for large-capacity transports and aiming at selections before the end of the year.

Egyptair has been studying various wide-body aircraft for a possible decision by the end of this year, with entry into service planned for some time in 1977. Kuwait Airways Corp. is expected to order three wide-body transports before the end of the year, and Alia, the Jordanian flag carrier, also is a potential wide-body customer for this year. Lebanon's Middle East Airlines (MEA) is scheduled to receive three Boeing 747-200Bs this year on an order it placed last June. It holds options on two more.

Saudia Arabian Airlines will receive the four Lockheed L-1011 TriStars this year that it ordered in 1974. It ordered two additional L-1011s several weeks ago for delivery in 1976 and 1977.

Trans Mediterranean Airways (TMA), the Beirut-based all-cargo carrier, bought two used Boeing 747-100s from American Airlines in January, and the airline anticipates a need for six-to-eight more wide-body transports by 1980 if present growth rates continue. Bahrain's Gulf Air ordered four L-1011s last December and took options on four others at the same time.

Iran, the largest customer for US aerospace products, bought six 747s from Trans World Airlines earlier this year and holds options on another six.

Business jet manufacturers also have been doing well in the area, and Dassault-Breguet Falcon 10 and Falcon 20 executive aircraft have been selling well in several Arab countries.

In what appears to be the start of an interesting, though possibly limited, trend, a Kuwaiti buyer has ordered a Boeing 737-200 transport in an executive VIP configuration, and several other potential customers in the area are considering similar purchases.

Along with the expansion of civil air traffic in the Middle East has come a corresponding requirement for improvements in the civil aviation infrastructure in this region, including airport planning, construction and renovation, terminal and enroute radar, navigation aids and telecommunications equipment.

The United Arab Emirates, for example, are setting up a network of four independent international airports, each capable of handling aircraft as large as the 747, to serve a population that has the highest per capita income in the world.

The emirates presently operate international airports at Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Sharjah, which is being expanded and will reopen next year. Newest airport will be at Ras Al Khaimah.

In addition, Abu Dhabi is planning to build a new airport further away from the center of the city, and Aeroport de Paris has been contracted to design and supervise its contruction. Aeroport de Paris' consulting contract ultimately will be worth about \$10 million, and total cost of the project probably will be more than \$200 million. Design work is expected to be completed by the end of this year. Libya, Syria, Jordan, Egypt, Lebanon and Iran all have requirements for some type of airport planning, airport construction and/or airport renovation, and much of this work is being split between British and French firms. Other countries also are involved, however.

Naco N.V., Netherlands airport consultants, has completed a study for a new Egyptian airport at Alexandria on the country's north coast to relieve congestion at Cairo International Airport beginning around 1980. Construction could begin sometime this year.

Egyptian civil aviation officials anticipate saturation of passenger handling facilities at Cairo by 1990, even with the Alexandria facility, and they are now considering a site west of Cairo for a completely new international airport to serve the capital. The government has budgeted funds for feasibility studies during 1975 and 1976.

Several western firms presently are competing for a study contract for an expanded air traffic control system (ATC) in Egypt. While the study would be relatively small, contract for implementation of the ATC system probably will be worth \$20-\$30 million. Iraq is shopping for two new primary ATC radars. At present, the country has only one ATC radar, a Selenia medium-range terminal system at Bagdhad... On the military side, Iran and Saudi Arabia, the two biggest spenders on defense equipment among the Middle East oil-producing nations, continue to favor American aerospace products.

Iran was the biggest export customer for US military hardware in Fiscal 1974, with \$3.8 billion in orders placed, and probably will be the largest again this year. The country has placed orders worth \$1.7 billion thus far in 1975, including contracts for a number of destroyers. Iranian officials are surveying world markets for a small aircraft carrier that could be equipped with helicopter gunships or a vertical-takeoff-and-landing (VTOL) fighter, as the country seeks to extend its influence from the Persian Gulf toward the Indian Ocean. Its aerospace orders to date include a \$1.9 billion contract for 80 Grumman F-14 variable-geometry fighters.

Iran also had been interested in procuring the Hawker Siddeley Harrier V/STOL fighter, but past British government indecision over the future of the aircraft and its maritime version have delayed these plans. It now appears that Iran may buy whatever ships it needs from the U.S., with a future VTOL fighter to be supplied by that country as part of the package.

Another British company, the Fairey Group, which owns Britten-Norman, Ltd., makers of the twin-engine Islander aircraft, has established a division to promote sales of its fast patrol boats in combination with para-military versions of the BN-2 Islander. In the case of Iran, the country has bought 10 vessels... In one of the largest orders from the Middle East this year, Saudi Arabia has signed a \$750 million contract for 40 additional Northrop F-5E and 20 two-place F-5Fs as a follow-on to a 1973 order for 30 F-5Es and 20 F-5Bs. The aircraft ordered this year will be extensively modified to carry the Hughes AGM-65A Maverick anti-tank missile, the Matra R.550 Magic close-in dogfight missile and laser-guided weapons. Saudi Arabia spent nearly \$600 million with the US last year alone, and military modernization continues to be a primary goal, particularly for the Saudi air force. British Aircraft Corp. has been one of the main outside contractors assisting in establishing the force, which currently uses British Aircraft Corp. English Electric Lightning fighters as its strike arm. Northrop Corp., however, now has nearly 600 persons in the country training Saudi personnel in the operation of the F-5, and Bendix Corp. has sent a similar number.

LTV Aerospace is one of several firms planning to bid on a Saudi Arabian National Guard contract worth \$150 million to establish a truck maintenance system, including the training of mechanics and implementation of a spares supply system. The National Guard is believed to have an inventory of several thousand trucks, only a small fraction of which are operable at any one time because of the lack of an adequate maintenance system.

Tender for bids is expected to be issued around mid-June. An initial round of bidding was conducted last year, but, except for LTV's, the others were rejected on technical grounds, and the bidding had to be repeated this year.

Saudi Arabian orders for French weaponry contributed a significant portion of the French aerospace industry's record high of \$2.4 billion in export orders in 1974. In late 1973, the country ordered 38 Dassault-Breguet Mirage 3 fighters that are now being delivered to Egypt. At least a part of last year's total order can be expected to be turned over to the Egyptians.

Kuwait, which should begin this year to receive 20 Mirage F1 fighters it has on order, also is expected to turn some, if not all of

these aircraft, over to Egypt. Kuwait has a number of refurbished McDonnell Douglas A-4 Skyhawk ground-attack aircraft on order, as well as Raytheon Hawk air-defense missiles... Jordan has 36 F-5Es on order, and delivery of these is scheduled to begin soon. Jordan is one of the poorer Arab nations, and it is likely that the country is receiving aid from Saudi Arabia or other oil-producing nations in order to complete its arms purchases. The country also has Hughes TOW wire-guided anti-tank missiles on order from the US Tunisia is considering the F-5 or the McDonnell Douglas A-4.

Egypt is another recipient of major assistance from neighboring oilproducing countries for its arms purchases. Since the lifting of their partial embargoes on arms sales to the middle East last year, both Britain and France have been conducting determined sales efforts with the Cairo government. Much of the negotiating with these two countries has been done with Egyptian President Anwar Sadat Britain, Sadat has personally... With been discussing the establishment of a domestic Egyptian production program for the Westland Aerospatiale Lynx helicopter and the Hawker Siddeley hawk jet trainer. The Egyptian Defense Ministry has been seeking proposals from western manufacturers interested in coordinating the task of replacing the avionics equipment on all of the country's Soviet-built military transport aircraft. Unreliability of Soviet systems and poor logistics support are cited as the motivating factors behind the retrofit program, which will involve an estimated 150 complete communications/navigation packages.

Military airlift capability is a growing requirement among Middle East countries, and this has buoyed Lockheed's optimism for potential new sales of its C-130 Hercules transports in this area. The company thus far has sold 16 C-130s to Libya, although delivery of the final eight has been held up by the US government, two to Kuwait, two to Abu Dhabi, and two to Jordan. Lockheed believes there will be a market for 20 aircraft a year over the next five-to-six years in the area, including Iran and some of the North African countries. Iraq and Syria are considered potential customers"

- 3 June 1975: Police end an occupation of Cambridge University Senate House, arresting 3 students.
- 3 June 1975: To cement relations with the Nigerian military regime Buckingham Palace announces the Queen and Prince Philip will visit Nigeria from 14-23 Oct 1975.
- 3 June 1975: Edward du Cann, chairman of 1922 Committee, told makes a tough anti-EEC speech.
- 3 June 1975: A UN report is published concluding that Western copyright law on books adversely affects printing industries in

developing countries including Argentina, India and Mexico among others.

3 June 1975: Kenya's special parliamentary committee investigating the murder of JM Kariuki is published noting the Kenyan police investigation of the death of has been "farcical from start to finish" it calls for the suspension of Ben Gethi, head of the General service Unit Kenya's elite paramilitary police force, trained by British officers, since there is evidence of its involvement in the murder. It states "the work the committee has been hampered at every stage by interference of witnesses and by hostility and lack of cooperation on the part of the police... which appears to constitute a massive and determined cover up campaign"

3 June 1975: Wilson in <u>Daily Mirror</u> urges voters: "In your own interests, in the interests of your family, your children, your country, Britain, Europe and the wider world, vote yes.'

He states he is "a Commonwealth man" but "with 22 or the 33

He states he is "a Commonwealth man" but "with 22 or the 33 Commonwealth countries given substantial material benefit by the recent trade agreement with the EEC — the Rome Convention — I would be abandoning the Commonwealth now if I advocated pulling out... My Government believes staying in Europe is a vital national interest."

Len Murray at a news conference states: "A no vote on Thursday is a yes vote for more jobs in Britain" noting that Britain's trade deficit with the Common Market has doubled over 1974 and is growing even worse in 1975. (Although from the continental national democratic socialist perspective, the European trade surplus is getting better). He states continued membership will mean functioning with "both hands tied behind our backs by the Treaty of Rome... "The Government [needs to be] allowed to use import controls on a temporary basis to protect jobs"

Home Secretary Jenkins in a published interview states the referendum campaign has caused less damage to the Labour Party than he originally feared.

3 June 1975: UNCTAD report on multinationals is released in Geneva to the world's press it notes that 12 multi-national corporations use restrictive, monopoly practices to dominate the international medicine sector. It notes pharmaceutical industry in the Third World is confined to compounding and packaging and little complete manufacture of pharmaceuticals, and certainly no R&D, where most labour costs are expended. It states "a major factor has been the continuing concentration of market power, especially by way of mergers and takeovers nationally and internationally, and the extensive use or patent and trade mark rights enabling transnational corporations to isolate markets and eliminate competition. Prices tend to be set by the manufacturer consequently

there are substantial variations in price from country to country, even though the drugs may originate from the same source."

- 3 June 1975: A London restaurant owner buys a single, normal sized bottle of wine for £510 at a Sotheby's auction.
- 3 June 1975: EEC Commission issues a document urging better coordination between providers of training and employers' needs, subsidies to employers who hire youth, help for young people to receive further education after a few years of work, youth involvement in social services on a temporary basis and encouraging early retirement. EEC Social Affairs Commissioner Patrick Hilary warns that member states face an explosive situation because of unemployment among young people. He notes 3 million people will leave education in 1975 to find a depressed labour market.

In separate discussions, EEC social affairs Committee asks the Commission to prepare a directive to legally bind member governments to uniform measures in the control of illegal immigration. Britain's representative does not oppose the idea that long-term immigrants should not be given regular work documents since this would encourage illegal entry.

- 3 June 1975: Reuters reports "A recent flurry of diplomatic activity has left no doubt that Peking genuinely wants good relations with the Common Market... to block what it calls 'the new Tsars' Last month, China announced it would appoint an ambassador to the Common Market and open talks on a long-term trade agreement."
- 3 June 1975: Distillery workers' at the GMWU annual conference warn of industrial action to stop the export of malt to Japan. Union leader George Robertson states "We have told the distillers the situation is becoming intolerable, and there is increasing evidence from some of our branches that members are willing to take industrial action to stop it." It notes that the export of malt whisky has more than doubled in the last 18 months, and 4,240.000 gallons has gone to Japan in 1974. The malt whisky is there mixed with Japanese grain spirit and then exported for sale to Britain, Australia, New Zealand and the USA. "The Japanese are now able to translate raw grain into a substitute which is highly palatable" Tom Fraser a union rep states: "Japan has copied many products. Now she seeks to do the impossible Glen Tokyo whisky is on the cards."

- 4 June 1975: A long Oxford Union special debate on the EEC with Heath as star guest Yes speaker and Barbara Castle as No speaker ends in a 493-91 result for Yes.
- 4 June 1975: Cambridge University gives honorary degrees to Denmark's Queen Margrethe and Nigeria's leader General Yakubu Gowon.
- 4 June 1975: Iain McPhail, president of the EIS, Scottish union for teachers, attacks minority fractions who organise demonstrations and deputations arguing against cuts and pay freezes. "If you wish to remain a member... you must abide by the decisions competently or get out... You can argue or oppose privately within the organisation but publicly you should be seen to be carrying out its policy. Rows, in other words, should be kept within the family and a united front kept for the outside world." He does not discuss work conditions or cuts but seems to threaten, without naming them, EIS Rank and File to keep in line.
- 4 June 1975: It is announced 3 different Czechoslovak universities have agreed an order from ICL worth over £1.25mil for the largest computer system yet in Czechoslovakia.
- 4 June 1975: James Milne, General Secretary of the STUC, explaining his anti-EEC position, shows the depth of his loyalty to the British economy in competition against its rivals: "In economic terms, Market membership has always been a nonsense. The British economy tends to be in competition with and not-complimentary to the economies of' France and Germany. Certainly, our experience over the last two years should provide a salutary lesson, in 1971 our adverse balance of trade with the EEC countries stood at £250m a year. By the end of 1974, this had rocketed to an astronomical £2400m. The oft-heralded flow of capital from Brussels to revitalise British industry has not materialised."
- 4 June 1975: Labour MP Dick Mabon, pro-EEC, explains the importance of locking in new countries wherever possible: "Liberated from military dictatorship, a democratic Greece has asked to join the Community as a full voting member Portugal still struggling to be free despite the victory of the democratic socialist and liberal parties, is asking for membership. But it can only be when the military junta and the Stalinist-style Communist Party let go their stranglehold on tine press, on freedom of assembly, on freedom from arbitrary arrest, and freedom of speech. The working people of this country created these liberties for us here in Britain, here in Scotland, and we must not let them be challenged from within or without Indeed it is our solemn duty as a free people to help all others struggling for liberty. Europe to me is not therefore a Common Market concerned solely with the standard of Britons, but with life, opportunity, and happiness."

- 4 June 1975: <u>The Times</u> publishes a strong denunciation of the EEC by Enoch Powell.
- 4 June 1975: Thai Prime Minister Kukrit Pramoj holds talks with Philip Habib. US Secretary of State for East Asia and Pacific Affairs. Kukrit calmly berates US over entering Thai coastal zones over the US Marines landing into Thailand without warning over the Mayaguez affair: "I told him [Habib] that revised and improved relations are very important because Thailand has a democratic government. It is no longer the same as before. Adjustments are necessary". Kukrit reiterates the basic demands stating "we told him we want the troops withdrawn... We also want to revise and improve our relations so that no one will be at a disadvantage" The same day several thousand rally in Bangkok under the Labour Federation of Thailand to demand government action against a police colonel in charge of brutalising female strikers the previous week. It indicates a growing mood for action against rightists .
- 5 June 1975: NCCL requests, with support of educational psychologist Margaret Hamidi, that the Official Solicitor consider proceedings in the High Court Family Division to have an 11-year old girl made a ward of court, to allow a family court to appraise the decision taken by a doctor, on her behalf to have her immediately sterilised, having reached puberty. Hamidi states: "she is not mentally retarded. She's clumsy and below average, but in the past two years she's improved considerably. She's learned to swim, ride a cycle and walk upstairs normally."
- 5 June 1975: British firm Sci-con Holdings, a BP consultancy subsidiary, of UK, announces it is expanding activities in Southeast Asia. In addition to existing offices in Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia another office is to be opened in Kuala Lumpur.
- 5 June 1975: Referendum on EEC. Continued membership: 33% is No, 67% is 'Yes' on a turnout of 62%. Thatcher later concludes "Bernard Donoughue's later assessment: "it sank Benn, who proposed it to Wilson... Wilson at first rejected the whole concept of a referendum; but then on second thoughts he shrewdly saw its utility to him. He realised that a vote of the whole British people would dilute and swamp the opposition" (Heat of the Kitchen p173) "As a party leader, he saw the positive Yes vote as the best way to hold Labour together because Benn's antis would not finally leave the government over Europe, whereas the Jenkins Europhiles would and their resignation could effectively destroy it." (Heat of the Kitchen, p180)

Celebrities endorsing the EEC with broadcasts and spots include Old Westminster Yehudi Menuhin, premier violinist in Britain, Jack

Warner, star of Dixon of Dock Green, Kenneth Williams, star of Carry On films, champion boxer Henry Cooper, test cricketer Brian Close, Scottish football manager Jock Stein, manager of Manchester United Sir Matt Busby, England and former Leeds United manager Don Revie, Gareth Edwards, Britain's sole Olympic gold medallist Mary Peters, champion jockey Lester Piggott, show-jumping Harvey Smith. It has recently emerged that £100,000 has been spent on its 4 10-minute TV films and 6 radio shorts, whilst the anti-EEC National Referendum Campaign has spent £3,000. Overall 'Britain in Europe' has outspent the anti-EEC 'National Referendum Campaign' by more than ten times. The largest donation to the NRC has been from TGWU at £1,377.

As Jon Snow remembers it: "my friend Ed Boyle, the political editor of LBC...had agreed to put together some radio ads for the 'no' campaign... Michael Foot, at that time Secretary of State for Employment, was my comfortable leader in the cause, and the 'no campaign enabled me to meet him for the first time in what was to become a friendship that still endures. My uncomfortable leader was Encoh Powell, who was further right than Michael was left, and against whom I had demonstrated at university. But he and Michael shared a love of Parliament and sovereignty, one of the cuases which bound them both to the 'no' campaign. The campaign itself was a complete shambles. We started with a substantial lead which we then proceeded to fritter away." (Jon Snow, Shooting History, A personal journey, Harper Collins, 2004 pp77-8)

One leaflet each is sent nationally from the £125,000 given from state funds to each as expenses for the campaign. However even though no other national leaflets are permitted, the government issues a separate glossy, colour leaflet explaining why renegotiated membership in mar 1975 has persuaded a government change in policy. It does not mention the referendum campaigns directly but is unequivocally 'pro-EEC' and 'official'. This goes against Wilson, decree supported by Foot and Jack Jones that "the party machine must remain neutral", but nothing is ever done over the action.

5 June 1975: Francis Jordan, a PIRA commander in South Armagh, never wholly reconciled to the truce strategy, attempts to plant a bomb outside a Protestant pub in Bessbrook. He is prevented, shot dead by British Army soldiers.

5 June 1975: GMWU executive, at its annual congress, announces it will help to get the wage offer by ICI accepted to its members if ICI indicates what percentage of a recently announced £350m investment programme will be invested in Britain. GMWU says ICI can be sure investment information will not sold to competitors.

5 June 1975: Lord Clydesmuir, Governor of the Bank of Scotland, opting against reforms to the financial sector states: "I believe the Scottish financial institutions particularly the Scottish banks have the strength, energy and expertise to contribute to a new expansion of the economy"

5 June 1975: Slater Walker's chief Jim Slater announces a vision for selling part of its property portfolio to allow more hedged investments and expansion of the investment management business: "Our aim is to increase both the amount and the earnings power of the company's assets with a view to ensuring that the company are very strongly placed for the difficult years ahead." Slater Walker has recently purchased National and Jessel Britannia. 5 June 1975: Closed since the Israeli assault in the Six Day War, the Suez Canal reopens. Its closure has aided British shipping firms listed at Lloyd's, since many ships relied on the Canal and were less well built to overcome the shipping past the Cape of Good Hope. South Africa's strategic importance declines somewhat although in any closure of the Canal it will be important.

From 1973-5 Royal Navy personnel have beem employed in clearance operations in the Suez Canal.

6 June 1975: "'Well Enoch," I said "you certainly got your case across clearly and concisely, and the great merit of it all was that it was good political education."

6 June 1975: Post Office Engineers' Union POEU Conference. 6 June 1975: The last B52 aircraft bombers leave US bases in Thailand. The remaining 23,000 US troops are due to leave by the end of Mar 1976.

\* June 1975: Rose Fitton, owner of 22-bed Highfield Nursing Home, says "the present Government has announced its firm intention to phase out all private bods and facilities in NHS hospitals... In the Rochdale area this will involve a loss of approximately 40 private beds. There are several private nursing homes in the area but no private operating theatres... There is an urgent need to provide private operating theatre facilities in this area situated centrally at Rochdale." The cost will be around £150,000, planning permission has already been obtained from the Labour-controlled council. All 24 consultants "have contributed initially to the scheme -£1,000 from each consultant surgeon and £500 from each anaesthetist" These consultants are all currently employed on part-time contracts in NHS hospitals in the area. The consultants claim "that the NHS, which has deteriorated rapidly over the past four years, will never be sufficiently financed or improved to the extent of obviating the demand and need for private practice"

6 June 1975: Executive of NUS representing 40,000 workers votes 10-8 against preparations for a strike instead voting to take the pay claim to arbitration through ACAS (Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service).

6 June 1975: London-Glasgow Caledonian Express crashes at Nuneaton killing 5 passengers.

6 June 1975: R. G. Patrick, Taylor Woodrow chief, at its AGM says that subsidiary and associate companies have uncompleted work on hand to the value of over £300mil compared with £212mil in 1974, most of it overseas, meaning the firm can look to the future with "cautious optimism." He states profits for the first quarter are up to expectation and "providing the present creed of our results continues, and in the absence of unforeseen circumstances, we should once again be able to produce a year of not unsatisfactory profits for the company."

7 June 1975: The press launches a new ideological offensive in its headlines "A great majority for Europe" (The Times) "A thundering Yes to the Common Market" (Daily Mail), "Now at last Britain finds a role" (Glasgow Herald). Guardian praises Harold Wilson for having "secured the backing of the country over the heads of a majority in his own party" (Guardian), Observer views it in similar terms. More florid is the idea "trade union block vote has proved quite unrepresentative of the millions whose views they pretended to convey" (The Times) "the Right speaks not merely for itself.. but for a majority of the Labour Party" (Sunday Times, 8 Jun 1975). Media extensively report David Steel's declaration that it "was a decisive No to the Parliamentary Labour Party ... the Labour Party Executive" and Thatcher's stress on how "this massive Yes could not have come about without a massive Conservative Yes". It creates the distorted symbol of a long-suffering forever-loyal 'moderate' rank and file breaking free against 'Left-wing domination', ignoring the fact that 15mil out of an electorate of 40mil abstained.

Labour Left fails to organise effectively against press forces in the wake of the defeat. Having failed to convince the population to adopt one form of economic nationalism over another, parts of it disparage those forces who were unconcerned or advocated boycott. They are accused of failing 'to stand up to' the 'Right', even though of course a significant section of the 'Right' (Conservatives, NF, Ulster Unionists and nationally-minded Labour) supported the 'No' campaign. Enoch Powell declares the result is another "Munich" noting "in 1939 we decided we had to fight and I am still convinced that the people of this country cannot be absorbed into the European State." Home Secretary Jenkins describes it as a D-Day

for Britain. CBI stating the result will remove the uncertainty which has been damaging to Britain and EEC.

Herr Brandt declared: "We hope now that Great Britain will play its due role in the European Community to the full."

Len Murray "Now it rt uo to us to help make the Community work as successfully as possible. Many of the most important decisions about our future can only be taken here in Britain."

The Times calls for an end to "the decline in the competitive efficiency of industry" caused by "trade unions which are at once extremely powerful and in terms of the search for higher productivity very backward". It proposes "a tough, determined programme for ending inflation ... a complete, if necessary ruthless programme of national reform" suggesting government spending cuts. <u>Daily Express</u> calls for the government to "allow the pound to float slowly downward".

- 8 June 1975: Chancellor Healey the morning after a speech declaring his aim is to cut inflation by half over 1976 states: "The key to this is a matter of getting lower wage settlements. New guidelines to those drawn up by the Government and the TUC last year are needed"
- 8 June 1975: A meeting for the National Council for the Self-Employed hears from research scientist Dr Peter S. Davison, who has conducted a survey into earnings, which he later presents to the Royal Commission on the Distribution of Income and Wealth, that executives should have incomes at £60,000. He states managers, businesspeople and professionals should have incomes above £20,000 to 'retain talent'.
- 8 June 1975: CPGBer Jimmy Reid explains "Benn is the best Labour Minister I have ever seen. It is a refreshing change to find some one with the same attitudes out of office as he has when he is in office... I don't think the BBC was objective. It was perhaps better described as the British Brainwashing Corporation for the Common Market. But despite this media, which was so obviously biased, we had 43% of the Scottish electorate voting to leave."
- 8 June 1975: Britain again participates in a triple UN veto. Joining France and USA against a resolution noting the South African occupation of Namibia and demanding a UN arms boycott.
- 8 June 1975: Up to 100 Portuguese soldiers refuse to board aircraft to Luanda in a confrontation with officers. They are confined to barracks in Lisbon.

8 June 1975: Pushing the Turkish line for twin-conservative national communal regimes Denktas, explains Makarios' presidency must end for any progress in talks: "I definitely can't see an acceptable settlement while Makarios is In power."

8-9 June 1975: Defence Under Secretary Frank Judd is embarked on HMS Ark Royal for a 2-day stay.

9 June 1975: First day of BBC radio live broadcasts of Parliament. 9 June 1975: Australia's The Age: "The overwhelming vote to stay in the European community is welcome because it represents a 'clear and decisive commitment. A narrow margin one way or the other, or an exceptionally low turn-out at the polls, would have created enormous problems, exacerbating political conflicts within Britain and setting back the hard-won progress towards European unity ... fortunately for the Government, already beset with regional troubles, even the sceptical Scots and the worrisome Northern Irish voted Yes. Only the remote and isolated Shetland Islanders asserted their dour insularity.... Mr. Wilson's troubles are not yet over, for he now has to decide what to do about Labor's most implacable and eloquent anti-European, the Industry Secretary (Mr. Tony Wedgwood Benn). Mr. Benn's dismissal or demotion to a noneconomic portfolio would provoke an outcry — and probably worse — from the militant unions, whose national hero he has become. But it is hard to see how Mr. Wilson can continue to tolerate his divisive and damaging influence, not so much because of his opposition to the EEC but because of his commitment to sweeping nationalisation when the Government is desperately trying to revive the confidence and bolster the efficiency of British Industry. If Mr. Wilson acts boldly with his customary cleverness, he should be able to use the decisive Yes vote to discipline Mr. Benn end other Labor rebels, and to turn the nation's attention from the distracting over controversies European membership and massive nationalisation to the real problems of chronic indebtedness, worsening unemployment and 21 per cent inflation. These are the problems at the heart of Britain's survival."

9 June 1975: Tony Benn hears from one source the background to his imminent demotion. "Eric Varley... is very close to Harold and he told me what had happened. 'I think Harold entered into some commitments with the City or somebody, and he has to get rid of you.'" (Tony Benn's Diary)

10 June 1975: Judith Hart resigns from the Cabinet, her resignation speech warns of "the first dangerous stages of what could prove to

be a historic catastrophe for the Labour Party and the Labour movement."

10 June 1975: Tony Benn is demoted from Minister of Industry to Minister of Energy.

Wilson "pushed me for my decision about the job. Looking back on it, it is possible that if I had refused Energy, he might have kept me in Industry... perhaps he wouldn't have. Indeed, later tonight, I heard that he had said that if I had refused to go to Energy, he would have taken over the Department of Industry himself as he did the Department of Economic Affairs in the 1964-70 Government. Anyway, I accepted the job." (Tony Benn's Diary)

Benn analyses "I suppose I have a vague interest in Wilson going on, but what we have seen today is a completely new procedure for dealing with reshuffles. The Left must organise and advise those people offered a job or pressured to move out of a job as to what they should do. Wilson has made a fatal error and he will not be Leader of the Labour Party by the end of the year." (Tony Benn's Diary)

"Bob Cryer [said] when I was moved from the Industry and Eric Varley was appointed, the instruction went out to civil servants that it was to be treated as if there had been a change of administration." (2 February 1978, Tony Benn's Diary)

"Wilson had decided to demote Benn during our clashes with him over the Industry White Paper in the summer of 1974 and had waited patiently for a suitable time.... with Benn severely wounded by the referendum defeat[, Wilson] was able to transfer Benn, who protested strongly but was unwilling to resign... Wilson crowed to me in delight at his carefully executed victory." (Bernard Donoghue, Heat of the Kitchen p181)

"[1975] the Labour Government had already started a deliberate policy of encouraging inflation in order to transfer resources to business and the banks. The 'Price Code' allowed price increases to cover investment, and the nationalised industries were now required to make a profit, by raising their prices. The government was forced to bring in these policies earlier than they had intended because of pressure from the international banks... An important byproduct of the referendum was the defeat of the Labour left. Its figurehead, Tony Benn, was demoted from Minister for Industry to the Energy Ministry. But instead of resigning and using his influence in the labour movement to challenge the policies of the government, he stayed put. The Labour left was on the retreat from that point onwards." (Labouring under the Tories, Big Flame, 1980) Tony Benn promises "I will have to fight but it will be at a moment of my own choosing, on the cuts or the statutory pay policy, or the reactionary economic policy" (Tony Benn's Diary, 10 Jun 1975) this

moment of choosing never comes, Tony Benn supports cuts, pay limits and economic policy.

- 10 June 1975: Select Committee on the Industry Bill sees itself delayed as a result of the reshuffle. "Labour members simply walked out, followed b Heseltine, so that the Committee lost its quorum and had to adjourn." (Tony Benn's Diary). Tony Benn tells Wilson "the Industry Bill is in chaos because you've taken me off it." 10 June 1975: Michael Young, new chair of the Consumer Council, appointed by Prices Minister Williams, urges the cost of reducing price rises to be born by an 11p increase in employees' national insurance contributions, a legally -enforced pay policy and a wages relativities board the so-called 'corporatist solution'.
- 11 June 1975: Crosland reiterates: "local government spending has been increasing faster than total public expenditure, the gross national product and, indeed, any 384 measure one can take, and that the increase that has occurred in recent years simply cannot continue under present economic circumstances."
- 11 June 1975: Parliamentary Committee on the Community Land Bill won concessions for churches and large charities to ensure they receive full value for any land they sell.
- 11 June 1975: Press outside Tony Benn's home. "fifty journalists, two television units... microphones standing outside... One of them shouted to [16-year old Josh Benn] 'You fucking well answer my questions' Josh took no notice so they said 'You push off, you little shit."... two or three grown men swore at him like that, it really worried him." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 11 June 1975: Tony Benn formalises his Energy Ministry: "I had a call from Bernard Ingham, my new Press Officer at the Department of Energy... I went over to the Palace to exchange my Seals of Office.... down on one knee on a footstool and have the Oath administered to us. I said to the Queen 'My old Seals of Office have been used. My son melted down some sealing wax and we made quite a number of lovely impressions. Is that legal?' 'Oh' said the Queen 'I think the impression ought to have been defaced by putting a hair across it'"... She was slightly shirty about it."
- 11 June 1975: Old Queen's Girl [graduate of elite Queen's School, Chester] Mary Hedley-Miller [rightist Treasury stalwart since 1945] explains to Old Nottinghamian Sir Douglas Wass, chief of Treasury's civil service its Permanent Secretary, why the markets want cuts: "There has developed an expectation that the Government is 'going

to act' For as long as this expectation is disappointed, 25 per cent [below levels agreed at the Smithsonian Institute exchange rate pegging conference of Feb 1972] will not be regarded by outside observers and operators as sustainable. If the exchange rate accordingly is going to be pulled down by market forces, mere money, as opposed to policy change, will not succeed in offering a sufficient opposing force" (Hedley-Miller to Wass, 11 June 1975, T358/20S). In fact Sir Douglas Wass has for some time been formulating industrial policy with Industry Ministry officials without informing Tony Benn

11 June 1975: Tamil protesters against British military assistance to the Sri Lankan regime invade the pitch at the Sri Lanka-Australia cricket match at the Oval.

11-12 June 1975: Whilst Ford-Sadat talks proceed, Ismail Fahmi, Egyptian Foreign Minister, holds talks in London with the conclusion that Sadat will be invited to Britain. Hints are also given that senior diplomat, Samih Anwar, ambassador in Tehran, will become ambassador to Egypt. Foreign Secretary Callaghan is decorated with the Order of the Republic, Egypt's highest honour, at the Egyptian Embassy.

An Egyptian spokesman reveals that a £450m arms deal with Britain has been agreed in principle, and an Egyptian mission will visit to finalise details, credit derived from pro-Western Saudi Arabian and Kuwaiti petrodollar sources. Agreement has also been reached on Britain supplying factories and industrial equipment.

11 June 1975: A French demonstrator outside the Spanish consulate in Bayonne, shouting 'Franco, Assassin' sets himself on fire killing himself in the process.

12 June 1975: Ross & Norris McWhirter meet with Lord De L'Isle to plan a meeting of 50 to launch a new, unifying rightist 'non-party' bloc.

12 June 1975: Wilson writes back to Labour Left Tribune MP critics: "To associate recent ministerial changes with a fundamental change in party attitudes is ludicrous. The Government will carry into reality the two manifestos on which we fought last year's elections. You will be the first to agree no government has done more to fulfil its pledges than this one or done it more quickly... I nave made it clear that the Government will fully honour what we set out in the manifesto, and in last autumn's White Paper on which you and I and all of us fought the October election. I welcome your announcement of " campaigns within and without the House" in support of the manifesto, which I interpret as the full-hearted desire to support the Government which is carrying out the pledges in that manifesto. The Labour movement will be particularly gratified to see you and those on whose behalf you have written harnessing to this task

those undeniable oratorical and debating talents which your friends have sometimes felt have been diverted to more diversionary objectives."

- 12 June 1975: A report lists Britain can earn £60m in education projects and ventures in the Middle East over the next 5 years.
- 12 June 1975: 5 miners are killed, 6 miners severely injured at an explosion at Houghton Main Colliery, near Barnsley.
- 12 June 1975: Chancellor Healey explains to the Cabinet that in a situation "where British inflation was likely to run at more than double the rate in our principal competitor countries... there was an urgent need for a new incomes policy' (CAB128/56, CC (75) 27<sup>th</sup> Cabinet Conclusions, 12 Jun 1975)
- 12 June 1975: Chief of the Home Defence College, Air Marshal Sir Leslie Mayor says Britain has been too complacent over the dangers of subversion and "the full possibility of the present internal threat is just sinking in."
- 12 June 1975: <u>Daily Express</u> cartoon features Tony Benn as a vast Arab sheikh-headgeared figure with a lit pipe above an oil rig labelled 'Minister For Britain's Last Hope North Sea Oil' with a prominent sign 'Inflammable Do Not Smoke!' Benn is seen commanding Wilson Wilson with a pointed finger as Wilson is crouched on a tiny vessel "Harold! Next time you give me a 'demotion', I shall require you to 'demote' me to the job of Prime Minister." A ship labelled SS Moderation Keeping a low profile sees its sailors Prentice, Callaghan and Jenkins drowning saying "With defeats like this, what need has Benn for victories?'"
- 12 June 1975: CBI publishes a series of papers for a national recovery programme involving annual target-setting for wages and prices and tighter guidelines on manpower. It recommends that the NEB National Enterprise Board should be controlled by the NEDC National Economic Development Office so that Little Neddies in each industry are able to bid for state aid within agreed guidelines.
- 13 June 1975: Arthur Scargill as Yorkshire NUM head, representing the killed Houghton Main workers urges a public inquiry none is given.
- 13 June 1975: 'A Salute to Sir Lew Grade' sees various entertainment stars praise and fawn over talent scout producer ITV chief Lew Grade. Julie Andrews, Tom Jones, John Lennon, Peter Sellers and Dave Allen participate.
- 14 June 1975: <u>The Times</u> reports the acquittal of a middle-class professional child psychiatrist despite abusing a 7 year old girl by groping her genitalia.
- 14 June 1975: Annual NUM Scotland conference in Holyrood Park, Edinburgh sees Len Murray explain the trades union movement

must not be selfish in its pursuits because of weaker unions within it. He explains "even if they were to double our wages overnight it would solve nothing at all" to argue in favour of accepting voluntary restraint but open collective bargaining. Ron Hayward, general secretary of the Labour Party, explains: "Solutions to the country's problems do not lie in adopting policies which would again create strife and division... The Labour Government will reap much greater reward if it sticks to policies on which it was elected.... Voluntary co-operation is really the only philosophy that can work in this country. It is the only way we can unite society while ensuring that working people and their families do lot lose out... A return to the traditional methods of compulsory wage control and unemployment would cause all the old antagonisms and hatreds to re-emerge. Our task is to unite the nation - and compulsion on wages and mass unemployment can only serve to disunite." Both use the same phrase "the social contract is not just about wages" to promote acceptance by promises of an increase in the 'social wage'.

- 14 June 1975: <u>The Spectator</u> states "for an objective observer it is impossible not to be profoundly gloomy"
- 15 June 1975: A worker at D H Malcolm Haulage Contractors is crushed to death at their Glasgow garage.
- 16 June 1975: Devolution Committee Healey 'I am urging caution on speed and content because of the danger of separatism. Therefore I don't want legislation in the next session.' Roy Jenkins agreed... worried the consequences might lead to a break-up of the United Kingdom."

Tony Benn endorses devolution noting 'We may even have to consider English devolution even though there isn't the same pressure for it in the regions... I'm sure Bristol would want to be a city state."

- 16 June 1975: 10 are killed, 36 injured when a lorry crashes into a coach in Dumfriesshire.
- 17 June 1975: "Sir Derek Ezra and two Deputy Chairmen of the NCB" visit Benn "the usual set-up, like the Steel Corporation... still the same old gang that ever there was" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 17 June 1975: Defence Secretaries in NATO meet in Monterey, USA to proceed with "continuing examination of the implications of technological improvements which might affect NATO's deterrent posture and conventional and nuclear defence capabilities"
- 17 June 1975: Home Secretary Jenkins announces he will appoint a small group of experts to advise if changes are necessary to the law

about rape, effectively knocking further reform into the distant future.

- 18 June 1975: Labour Party ends its boycott of the non-elected European Parliament in Strasbourg by sending a delegation of 12 Labour MPs and 6 Labour peers.
- 18 June 1975: Home Secretary Jenkins reports on "the law of conspiracy. I am also aware that the Law Commission is looking at the matter ... I have no definitive statement to make at the moment." Peaceful Iranian students and Shrewsbury UCATT picketers will remain charged.
- 18 June 1975: Isle of Grain, Medway, Kent sees a ceremony for the first landing of North Sea Oil to Britain with Energy Secretary Tony Benn alongside Fred Hamilton, chief of Hamilton Oil, Sir Mark Turner, deputy chair of Rio Tinto Zinc, Vere Harmsworth, chair of Associated Newspapers, launcher of the Sunday Mail and relauncher of the 'harder' tabloid Daily Mail. US Ambassador to Britain, Elliott Richardson, and Charge d'Affaires and Deputy Chief of Mission, future Ambassador to the Embassy/CIA station in Ankara, Ronny Spiers, also attend.
- 19 June 1975: Government concedes "During recent months routine working contacts with the Chilean Government have been maintained at official level"
- 19 June 1975: Mannie Shinwell attacks complacency against the Communist threat: "no notice is being taken of what has been happening in South-East Asia... warnings about what would happen in South-East Asia have been ignored. We know what has happened in South Vietnam. We know what has happened in Cambodia and Laos, and so on". He has regularly asked questions sounding the alarm on the "Communist opposition to the Government in Malaysia" Labour peers urge tougher action in defending Western interests. Mannie Shinwell: "Are we to understand that the Five-Nation Agreement is a practical means of averting trouble in Malaysia? Have we not in fact abandoned all our interests in that area?" Deputy Chairman of Committees, former Bevanite Labour MP, Sam Segal asks "is there not a far more serious threat of Communist subversion in ... Thailand" and "how far the machinery of SEATO has already been brought into operation to meet that threat?"
- 19 June 1975: 100 Newmarket stable workers march beside the racecourse at Royal Ascot in support of their pay negotiations.
- 20 June 1975: All-day Cabinet. Healey thought "Anything could trigger off a run on sterling, which had already cost us £500million.. rail strike could, or indeed a rail settlement... public expenditure cuts of £1billion this year might be necessary... we had to have a

credible policy by the end of July. A wage freeze all year would be ideal

- 20 June 1975: Having threatened a national strike, NUR agrees a complex pay deal averaged at 29.8% to compensate for years of sub-inflation increases. Sir Richard Marsh, Chairman of the British Railways Board, former longtime Labour Party MP, Minister of Power (1966–68) and Minister of Transport (1968–69) states, because it is higher than expected, "this settlement will do enormous damage to the industry".
- 21 June 1975: 280 workers at Ladbrokes shops in western Scotland begin an unofficial strike for union negotiating rights, covering 54 out of 60 shops in the region. Ladbrokes tells managers to stay open saying the events are caused "by a small group of militant people through violent and provocative action." It begins training strikebreakers in Glasgow and Edinburgh.
- 22 June 1975: Over 10,000 march from Charing Cross Embankment to Hyde Park urging the defeat of the James White-tabled Abortion (Amendment) Bill, called by the National Abortion Campaign. Labour Left Renee Short MP accepts petition to Parliament of 150,000 signatures and states it is "the biggest demonstration I have seen since the days of CND."
- 22 June 1975: <u>Sunday Times</u>'s John Whale delusionally comments that Britain has no influence in northern Ireland:"The central fact about British policy...is that the government has made the cleareyed decision to have no policy... The nub of the Provisionals' dream is an Ireland without British influence. Now they have it...It has not happened in quite the way they expected it, and it will not have the consequences they once looked for: but these things never do."
- 23 June 1975: Government promotes profits in exports: "We want to improve trade or change the trade deficit through the encouragement of our own exports." "effort is required, particularly by British industry, to deal with the trade deficit which now exists with the EEC. ... It is primarily for British industry to respond to the opportunities of this large and increasingly tariff-free area. As for all major markets, the full range of my Department's services for exporters are available to them and they are being used on an extensive and increasing scale ... British firms must make an all-out effort to improve their trade balance with the EEC" and "respond to the opportunities of this large and increasingly tariff-free area ... wherever possible, we shall encourage import substitution as well as giving assistance, and continuing to give assistance, to our export

- drive." "Export promotion programmes in these markets" with "the advice of the European Trade Committee of the British Overseas Trade Board"
- 23 June 1975: Left Labour Eric Heffer MP makes a call "for the Government to negotiate a system of selective import controls with the EEC countries... despite the vote which took place on the Common Market" The government stresses that for import rules "as a major trading nation [it aims] to ensure that, although there are rules and that they are stringent and widely observed, they are not made so stringent that they could be used against us and our own exports."
- 23 June 1975: Opposition and cross-bench peers block the government proposal in the Housing Finance Bill to end the civic disqualifications imposed upon the Clay Cross Councillors, comfortably winning a new amendment against the measure. It means the Clay Cross 14 stay officially bankrupt and disqualified. 23 June 1975: Written answer to Labour Left Q: "what payments to Great Britain are still outstanding on Chilean warships under construction or undergoing repairs or refitting in British ports. Edmund Dell: It is not our practice to disclose details of the amounts involved in individual transactions by British firms."
- 25 June 1975: TUC General Council agrees a price target should be set and achieved by Jul 1976 and "a figure for pay, related to the achievement of this target in the form of a flat money increase, [must be] universally applied" and that the there should be continuation of the social contract as the basis for unity between TUC and government. (TUC Annual Report 1975, 272)
- 25 June 1975: Roy Hattersley explains the rationale behind Wilson's self-initiated Commonwealth economic conference: "We have all noticed the aggressive attitude adopted by some developing countries. The object of the Kingston initiative of the Prime Minister was to convince them that in these matters co-operation is better than confrontation."
- 20 June 1975: <u>Time Out</u> begins its publication of a significant number of leaked internal documents from the ISC (Institute for the Study of Conflict). The documents show that even though it is fairly new as an organisation, it is already lecturing on 'subversion' to the British Army and police forces. They show a network of such bodies has developed receiving significant funding from the CIA. ISC has originally been set up in 1970, as an offshoot of earlier CIA-funded FWF Forum World Features to promote an anti-communist worldview [billionaire and CIA associate Richard Mellon Scaife] "Dick Scaife... sanctioned a grant of \$100,000 a year, from his Scaife Family Charitable Trusts" well into the 1980s (Crozier, Free Agent).

27 June 1975: Drypool Shipbuilding Group, small ships specialist, including oil rig supply ships for North Sea oil, with a workforce of 1,200 at 3 Humberside yards and 1,300 more workers employed by its component firms, secretly approaches the government for financial assistance because of a cash crisis. No information is provided to workforces or trade unions until Sep 1975, when it is disclosed to the media that the government's offer of very limited assistance is inadequate to prevent appointment of a receiver and liquidation.

27 June 1975: Senior civil servant sources in Britain and Egypt disclose that the governments are in the final phase of negotiating a series of interlocking multibillion transactions for the supply of weapons, plant and technology to Sadat's Egypt in the midst of reaccelerating its leftist-purge-of-leftists since 1972. Britain and France will supply Egypt with weapons, including anti-tank guided missiles, light tanks, armoured cars, communications systems and radar equipment, 200 trainer and light attack planes and more than 250 helicopters. Subsequently Britain and France separately, and in some cases jointly through merged British and French firms, will provide plants, technicians and capital for Egyptian assembly of and, ultimately, manufacture of military helicopters, tanks, missiles and others. This arms industry is planned to be the premier 'Western' source for Arab states, circumventing difficulties at home. (AP)

27 June 1975: US begins export of weapons intended for FNLA militants' use via Kinshasa, Zaire.

27 June 1975: Tribune reports: "Former Labour Lincoln MP, Dick Taverne has got himself a new job. Last week it was announced that he has accepted a directorship with BOC International, formerly British Oxygen. Mr Taverne who is also a director of Equity and Law Life Assurance, lost his Lincoln seat in October last year to Labour candidate, Margaret Jackson. When Tribune rang BOC to check whether this was a full time or a part time position, our enquiry was greeted with some surprise... there was no indication about whether it was full time or not. If it is a part-time job then he will be joining four other part-time directors who last year each received £2,500. The chairman gets a bit more than that -£26,000 to be precise for handling this multinational company with subsidiaries throughout the world including eight different companies in South Africa and one listed in Rhodesia. Profits last year reached £34.6 million with sales at £403 million. Although British Oxygen with 21,000 employees in the United Kingdom gives no political donations, it does have [on its board] Lord Elworthy, Marshal of the

Royal Air Force and a director of British Petroleum, Plessey and Rolls Royce; Sir John Cowley; Sir Owen Wansbrough-Jones and Sir Geoffrey Eley. The latter just happens to also be a director of Equity and Law Life Assurance where he sits on the board with Mr Tayerne." \*\*

27 June 1975: Tribune editorialises urging the government to effectively shift the burden of the crisis onto the Third World declaring it is "essential, through planning agreements with the major companies (a minimum of 20 could be secured within 12 months), to develop import substitution and direct more trade to the fastest growing export areas — Middle East, South America, China, Eastern Europe and the under-developed countries. Where necessary Government teams should be used. A serious onslaught means of taxation on transfer-pricing abuses multinationals could do wonders for our trade figures by reducing import prices. Finally, attention should be paid to the under-pricing of exports by British management. ... We believe that exchange controls should be tightened still further, and would certainly have to be in any short run crisis which involved a run on the pound and an emergency economic package. Such a crisis would inevitably require a far greater control over the banking and financial institutions than hitherto and a re-organisation of (and more openness on the part of) the Bank of England. Investment in manufacturing industry could also be stimulated by recycling pension and insurance funds and in particular the pension funds of nationalised industries where property investment is out of all proportion to the size of the funds; by turning the National Enterprise Board into an investment bank or letting it purchase a commercial bank; by the use of blocked profits as in Sweden or by the French system of controlling investment funds etc.... Emergency legislation — a short sharp Bill is necessary — should be prepared for such a take-over. The pound is still unnecessarily subject to speculative pressures. Apart from exchange control there are other steps which could be taken to make such speculation less likely or, when it arises, less successful. Britain has something like £70,000 million short and long-term overseas assets. That being so, the National Enterprise Board might buy out three or four British-based multinational companies with overseas assets and these could be mortgaged against foreign borrowing. Some of the less essential or desirable of these assets — particularly those which are not securing remitted profits to Britain — could be sold off to strengthen the reserves. The Government could take steps including taxation measures to encourage firms with overseas investments to remit more profits home, though we recognise there would be problems where the investment has been accepted by other countries on condition that a proportion of the profits are re-invested in those countries. (In 1974 profits from overseas direct investment were £1,546million, of which two-thirds were not remitted back to Britain.) Finally attempts should be made to divert some of the Arab monies from consumption to investment. 10 to 15-year National Enterprise Board Bonds, possibly index-linked, possibly repayable in terms of foreign currency values, might bring more stability to the current situation. Arab investors might be more willing to invest their money if it were secured against real assets, as we have said, oil is the obvious choice."

It opposes the emphasis of cuts: "We have now seen cuts to repairs at the end of last year, in buying policy in February, in conversion work in March, in subsidies in April, in mortgages in May and in municipalisation in June. As the chairman of the Wandsworth Housing Committee put it, at a recent Shelter conference, these cuts "represent a sustained and savage attack on the housing programmes of local authorities. Any pretence of a rational Government housing policy has now been abandoned we have government by circular, by letter, by telephone call and by leak all following so closely on one another that it has made a sensible planning of priorities by local authorities absolutely impossible... they will guarantee Tory control of many of our cities and towns ... some £500 million could be saved by further defence cuts, another £500 million through cuts in the road programme."

28 June 1975: <u>The Times</u> reports judges allowing the appeal of a convicted rapist on the grounds that "the girl was not without sexual experience and the intimidation had been mild".

28 June 1975: <u>Gambia News Bulletin</u> reports the entirety of EEC development aid for 1975-1980 prepared, as in the case of each individual ACP country, in consultation with the EEC. Lomé I (4th European Development Fund) aid totals the Senegal-Gambia Bridge project, a sewerage and drainage project for the stable processing industry areas of Banjul (not the outlying satellite slums), various road improvements including Lamin Koto-Willi road to be brought up to engineered gravel standard, various sections of the Soma-Basse, Kiang West road, Basse-Fototo and Kerewan-Esseu to be bitumened. These road improvements again are for the benefit of the masters of the neo-colonial economy.

Gambia later complains bitterly about the length of time taken to implement EEC-funded projects under Lomé I. The Gambian Ambassador to the EEC, Ebou Taal states in 1977 that awaiting a final go-ahead from EEC over projects is deeply damaging: "if we have to wait for two years to start a project we shall be overtaken by inflation and the value of the grant will diminish, maybe by as much as 20%" (Interview with Mr. Ebou M. Taal, Gambian Ambassador to the EEC" in <u>The Courier</u> no42, 1977)

29-30 June 1975: David Ennals visits Ian Smith and later the African National Council in Salisbury, Rhodesia to prepare the way for Foreign Secretary Callaghan's future visit.

30 June 1975: A 17 year old apprentice joiner is killed from a fall of stored timber at a Havelock Europa plant in Glasgow.

30 June 1975: "Government will take whatever action is necessary to fortify the efforts which industry is so plainly making, as we have witnessed by the deep sense of urgency shown in this past week and more from the management confederation and from the Trades Union Congress."

30 June 1975: Sterling drops in value by 4c, over 1.3%.

30 June 1975: Treasury understands Kuwait and Saudi Arabia intend to move out of sterling zone, by buying other international currency reserves instead. (T 358/209, Note of a Meeting, 30 Jun 1975)

July 1975: Jul-Aug edition of New Left Review features Arthur Scargill's criticisms of the overwhelming majority of the trade union movement leadership: "The one thing that annoys me about the trade-union movement is that we've got one set of standards when we've got a Tory Government and a completely different set of standards when we've got a Labour Government, even though our case may be right. If you're starving under a Tory Government it's worse than if you're starving under a Labour Government.... We have so many people inside the TUC, inside the NUM, both at Executive level and local level, who because it is a Labour Government are prepared to accept treatment and decisions that they would never tolerate from a Tory Government.... I can think of a number of instances in the coalmining industry. The biggest cutbacks were made by a Labour Government. And we accepted them, which was totally wrong. They should have been resisted. But there would have been a great outcry from many people inside the movement who would argue that you've got to accept it because it's a Labour Government. On television recently we had the remarkable spectacle of three union leaders saying 'We want to operate the social contract to help keep the Labour Party in and not the Tories.' In other words we want the Labour Government to impose a wage freeze...[Wilson's government is one] government that can give away £1,600 million to private enterprise whilst resisting legitimate claims from people in this country in the most disadvantaged circumstances ... They are now deliberately operating measures that are designed to solve the capitalist crisis at the expense of the workers.... The ruling class have created these problems, they have taken capital out of Britain, they have failed to invest and they must pay as a result of their failure to do these thinas"

He stresses accurately that the fruits of technological innovation have all gone to intensification of labour demands: "I would remind anyone who says that we are a lot better off today than we were fifty years ago, that the whole Gross National Product has grown. The relative position of the working class has not improved and in some ways it has even deteriorated. In a developing economy and in a technologically advanced world we should be able to enjoy the fruits of our labour. It's significant that the miners are working a longer day now than they were in 1936. It's a sobering thought." He considers the education process the main error in the Soviet Union: "You can even go to the ordinary miner or engineer and in his everyday life he will adopt, on a very minor scale, the sort of philosophical outlook on life that the Kremlin will adopt. This worries me, because it shows a weakness in the whole education process that's taken place in the Soviet Union. It's a weakness that's got to be put right because until you do there's not going to be a socialist system, a Marxist system, operating effectively there. That's basically what's wrong in the Soviet Union. In Cuba it's much more advanced. There are one or two problems, believe me, but it's a 100 per cent improvement on what you have in the Soviet Union." He reiterates his idiosyncratic support for a more democratic Labour Party: "Q Can you envisage a situation where the Labour councillors locally didn't respond to the union and the union would have to challenge them locally by putting up its own candidates?

That would be absolutely unthinkable... the correct political decision in these circumstances is to fight to change the mechanism whereby the MPs and councillors are selected [within the Labour Party]."

He reasserts his support for Benn as leader: "I would like to see a broad alliance of the whole Left inside the Party. ... You've got to examine who has a chance of winning. It's no good having the best candidate if he can't win. The candidate who stands at the General Election and gets twenty votes may be the best candidate but he's not as useful as a candidate who gets in and can be influenced by the Left. It may be that with all his weaknesses the Left has got to consider whether or not Benn has to be supported. Nobody's got more criticisms of Benn than I have. I remember his role at the Ministry of Technology. I'm not living in Greenland. I know that he hasn't got the revolutionary ideas that I would like to see. I understand that he will not be the Messiah of the Left, but at least he would be an improvement upon the present leadership."

He stresses the need first for a Labour Party without proscriptions and then a joint national socialist or Marxist party, bringing together all Marxist party-sects [something along the lines of the FSLN or ]

"I think that the ideal way that the working class can achieve working-class power is to change the Labour Party; not in total because you can never transform a social democratic party—it will always remain social democratic. But you can change the Labour Party in the sense of pulling down the bans and proscriptions. Once

you start to have the influence, the co-operation and the link between the left Marxist groups—all of them—and the Labour Party, you start to determine policies which are of a different kind. Once you have committed the Party, and the quicker this happens the better, to accept conference decisions, the trade-union movement ought to be able to control that conference. The unions are the foundation of the Party and should control it. I've always supported the bloc vote and the bloc vote would become ours if we won the leadership in the unions. Once you win those votes in the Party conference you can then win the positions which are necessary to change society... I believe it's in the best interests of the socialist movement to fight for a Labour Party with members affiliated from all the Left organizations, committed to a socialist programme on a broad Left base. This can take us so far along the road to a socialist Britain and then the social democratic party will have completely served its purpose. We would then need a totally new socialist party embracing the whole of the Left that could complete the job of taking Britain into a new socialist era."

July 1975: Notices at British Rail workplaces and letters are sent, drawing attention of the closed shop agreement between NUR-ASLEF-TSSA and British Rail Board and the change in conditions of employment.

July 1975: Judge at an injury case against the British Ministry of Defence for the wrongful killing of Martin McShane, throws out the case accepting the doctored British army evidence, stressing that the soldier who shot Martin McShane is justified in firing, and his action is not unreasonable.

July 1975: Michael Coates is elected senior partner in Price Waterhouse Cooper UK. He pushes during his directorship (July 1975-1982) an aggressive strategy of professional services to help firms secure income from financial sources and meet with a clean bill of health from various inspectors. Its 'international tax planning' services expand considerably, in conjunction with its European subsidiary. It also moves into firm-wide 'comprehensive business advice' It continues general 'audit', local government assistance, insolvency and divisional management consultancy work. Its fee income rises from £14.2mil at the start to £57.5mil in 1982. (Price Waterhouse Coopers)

July 1975: Alginate Industries Ltd, established in Port Stanley, Falkland Islands in 1974 to extract alginic acid from kelp seaweed prevalent on the isles, halts virtually all production. It later declares itself bankrupt. The attempt at this new industry has lasted just over a year. The Falklands Islands Company remains dominant in the economy. It is the largest landowner, owning nearly half the freehold estate, and it produces the majority of the wool crop which

is sold on London Wool Market. It has secondary interests in shipping, banking, stevedoring and retail on the islands. Argentina has often shown an interest in buying a share in the Falkland Islands Company. The Falkland Islands Executive Council has uniformly opposed such a sale.

July 1975: Chief of Defence Staff, Sir Michael Carver, says that Britain's defence has reached "absolute bedrock" and begins extending the press campaign to pressure the government to 'save defence' increase defence expenditure. 'Remember the Battle of Britain' 'remember the Second World' War is a common theme on the issue tied to the 25<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> anniversaries.

July 1975: <u>Labour Research</u> estimates the total debt interest for the year 1975 of the public sector as £5,075mil. So an average council making £1.4m of education cuts in one FY is paying £6m as interest repayment in the same year.

July 1975: Tony Benn's baby the 'Petroleum and Submarine Pipelines Act 1975' is passed. BNOC is given part of these responsibilities: (i) to become an oilfield operator technologically and commercially competitive with other operators, the oil companies themselves, (ii) to become the 'third eye' of Benn's Department of Energy, with an advisory role on North Sea projects, and a seat on the important committees, (iii) to take charge of 51% of all the oil brought out of the North Sea. BNOC under this law is to have operatorship (key management) of Beatrice, Thistle and the new Clyde fields and a percentage interest in Ninian, Murchison, Dunlin, Statfjord UK, and the Viking gas field. By the end of the Labour government it controls about 2/5s of oil production by volume.\*\*

\* July 1975: Total number of BUPA subscribers stands at 860,000 and with dependants over 2,000,000 are covered by its schemes. Its annual report says that subscription income has risen by a record £7million to £36.1mil. It has signed up close to 30,000 new subscribers in 1974-5.

1 July 1975: British European champion boxer, future tax exile Joe Bugner fights Muhammad Ali in Kuala Lumpur. The fight is televised in over 90 nations, with Bugner pocketing at least \$500,000.

1 July 1975: Declaring the rapid reduction in inflation as "an overriding priority" Chancellor Healey announces government intends to reduce the rate of inflation to 10% by the end of the next pay round i.e. Mar 1976, and into single figures by the end of 1976. He states "there should be cash limits for wage bills in the public sector and action through the Price Code in the private sector". Its full White Paper is released on 11 Jul 1975. "cash limits would be fixed for wage bills in the public sector. The Government will employ

the system of cash limits more generally as a means of controlling public expenditure in the short term. The intention is that in appropriate cases the existing system of control in real terms should be reinforced by cash ceilings on expenditure" (Joel Barnett, HC Deb, 10 Jul 1975)

- 1 July 1975: Government reduces minimum age of recruitment into the police force to 18. A national recruiting campaign has been in progress over the past 3 months highlighting the point. It is an attempt to divert unemployed school-leavers.
- 2 July 1975: Government is defeated over sections of the Industry Bill, that would release the government from having to disclose (profit-based) economic forecasts about companies. With the amendments later accepted all planning agreements with nationalised industry require the government to disclose economic forecasts including measures of profitability etc.
- 2 July 1975: "Q: how much Government expenditure was involved in giving Government support to promote the sale of Nimrod aircraft to Australia [?]

[Defence Secretary] Rodgers: We do not record expenditure of this kind, but substantial support was given to the firm in the attempt to secure this sale." (Hansard, 2 Jul 1975)

- 3 July 1975: <u>Ma'ariv</u> reports action to reinforce apartheid in Israel: "The Ministry of Agriculture and the Settlement Department of the Jewish Agency have recently launched a vehement campaign to eradicate the epidemic of leasing lands and orchards to bedouin and Arab farmers in Western Galilee."
- 3 July 1975: Britain and Mauritius sign an agreement, where Mauritius agrees to pay much of the pensions of former colonial officials and civil servants.
- 3 July 1975: Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs writes a memorandum for Kissinger explaining IMF plans for Zaire. Britain later votes for these plans at the IMF: "US and foreign banks are now unwilling to extend further credits without government guarantees and even want to reduce their exposure. Arrears have built up, and gaps have developed in the import pipeline threatening consumer shortages and industrial shutdowns. Longerterm financing for industrial development is also jeopardized, including that for a \$700 million copper project in which an American company is joint principal shareholder ... the crisis can be expected to worsen in the absence of additional external financial assistance. The IMF could provide up to \$105 million in immediate

balance of payments support, contingent upon Zaire's acceptance of restraints on budgetary and foreign expenditures. ... Mobutu probably would not accept restraints the Fund would require for Zaire to tap more than a \$70 million drawing, but IMF involvement is the key to the establishment of the confidence of the international financial community... The US in its own interest cannot be completely negative toward Mobutu's expectation of assistance from us. Apart from Zaire's political importance to us, we have significant economic interests, including access to Zaire's abundant mineral and energy resources and an existing financial stake of about three quarters of a billion dollars in direct investment, loans and contracts. Ambassador Vance will do his utmost to persuade Mobutu to agree to an IMF program. Assuming Treasury's concurrence and Congressional reaction is favorable—or at least not hostile—Vance will also transmit to Mobutu our willingness to help restore Zaire's financial position, contingent upon an IMF program or not depending upon your decision."

IMF restructuring is the cost demanded of Zaire: "EEC credit to Zaire was linked to the government's adoption of a new fiscal regime, while the IMF and the World Bank were imposing adjustment measures as a precondition for a \$500 million loan to the state copper firm Gecamines." (Mining in Africa Today: Strategies and Prospects, Yachir, 62)

- 4 July 1975: BOSS's Constand Viljoen and Gert Rothman fly to Kinshasa to meet with Savimbi, Holden Roberto and President Mobutu to discuss preparations for the anti-MPLA war.
- 4 July 1975: British officials in Jakarta note that "The Indonesians admit in private that a referendum held now would probably result in a majority for independence;' (Telegram 244 from British Embassy Jakarta to London, 4 July 1975, FCO15/1704)
- 4 July 1975: Newspaper (Amendment) Act becomes law in Grenada making it illegal to print or publish any newspaper unless a cash deposit of EC\$20,000, a bond of EC\$960 and annual payments of EC\$500 are made for a license. It also forbids the importation of newspapers from abroad without state certification, particularly targeted at labour newspapers. It also mass raids of the opposition press: "Where a Justice of the Peace is satisfied by information on oath that there is reasonable ground for suspecting than an offence under the Act is being, has been, or is about to be committed on any premises, he may issue a warrant in writing authorizing any police officer to enter those premises, if necessary by force, at any time within 14 days from the time of the issue of the warrant and search them."

5\* July 1975: NUM Annual Conference agrees to maintain social contract wage restriction of Harold Wilson. Yorkshire area NUM's call for a demand of £100 a week for surface workers from November 1976 is rejected.

6 July 1975: France announces a state of emergency in response to Comoros' declaration of independence after a vote by Comoran Chamber of Deputies. French forces guard all important production points on the island of Mayotte, the only island to oppose independence and seek retained colonial status with France.

6 July 1975: <u>Sunday Telegraph</u> reports: "Thousands of gallons of milk are being poured down drains and into waste pits even though the country Is facing a milk shortage. The waste is happening on farms which are replacing their dairy herds with beef cattle under a Common Market scheme. They have been forbidden to sell milk off their farms since June 30... The EEC Commission said: "The aim of the scheme is to solve the problem of milk surpluses in the EEC. This was the Intention when it was first Introduced in 1973. We wanted to get the less efficient farmers out of milk and into beef which is less labour intensive..."

6 July 1975: Star of 'Opportunity Knocks', 11-year-old singer Lena Zavaroni, performs in her home town of Rothesay, but audiences is limited as a result of £2 tickets, imposed by the management scene.

7 July 1975: 18 Labour MEPs at Strasbourg agree on recalibrating agricultural prices protecting the 'the green pound' and landowners' interests. A guaranteed market at guaranteed high prices for extra produce which then rots.

The landowner lobby secures itself: "Continental farmers tend to have far smaller holdings than their British counterparts, and they often run amateurish, family based operations on time-honoured peasant principles. The Common Agricultural had been designed to help them... by guaranteeing their incomes. But to the sophisticated large-scale producers it held out the prospect of even greater profit than the deficiency payments system." (Marion Shoard This Land is Our land the struggle for Britain's countryside, p181)

7 July 1975: (Graduate of Ireland's premier private school Belvedere College, and later MA student at London University) Dermot McNally, chief civil servant, advises Cosgrave that the advantages of continued British rule over northern Ireland are "so great that we should do everything possible to bring it about". (Ronan Fanning, Sunday Independent, 1 Jan 2006)

8 July 1975: <u>The Times</u> urges a new coalition-style (almost Gaullist) centrist grouping because "since 1960 those who agree with each other have been forces to fight increasingly phoney battles in the name of party unity, supported by allies with whom they wholly disagree." It ought to consist of Conservative and Labour moderates and the whole Liberal Party, it says, and endorses the call for proportional representation.

8 July 1975: Foreign Secretary Callaghan meets President Mobutu to discuss, amongst other things, royalties over mining firms and support for the growing trend of 'détente' with South Africa.

8 July 1975: In discussing arms sales Labour Left critic of arms sales John Roper concedes: "We cannot suddenly switch off this arms trade overnight". Labour Left arms sales opponent, Bob Cryer, calls for emulating Japan since it "has one of the best rates of GNP in the world and, indeed, is one of the trade competitors we fear most"

8 July 1975: Defence Secretary Rodgers states government priorities for secrecy: "to explain in detail why a particular decision was made one way or the other... might be to vitiate wholly the rightness of the decision itself. To announce the details of sales would often be unacceptable to the purchaser for understandable reasons related to considerations of national security. To announce why a sale was not being made might be to damage relations between Britain and another country or the prospects of a sale to a third."

Defence Secretary Rodgers explains Sir Lester Suffield's DESO role where "individual defence contractors and the Defence Sales Organisation are in partnership": DESO "employs some 350 people... The estimated value of defence sales in the last financial year was £475 million. In 1975-76 we expect them to reach £560 million... United States and the Soviet Union are clearly well ahead of us in sales. As for France, it makes a great song and dance about its achievements, while we choose to maintain a low profile. There is no real evidence, however, that France does better than achieving fourth place behind the United Kingdom. The Defence Sales Organisation is highly professional and highly committed... it deserves ministerial protection in the face of generalised criticism or innuendo. In almost all [defence contracts] of them a private initiative— namely, a sales pitch by an individual company— is involved. Even when our defence contractors are competitive in their product, as they so often are, they can fall short in their salesmanship. The record of British industry in this respect is impressive but not necessarily impeccable" hence DESO assists them "in partnership".

He does not announce or explain, as per secrecy, DESO is negotiating with Egypt for the sale of 500 tanks and a potential anti-aircraft system.

8 July 1975: An engine fire on an Edinburgh fishing trawler Granton Harrier in the Irish Sea sees 4 killed.

8 July 1975: <u>Financial Times</u> examines the Labour government's trend to link social investment with wage claims: "What Mrs Castle wants is a simple exposition of the nature of the 'social wage' put out in a form that everyone can understand. In her view discussions of personal income should not be exclusively in terms of take-home pay. Public services - schools, hospitals, medical attention, social security payments, subsidised housing and transport - should also be expressed as a form of income. In times of rapid inflation excessive cash wage demands can of course jeopardise the "social wage"... the assumption is that if everyone knew this and understood it they might behave differently'"

9 July 1975: TUC General Council meets and accepts on 11 Jul 1975 a maximum limit on bargaining for pay increases at £6 a week. It represents something like a 10% increase for the median worker, whilst prices are rising by perhaps 25%. The £6 a week limit involves the Grants Charges and Remuneration Act, allowing amongst other things, an employer to breach a contract of employment if payments exceeded those laid down in the White Paper. It also disallows any employer that pays more than the limit from imposing any price increase under the Price Commission. Giving the illusion of 'fair sacrifice from all' for 'the nation' are i) the dividends rule and ii) the upper limit. Dividend payments are to be suspended, but not withdrawn. This does not mean that investment is released. Instead purchases of property and labour-saving capital are made, and dividend payments are kept stored for a future date. The £6 limit only applies to those earning under £8,500 p.a. Those earning above receive no increase. However, firms simply transfer salary increases into 'company benefits', pension and gratuity increases.

"49. Adopting a flat rate approach, fixing the pay limit at 10 per cent would give £6 a week to all full-time adults (aged 18 and above)... with *pro rata* payments for part-timers and juveniles. A flat rate approach has the advantages of focusing increases on the low paid and preventing unduly large cash increases being obtained by the high paid. It is clear and simple, most emphasises the General Council's view about the gravity of the economic and industrial situation and cuts through the complication of separate provisions for particular groups which, via comparability claims, has helped to weaken the previous policy....

60. ... The aim should be that the Retail Price Index by autumn 1976 will be less than 10 per cent above the figure a year earlier.... 91. It is nor sufficient for the trade union movement at Congress to give formal endorsement to a report of this kind. Just as important as the formula itself is winning its acceptance by members and their negotiators. There is therefore a major job for everyone to do in ensuring that this understanding is disseminated to the ten million trade unionists.... There has to be an identification and a commitment to the action to follow." (TUC General Council Report and The Development of the Social Contract, Report of 107th Annual Trades Union Congress, 1975)

9 July 1975: Wilson holds talks with Karamanlis in Downing Street, stating "We share the Greek Government's desire to strengthen her links with the EEC... If it were not for Greece there would be no Europe as we know it today."

9 July 1975: Industry Minister Varley announces the government will take over control of Alfred Herbert, machine tool firm, providing funding of £25mil.

9 July 1975: US begins moves to end diplomatic links with Laos and rely on the British embassy for listening and other functions: Department of State: "We see no US interest to be served by simply providing a whipping boy for the PGNU... With respect to a protection power, we have in mind asking either the U.K. or Japan (in that order of preference) to undertake this responsibility if the need arises" (Department of State to Embassy in Laos, July 9, 1975)

10 July 1975: PS announces its withdrawal from the Portugal provisional government. Mario Soares explains the move in a letter to President Francisco da Costa Gomes warning it is "a Government which does not govern and which each day abdicates its responsibilities... I cannot give moral and political support to a situation which is permanently deteriorating. I understand your anguish and your personal distress, but there comes at time when it is necessary to have the courage to say that's enough" He describes the decision to give control of Republica to a "so-called workers' commission" as a "provocation and a usurpation", one element of a general slide towards danger: "In the name of the revolution, the revolutionary process is being led into a dead end with tragic consequences... In the name of the people, the will expressed by the overwhelming majority of that people is being scorned daily. Our revolution is in peril: the democratic institutions which are its foundation and justification are being challenged." he declares Communist journalist trade unions mean "Today the overwhelming majority of Portuguese are paying directly or indirectly to be submitted, daily, to brainwashing and offences against their beliefs and convictions."

10 July 1975: BMA British Medical Association's AGM warns of the danger of rabies in Britain because of pet-smuggling.

10 July 1975: Under heavy pressure House of Representatives votes 214-196 to defeat an amendment proposed to the Transportation Department's Appropriation Bill to deny airport facilities to aircraft failing to meet American noise standards, including Concorde.

10 July 1975: British Steel Corporation announces it is losing £4mil a week, compared to £2mil a month ago.

11 July 1975: The Times in its reporting praises Foot and attacks Benn: "Michael Foot's willing attendance to take his share of responsibility in the Chancellor's— and now the full Cabinet's— policy means that the most dangerous threat to the unity of the Government has been removed. Nevertheless Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, ostentatiously arrived at 10 Downing Street for the long Cabinet meeting with a copy of the Labour manifesto under his left arm."

11 July 1975: Anonymous donors distribute 12 tons of food in a poor slum of Beirut in an attempt to meet one of the conditions for the release of US Col. Ernest Morgan, kidnapped by guerrillas.

11 July 1975: Government issues White Paper *The Attack on Inflation,* Wilson describes it as "a programme to save our country", having previously called it "giving a year for Britain" and announces "the only sensible course is to exercise pay restraint". It states price controls on foodstuffs will be renewed in early 1976 but not extended beyond foodstuffs. It confirms all wage rises will be limited to £6 a week for all workers. This pay policy is a crucial watershed. Dermot Glyn, Economic Director of CBI later states: "The pay £6 limit introduced in June 1975 which was accepted by the TUC... was also accepted by the CBI, despite opposition to its form – the flat rate pay formula was objectionable as reducing differentials [but] the important psychological barrier of pay increases averaging well below the previous year's inflation had been accepted, and inflation was substantially reduced." (Incomes Policy, 1981, pp208-9)

<u>Guardian</u> explains the rationale as "First, it is what the majority on the TUC General Council want. It is extremely important that such powerful figures in the union movement as Mr Len Murray and Mr Jack Jones are not just neutral to the policy, but actively behind it Secondly, the formula will be more easily understood than a

percentage ceiling or a combination of a flat rate and a percentage figure would have been."

12 July 1975: The Guardian editorial welcomes the White Paper on the basis of its success at reducing wage demands: "Last year, pay increases in the public sector pushed public spending and the Government borrowing requirement far beyond the planned figures. The new White Paper is a powerful resolution to hold down public sector pay this year. The Government intends to keep its own employees strictly to the £6 limit. It intends to confront the nationalised industries squarely with the choice between abiding by the pay limit and imposing heavy redundancies. Arid it will leave individual local authorities who exceed the limit with no choice but to sack workers or to present the whole bill to their ratepayers. There is also the promise of a strict curb on increases in local government staff. All of these pledges are important and welcome. The greatest test of the Government's political will in the coming year will be seeing that they are carried out."

It inaccurately states: "if the new pay policy works, the cut in living standards will be spread more widely, with the average citizen finding his real take home pay reduced by about 2.5 per cent" whereas real incomes decline on average by 4-5%.

12 July 1975: Former Liberal Leader Jo Grimond, Chancellor of University of Kent, at its graduation ceremony attacks government proposals for universities on a strong backlash theme. He urges rescinding any legal rights for closed shop arrangements and reducing 'bureaucrat' control (those of government only, not universities' or employers').

12 July 1975: Rev. Martin Smyth, UUP Grand Master of the Orange Order states in a speech at 'the Field' commemorating the Battle of the Boyne: "The Monarchy stands for the highest and best of our Constitutional procedures. All things are done in the name of Her Majesty whether it is a result of foolish counsel by her ministers or not."

13 July 1975: British Army's Scot's Guards Regiment shoot dead 16-year old Charlie Irvine, as he drives a old, second hand car on the Falls Road, Belfast. Charlie's brother witnesses the shooting: "On Saturday night I was standing with my mates opposite Dunville Park and he [Charlie] drove up.... We shouted and cheered at each other and the military [patrol] saw all that was going on. After all, none of us had anything to hide. Then when Charlie was coming down again, just as the car passed us it backfired. It was just a dull noise, nothing like a shot, but the next thing I knew two British soldiers were down on their knees firing away. The car swerved across the road and hit a car coming up the Falls Road, bounced

back and finished up on the footpath just below Clonard Street. The British soldiers immediately surrounded the car. So there was no question of the crowd keeping them away"

14 July 1975: Vorster approves military equipment worth \$14mil to be bought in secret, hidden under general defence budget, for FNLA and UNITA. The first hand-over of these weapons begins in Aug 1975.

14 July 1975: TUC General Secretary Len Murray attacks critics of TUC adherence to the £6 limit. "Now we are being attacked by the so-called left... But what solution are they offering? Instant socialism at a stroke?"

14 July 1975: Official UK unemployment figures show 1,088,000.

14 July 1975: British embassy charts the plan of action over Timor: "it is in Britain's interests that Indonesia should absorb the territory as quickly and unobtrusively as possible, and that if it comes to the crunch and there is a row in the UN we should keep our heads down" (J. A. Ford, British Embassy Jakarta to P. J. E. Male of the FCO, 14 July 1975, FCO15/1715)

15 July 1975: Wilson defends the economic and social record: "The whole world is facing an increase in unemployment today. Unemployment has risen less in Britain than in most other countries." The government begins preparations to send an information pack titled "Attack on Inflation: A Policy for Survival" subtitled "A guide to the Government's Programme" to every household in the country to justify its £6 limit. It states inflation is caused primarily by "big increases in wages" and hence "pay restraint is the basis of the present battle against inflation." Its axiom is "one man's wage increase could mean another man's ticket to the dole queue".

15 July 1975: The Guardian in an article entitled 'The Treacherous Truce' opposes contemplation of British withdrawal: "Constitutionally, politically and militarily, the solution in Northern Ireland has never been so fluid or open to speculation. So-called solutions like independence, restored majority rule and British withdrawal are openly canvassed and debated in the best informed circles, and with every day that passes, the wilder predictions are growing more credible."

16 July 1975: 9 officials from FBU Strathclyde region attend a special meeting in London, where they are disciplined and stripped of their official status for failing to oppose a strike threat in their region.

16 July 1975: Lt-Col Christopher Airy, chief of the Scots Guard 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, states a normal Army enquiry is being held into the shooting dead of Charlie Irvine, but he is certain his "men are in the right". He states there is no harassment of local populations in Belfast but there is a "smear campaign" against British soldiers and Army road blocks and patrols will not be reduced. No one is ever charged with any crime or rule infringement over the death.

17 July 1975: Luxury televisions are made exempt from 25% rate of VAT, against the government's original draft.

17 July 1975: Flight International reports progress in arms sales to Turkish militarists: "An outright purchase of 24 Jaguars for the Turkish Air Force is likely, although not imminent. The possibility of further aircraft being built in Turkey is increasing; the two deals—purchase and licence production—have previously been regarded as separate, but are now more closely related."

18 July 1975: Queen visits Connaught Barracks and the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Royal Green Jackets.

18 July 1975: Basil Landau, tipped earlier this year as a possible successor to Lord Stokes as head of British Leyland, resigns as managing director of the company's South African subsidiary. His successor is Canadian-born Peter Murrough, graduate of Harvard Business School.

19 July 1975: 92nd Durham Miners' Gala sees Prime Minister Wilson urge the importance of the flat £6 increase and no more. He states that a Yorkshire wage increase will mean pit closures for Scotland, Durham and Wales, playing off one area against another urging Durham resistance to NUM militant demands.

NUM Executive later follows Wilson, taking the initiative out of the hands of miners, unilaterally voting outside NUM constitution 14-10 to back the £6 limit and effectively rescind the unanimous Scarborough annual NUM conference decision at Scarborough to enter into negotiations with the NCB "to seek £100 a week for face workers with consequential increases for other grades of workers within the mining industry maintaining appropriate differentials" knocking over 15% off the pay claim for the next 12 months.

19 July 1975: <u>The Economist</u> reports on unforeseen consequences of the CAP across the EEC, including Britain: "Farmers of the Nine are growing six ears of wheat where five grew before, and this is bad news. It could cost the EEC citizens dearly. The paradox is explained by the EEC cereals policy which allows farmers to sell their wheat into EEC intervention granaries, and so prop the price by keeping it off the market, whenever the price falls below 125.93

units of account (about 156 dollars) a metric ton. It does not matter whether the stuff they sell is the cheap, high-yield type which is fed to animals or the better-quality, lower-yield wheat fed to people. So farmers are switching from milling wheat to lower-quality wheat."

- 21 July 1975: Ted Rowlands explains: "Government do not foresee any change in the present constitutional relationship between the United Kingdom and St. Helena."
- 21 July 1975: David Hobman, director of Age Concern, tells its annual meeting volunteers ought to play a bigger role in helping the elderly as state expenditure cuts take effect.
- 21 July 1975: Queen and Duke of Edinburgh are given china presents by the Royal Ocean Racing Club in a dinner event to commemorate the club's jubilee.
- 21 July 1975: Seamus Costello in <u>Intercontinental Press</u> attempts to explain to the situation between the IRSP (Irps) and OIRA (Stickies):
- "Q: The "Officials" say that a shadowy military organization linked to the IRSP has carried out attacks on their members. They draw two different conclusions from this. Some say that you don't control it. Others say that you are trying to use it as your assassination squad without taking responsibility for what it does. What is the relationship between the IRSP and the military groupings that have expressed support for it in the conflict with the "Officials"?

[Costello:] Well, the relationship with the PLA and the other armed groups that have acted in this way is as follows: The PLA and other groups that haven't chosen to say publicly what their names are offered to assist us in defending our members against the "Officials." This followed the death of one of our members in Belfast. The Belfast Regional Executive accepted that offer. The basis of this acceptance was that as long as the "Officials" attacked IRSP members, these groups would defend IRSP members against such actions and retaliate for such actions. It's true to say that we don't control the individual actions carried out in pursuit of this policy, any more than the Army Council of the "Official" IRA controls the individual actions of members of its organization. But we are quite satisfied that as soon as agreement is reached between the IRSP and the "Official" IRA and as soon as we have some concrete indication that the "Officials" are going to call off its campaign, there will be no difficulty whatsoever about ensuring that there are no attacks on members or supporters of the "Official" IRA."

21 July 1975: A private guest-house in Arbroath sees a fire kill 6.

21 July 1975: <u>Daily Telegraph</u> notes Indonesia maintains a "favourable political climate" and "encouragement of foreign investment by the country's authorities". It reports the recent CBI urging of British business to realise the "enormous potential for the foreign investor". Rio Tinto Zinc, BP, and nationalised British Gas Corporation and nationalised BNOC (British National Oil

Corporation) are some of the British firms with significant investments in military-ruled Indonesia. Several other British firms participate in joint ventures with Australian firms of the likes of ACI, BHP, James Hardie Tubemakers & Nicholas. Burmah Oil are making plans to enter into a joint venture with Pertamina.\*\*

21 July 1975: Chancellor officially announces the £6 a week limit will begin from 1 Aug 1975, noting basic CBI acceptance: "the Government agree with the TUC that the limit should be expressed in terms of £6 a week to full-time adult workers up to a cut-off point with a lower pro rata limit for part-time workers and juveniles. This figure is consistent with the Government's 10% target since it is associated with the most stringent limitations. ... The Government have been able to welcome all the TUC's proposals in this field with the one exception of the cutoff, which the Government believe should be set at incomes of £8,500 a year rather than £7,000. A lower limit would be too disruptive of existing pay scales among supervisory and technical staff. ... I ought to make clear ... the extent to which the CBI was able to go along with us on these matters. The CBI agreed with us on the objectives of the policy and on the need for a limit equivalent to 10 per cent. on pay. The CBI told us, however, that it preferred a percentage pay limit to a flat rate, and that if it was to be a flat rate, it ought to be £5 rather than £6. It also thought that the cut-off point should have been higher than £8,500."

"The flat £6 limit will be progressive right throughout the income scale. I do not deny that the resulting compression of differentials will make it more difficult to pass to more flexible and sophisticated guidelines after the current wage round. It will complicate the reentry problem next year. The TUC is as aware as anyone else of this, and I hope discussions will begin in good time about the handling of wage negotiations once the next round is complete. As I made clear the other day, the problem of inflation will not be solved when we are down to 10 per cent. We must continue with our efforts at least until our prices are rising no faster than those of our competitors. We must be certain that once we have achieved the necessary level we are no longer vulnerable to the same domestic pressures for inflation that have produced the problems with which we are wrestling today."

"For settlements affecting the 2 million people directly employed... the Government themselves will ensure compliance. This will require the suspension of the operation of pay research in the Civil Service for the period of the policy. The Government will also ask the relevant review bodies to comply... The chairmen of the nationalised industries have already undertaken to observe the

limits... the Government possess a very significant sanction as far as they are concerned... the Government will not foot the bill for excessive settlements in the nationalised industries through subsidies, by permitting extra borrowing"

He threatens cuts to local council services if real income cuts/limited pay increases are not accepted: "the local authorities and public transport authorities... [have a] rate support grant [covering] a high proportion of local authorities' current expenditure. This year the proportion is two-thirds in England and Wales and three-quarters in Scotland. If there should be any national pay settlement for local authorities' employees which exceeds the pay limit, the Government will pay no grant towards financing the excess. If any individual local authority should make an agreement to pay more than the limit, it will stand to forfeit grant on the whole of its settlement under new legislation ... If, in spite of these sanctions, the local authority exceeds the pay limit, the Government can, and will if necessary, offset the excess by using its powers of control on the borrowing of individual local authorities to reduce their capital expenditure."

Healey outlines how private firms will be coalesced into common, tighter action over restricting pay: "A [private] firm's record of observance of the pay limit will be taken into account in our general purchasing policy, in the awarding of contracts and in assistance to industry under the Industry Act. Our main weapon, however, depends on amending the Price Code, so that where an employer breaks the limit, the whole pay increase will be disallowed for price increases." [this means a significant cut in revenue]

As a final resort Healey states there is "prepared legislation which, if applied in particular cases, would make it illegal for the employer to exceed the pay limit. If the pay limit is in danger... the Government will ask Parliament to approve this legislation forthwith."

21 July 1975: Robert Hughes, Junior Minister at the Scottish Office, resigns over the £6 a week limit. No other Left Ministers follow.
21 July 1975: "Labour Left Q whether "any further grant of aid to Indonesia subject to the condition that internationally recognised human rights are applied in the treatment of political prisoners."
[Overseas Development Minister Reg] Prentice: No."

22 July 1975: Labour Left Frank Allaun, having asked on national grounds "the proposed sale of tanks to Egypt" if Britain "is satisfied with the security for payment of such arms in view of the \$3 billion owed to Western countries by her", Minister resists with the government insistence "not to comment on particular allegations about the sale of British defence equipment."

- 23 July 1975: MPs vote to accept the Cabinet recommendation, announced 16 Jul 1975, for a pay increase of £24 a week to raise their annual salaries from £4,500 to £5,750 and for a substantially extended allowances scheme. They also vote to support a Labour backbench amendment that their pay should be pegged, after the next general election, to the level of assistant secretaries in the Civil Service earning between £9,000 and £11,000 a year. The vote means MPs have cunningly avoided the £6 limit.
- 24 July 1975: Airey Neave urges against the release of internees slandering them by warning of "the risk... in releasing over 200 experienced terrorists onto the streets by Christmas"
- 24 July 1975: <u>International Herald Tribune</u> Bernard Nossiter reports: "I have learned from responsible officials that ISC is also the creature of an intelligence service, British this time." ISC has given lectures for Army Colleges training a new generation of soldiers and officers. (Guardian, 16 Jul 1976)
- 24 July 1975: US offers whatever help it can to Mobutu in his anti-MPLA crusade in Angola: "I observed that our ability to help was subject to certain obvious considerations, notably the limitation on funds available, the cost and time required for shipment, and the risk of leaks if large quantities of materiel are sent all at once. I stressed the importance... the need to move in such a way as to avoid exposure, which could seriously harm our efforts to help. ... items already sent Angola from his [Mobutu's] mobilization reserve as well as the key items from his paratroops which we cannot supply in the present emergency program would be replaced subsequently"
- 25 July 1975: <u>The Times</u>, proponent of 'monetarism' and reduced state assistance to unprofitable firms, declares: "The sorrowful fact is that we no longer know how to maintain full unemployment" and the sooner it is accepted the better.
- 25 July 1975: Turkey, as threatened, orders the US to suspend operations at all bar one of its bases in Turkey, and place them under Turkish command, after the US Congress votes against lifting its arms embargo.
- 26 July 1975: New cost of living increases come into effect for judges. Increases range from the lowest £9 a day increase up to a £15 a day increase. Lord Widgery, presumably rewarded for his role in producing lies for the Tribunal on the Bloody Sunday Massacre, receives an increase in salary of £3,950 to bring him to £23,050.

Several judges now receive more than £20,000 a year. Base pay for high court judges stands at £18,675. Circuit judges are on average just above £13,000. This is just ahead of the pay restraints described as Phase I of the Social Contract limiting all increases to £6 a week.

- 27 July 1975: 2 men mug Robin Day, chief BBC interviewer and commentator while walking after midnight near his Holland Park home. His jaw is broken. The incident is used to replay the mugging backlash of 1972.
- 27 July 1975: It is revealed British Steel Corporation has invested £20mil in a chrome production plant in apartheid South Africa. When asked of the decision to invest in South Africa, agreed by the government since this is a nationalised firm, Eric Varley: "I am satisfied that the British Steel Corporation fully investigated all the potential sources of ferrochrome of the grade required to meet the needs of its stainless steel expansion programme. This is part of the corporation's normal commercial activity and it would be inappropriate to publish details."
- 27 July 1975: Black Watch regiment patrolling Andersonstown and Turf Lodge unleash rubber bullets as they meet a protest crowd in the street. Several are arrested and beaten including a 26-year-old with bruising and wounding who later describes to journalists an assault by a whole gang of soldiers.
- 28 July 1975: <u>Financial Times</u> analyses: "So much of the fabric of the system has now been torn away that there are serious doubts as to whether the recession trends that have been set in motion by the industrial world's new emphasis on [allowing] unemployment and slower growth can be halted when they are deemed to have achieved their objectives."
- 28 July 1975: Prince Charles plays water polo for a Royal Navy team in an inter-military fixture.
- 28 July 1975: New Zealand announces it will not call off a rugby tour involving apartheid South Africa.
- 29 July 1975: Talks between the British Steel Corporation and the TUC Steel Committee, in London lasting more than 12 hours. BSC and the TUC steel committee agreed that workers with less than 12 months' service will be subject to redundancy. Around 8000 steelworkers' posts will be deleted, work sharing will also be instituted by ISTC and others on a local level.

A joint unions-BSC statement says: "The corporation is losing money at the rate of £5m a week and moving deeply into debt in order to pay wages and maintain its capital investment programme" Bob Scholey, BSC chief executive, points out that the 6-point plan on cost savings, agreed with unions in May 1975, has fallen short amounting to £40m-£50m instead of its £100m target.

29 July 1975: Labour Left Social Services Minister Castle announces an inter-departmental working party to reduce benefit claims by unemployed students: "The number of students claiming supplementary benefit in the vacations has increased very rapidly in the last two or three years, and is placing a great strain on local social security, unemployment benefit, and employment offices, particularly in the short vacations."

29 July 1975: 1 is killed, 1 seriously injured when machinery collapses on them at Eccles Colliery, Backworth, Northumberland. 29 July 1975: Turkey completes its takeover of 26 major US bases and installations, depriving it of key, expensive intelligence-gathering systems. (It also begins closing down duty-free PX stores for servicemen and imposes duty charges on imported fuel for the US aircraft.) Turkish Ambassador in Washington, Melih Esenbel, states US personnel and H-bomb missiles can remain in Turkey, but they will be inoperative.

The move increases US dependence on British facilities in Cyprus which Britain is happy to supply. Journalist Edward Cochrane reports: "Washington policy-makers are trying hard to decide whether Turkey really means what she says by abrogating all military agreements with the United States.... Turkey, after all, was once America's staunchest ally in the Middle East. Her firepower and hatred of the Soviet Union were held to be indispensable to the global defence of Western democracy. ... [US Congress's Embargo has already been circumvented] if no spare parts had found their way to. Turkey at all since February by now. the Turkish Air Force, for example, would indeed be virtually grounded—at that time a former Turkish Air Force commander said this would happen "within six months." But while the US Government has not been so rash as to break the Congress's embargo itself, in a Washington where such things leak almost before they happen, it has found other ways to keep the Turks going, The spare parts problem has largely been met by the NATO allies in Europe — above all the West Germans and the Italians — who maintain their own stocks of spares for the same sorts of American weapons as the Turks operate. The West Germans, for example, lifted their embargo on Turkey just a month after the American one was imposed. It goes without saying that these operations have received the US Government's tacit approval. ... when the embargo was impending the US Government twice

- approved the sale of batches of 18 US-built Starfighters to Turkey by Italy. There is now a Turkish request before the British Government to buy about £100m worth of British-made weapons, reportedly including about three dozen Jaguar strike aircraft."
- 29 July 1975: Tony Benn announces his appointment of 64-year old Lord Kearton, former chairman of Courtaulds, chairman of the Industrial Reorganisation Corporation and head of the Society of Chemical Industry, heavily fixated on labour-saving innovation for British industry, as chairman of BNOC.
- 29 July 1975: An RAF Chipmunk doing complex manoeuvres crashes into the site of the ongoing Newark and Nottingham agricultural show. 2 are killed.
- 29 July 1975: British Leyland outline a plan giving its Italian affiliate venture Leyland-Innocenti in Milan 2 years to become profitable or face closure.
- 29 July 1975: 4 toxic chemical drums come loose at Grimsby docks exposing workers to poisonous fumes. Several are hospitalised, 20 treated in some fashion.
- 29 July 1975: One Sandhurst-trained Nigerian military chief replaces another at the top as Murtala Mohammed's coup brings down Gen. Yakubu Gowon. Brigadier Olusegun Obasanjo (later Lt.Gen.) is appointed Chief of Staff and Brigadier Theophilus Danjuma is appointed Chief of Army Staff. British economic interest as Nigeria's main supplier, exporting £200m. Nigeria is Britain's fourth largest supplier of oil. Over 15,000 white Britons live in Nigeria.
- 30 July 1975: National Federation of the Self-Employed, already with 40,000 paid members since its foundation in Sep 1974, holds a press briefing for its new autonomous Scotland council with 3,000 members where Alexander Reid, its chairman states: "There is a lot of evidence that in Britain today there are men who have obtained positions of influence in the trade union movement, in local, and national political life, whose sole purpose would seem to be to overthrow our democratic society and to bring this country to its knees. They want to eliminate the self-employed and the middle-class."
- 30 July 1975: In a reflection of medical research following the needs of profit-based production, anticipating problems with ultra-deep sea diving with skilled engineers settings up oil rigs deep underwater, Sir Andrew Kay, regius professor chief of surgical medicine at Glasgow University, chief scientist to Scottish Office

Home and Health Departments, says at a Medical Research Council conference: "The MRC, with power to dispense grants, now has to collate these points and seek response from groups suitably qualified and able to carry out the research. With so much of the North Sea oil exploration based in Scotland... the universities of Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, and Glasgow, with their pioneering tradition in medicine, could let together in order to undertake this work."

31 July 1975: A climbing frame falls on a 6-year old, crushing him to death, in Duntonknoll Park, Irvine, near Kilmarnock. The wobbling climbing frame has been notified to the area superintendent on 28 July 1975 after parental complaints to the local councillor. The council works department receives the request for repair work only on 30 July 1975, insufficient processing labour has delayed the repairs.

31 July 1975: Over 50 businesspeople, army officers and Conservative activists meet at the Grosvenor House Hotel, Park Lane, London. They include:

**Field Marshal Sir Gerald Templer**, a chief in defence of Malaya's rubber industry during Emergency, commander during the Suez assault, one of the masterminds behind Civil Assistance;

**Lord Blake**, chief of Queen's College Oxford, chair of the Hansard Inquiry into proportional representation, professional whitewasher of Britain's record in Rhodesia; cricket selector

**Alec Bedser**, who ejects Basil D'Oliviera from the England team so it can promote uniracial cricket in apartheid South Africa;

**Michael Ivens**, former editor of the anti-union Esso staff magazine, author of The Case For Capitalism, Industry and Values, opposing legislation over environmental protection etc, director of long standing business propaganda unit Aims of Industry/Aims for Freedom and Enterprise;

**Sir Robert Thompson**, strategist during the Malayan insurgency, adviser to Nixon's war effort in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia author of <u>Defeating Communist Insurgency</u>;

Brian Crozier of the Institute for the Study of Conflict (ISC);

**Robert Moss**, CIA-funded asset over Chile, journalist-for-hire for the South Africa Department of Information (acting as The Group of Ten) allowing his articles on southern Africa to be used in huge fullpage press advertisements for South Africa;

Col. Julian Hobbs, secretary of British United Industrialists;

**Lord Viscount De L'Isle**, chairman of Phoenix-Assurance, hard-monarchist former Governor-General of Australia;

Prof **Donald Denman**, Chair of Land Economy at Cambridge University, adviser to countless colonies and Commonwealth states in introducing privatised land schemes to replace communal

farming, strong opponent of even minor moves towards land nationalisation including the Community Land Act 1975;

**Sir Paul Chambers**, former chairman of ICI with considerable stock ownership there;

**Sir Frank Taylor**, director of Taylor Woodrow, English Electric, Babcock & Wilcox and council member of Aims of Industry/Aims for Freedom and Enterprise;

**Peregrine Worsthorne,** rightist gossip-slanderer at <u>The Spectator</u>, and The Times:

Dr **Kenneth (K.W) Watkins**, former CPGB member one-time author of "New Industrial Revolution: The Story of Russia's Factories & Workshops" during the USSR's high Stalinist era, now frequent author of Aims of Industry pamphlets and Professor of Political Theory and Institutions, University of Sheffield, contributor to the Black Papers;

**Stephen Hastings MP**, former director of Handley Page, director at chairman of European Supersonic Aviation, leasing firm set-up to dry-lease Concorde, with interests in Scottish Aviation, an organiser of the Rhodesia lobby;

**Joseph Josten**, Director of the Free Czech Intelligence News Agency;

**Jill Knight MP**, pro-generalised capital punishment, pro-corporal punishment alongside prison sentences (on the model of Singapore and Malaysia), anti-abortion Monday Club stalwart;

**Nicholas Ridley**, Aims of Industry honorary associate and former 'butcher of Clydeside', future author of the Ridley report;

Ross McWhirter & Norris McWhirter; David Mitchell,

August 1975: Matthew Blaire, New Statesman leftist, worries of the of Britain becoming "another Sicily" bemoaning the loss of Britain's status:"Transnational corporations were the only ones able to develop the oilfields, chiefly employing their own skilled labor and technicians. Lumpen [meaning nonunionised] workers are, of course, recruited locally to do the construction work or endure the hazardous life out on the rigs, but the hoped-for effect on unemployment in declining regions has been minimal. Worse, it was discovered that the British Steel Corporation had been too incompetent and undercapitalized to supply even the pipes needed to bring oil ashore; these will now be supplied from Japan.... The possibility that Britain could become another Sicily, a backyard for the world market, has been raised by a series of other developments, too. The City of London may have lost a lot of its former glories, but it still remains a splendid service station for liquid "wild money." The Saudi Arabians won't keep their cash in New York, which they regard as being the capital of Israel, and the Swiss are not (yet) ready to service such short-term accounts. So London remains the receptacle for petro-dollars, ensuring that the pound and its value are dependent on any tremor of confidence among the sheikhs. Meanwhile, the government spends more and more of its time conciliating with the Shah of Iran (grovelling is the word most often used in conversation), who is also prepared to splash his reserves about in return for technical advice and exportimport deals. He is angling for an interest in British Petroleum and may even buy the Concorde" (Britain in Between, Matthew Blaire, Ramparts Magazine, August 1975, pp. 10-13)

August 1975: The month's Department of Education's official publication <u>Trends in Education</u> records the views of a chief Post Office recruiter describing standards in literacy and numeracy as insufficient. He also states applicants for work have "a lack of knowledge and appreciation of what "work" is all about".

August 1975: It is revealed British firm Lonrho has provided UNITA with significant support, including a private jet for Jonas Savimbi. Savimbi's role in facilitating the apartheid military invasion of Angola is crucial: "South Africans had some encouragement to go into Angola. Savimbi invited them after conferring with Mobutu, Kaunda, Felix Houphouet-Boigny of the Ivory Coast, and Leopold Senghor of Senegal, all of whom favoured a moderate... government in Angola"

August 1975: Bahrain's Crown Prince performs an auto-coup shutting down the National Assembly and suspending the Constitution to appoint government members on the crown's terms. A new Cabinet (25 Aug 1975) is formed consisting entirely of the al Khalifah clan and friends. Later that year it passes a Commercial Company Law allowing foreign trading into Bahrain, supplying services to Bahrain, and the location of regional headquarters in Bahrain to serve the wider Middle East region. One particular aspect is the legal definition it gives to 'offshore banking units' modelled on the Bahamas experience, which do not interact with Bahraini citizens but serve international clients and are exempt from investigation from the Bahrain Monetary Authority. British Bank of the Middle East [previously called the Imperial Bank of Persia and later called H.S.B.C. Middle East] is one of the first to establish such units. The bank tax-haven idea is effectively imported into the Middle East with the collusion of British financial firms.

August 1975: Most Revd Dr William Philbin, Bishop of Down & Connor, the most populous district of the archdiocese of Armagh, explains his views on democracy: "The Church is not to be governed democratically in the sense that its members, by voting or exerting pressure, exercise decisive power. Government is the responsibility of the apostles and their successors. Authority is an essential element in the religious system." (Letter to Catholic Truth Society)

Bishop Philbin has gained an indeterminate but significant wealth by setting up a network of front companies in property development in culturally Irish parts of Belfast and beyond. Press examination about his 'slum landlord' role are however blocked by his constant use of lawyers to threaten libel cases against editors and journalists. In 1979 Hibernia and the journal of the Community Relations Council drop articles about Philbin's wealth.

August 1975: James Burnham in the US <u>National Review</u> expresses the backlash alarm over the collapsing Portuguese Empire: "The most critical difference this time ... would seem to be the softened, at many points nonexistent resistance. The Western nations - all the Western nations stood passive while Indochina was overwhelmed in a matter of weeks. And the Western nations - all the Western nations - stand, sit rather, no less passive as the third wave surges over one of their own charter members. Not merely sit passive: drink toasts, at conferences on earth and meetings in space, with those who are riding the waves that are bringing the West's destruction."

- 1 August 1975: Former President of South Vietnam is granted a visa to reside in Britain for a year. By comparison, escapees from Rhodesia's draft are refused permission to enter Britain over the period.
- 1 August 1975: Britain recognises the new military regime of Murtala Mohammed in Nigeria.
- 1 August 1975: Queen hosts President of Guyana, Arthur Chung, ally of Prime Minister Forbes Burnham.
- 1 August 1975: Duke of Edinburgh opens the Royal Marines Museum Eastney Barracks.
- 2 August 1975: Following its elite tradition to all students, Cambridge awards the automatic MA (Master of Arts Degree) to Prince Charles five years after his undergraduate graduation
- 3 August 1975: 3 workers are killed in Watney's Brewery, Mortlake, South East London working beside poisonous fumes from the effluent tank.
- 3 August 1975: Bougainville's national movement announces it will declare independence on 1 Sep 1975 unless demands for significant self-determination are granted.
- 4 August 1975: An exchange summing up the Labour Left's failure at regulating nationalised industry:

[Labour Left] "asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he will issue a general direction to the British Steel Corporation to ensure that recent management salary awards are cut by two-thirds as an

indication of Government policy towards highly-paid management in public corporations.

Gerald Kaufman [Junior Minister of Industry]: No. This is a matter for the board of the British Steel Corporation." (HC Deb vol 897 c6W)

- 4 August 1975: Government is defeated in the Commons 268-261, following a lead from the Lords, in its attempts in the Housing Finance (Special Provisions) Bill to remove the disqualification of Clay Cross councillors from office. Several Labour MPs take to heart Labour's insistence on not undermining 'the Consititution' and the rule of law.
- 4 August 1975: <u>The Guardian</u> reports on government ministers' holidays. Labour Left Peter Shore, Trade Secretary, has urged everyone not to buy foreign cars. (At the same, of course, BAE and the Ministry of Defence is participating in joint ventures with NATO allies for military vehicles.)

A Tory MP writes to Shore: "Ministers should not go cavorting off to European resorts, spending currency badly needed in this country. This is especially true when we have a hotel industry on the verge of bankruptcy." Wilson will holiday in the Scillies, Bob Mellish and Callaghan in Sussex, Ted Short in Cumbria. Chancellor Healey in Italy, Michael Foot in France, Joe Gormley in Spain, Len Murray in Liechtenstein, Tony Crosland car touring across Europe.

- 5 August 1975: Labour Spokesperson on Foreign Affairs announces the government remains committed to Henry Kissinger's analysis of international affairs: "I recall the location and content of the American Secretary of State's speech in Wisconsin last July. I think we would all agree with most, if not all, of the contents of that speech."
- 5 August 1975: A Hong Kong underworld gang, almost certainly protected by police as revealed in the corruption investigations, captures over £500,000 of foreign exchange an armed raid on a banknote transport vehicles from Hang Seng Bank.
- 6 August 1975: Government's steel closure review by Lord Beswick agrees to redundancies for more than 2,000 BSC workers. Open hearth steel works at Clydebridge, Dalzell, Lanarkshire, Ravenscraig and Glengarnock; General Terminus Quay and Clyde works will close. Steel production will continue with fewer employed with newer technology at Ravenscraig: "the Corporation must continue to aim at an output of 3.2 million tonnes at Ravenscraig"
- 6 August 1975: Industry Minister declares: "The British Steel Corporation is in a serious position. There has been an unprecedented recession throughout the world in the steel industry. It has a capacity of approximately 27 million tons, but it is running

at only 17 million tons a year. ... We want to be in the position where the British Steel Corporation alone, by the early 1980s, will be producing approximately 37 million tons of steel. We must get all the other factors right. We must get the pricing policy, the productivity within the industry and 515 the capital structure of the industry right. ... we consider the history of nationalised steel since 1967, we discover that the British Steel Corporation has done a remarkable job. The 14 companies, which were all in a state of under-investment, have reached the stage where there is in real prospect a profitable and expanding steel industry"

6 August 1975: Bishop Abel Muzorewa, increasingly-collaborationist leader, arrives in London for talks with Callaghan.

6 August 1975: 2 well-known public figures, Christian Democrat Jaime Castillo, and Radical Eugenio Velasco, connected to the Catholic Church are raided by men with guns and bundled onto a LAN Chile flight to Buenos Aires to be exiled to Argentina under Peron.

6-13 August 1975: 12-member British engineering trade mission to South East Asia. Its leader Col. R. E. Scott, describes it as "most rewarding." It features representatives of Rolls Royce and other British firms seeking South East Asian partnerships.

9 August 1975: Koigi Wamwere, after being followed by secret police officers for months, is arrested: "After the search, I was taken to the Elburgon Police Station where I was interrogated for three weeks, in August, Elburgon is a very cold place and without a mattress and blankets, the police cell was extremely cold. I was kept alone and given very little food. I was never given a hot drink. Without a door of solid metal or wood, the cement floor of my cell was always cold and flooded with rain that came in through the iron bars. I was not allowed to have shoes or socks on and therefore shivered uncontrollably on rainy mornings and nights. Denied warm water, I did not dare take a single cold bath for three weeks. In the cells next to mine, other prisoners were beaten daily. The inspector in charge was particularly brutal with prisoners. Though my detention became more and more inevitable the longer I stayed in the police cell, in contravention of both the constitution and the law that required my presence in court within five days, I was never formally told why I would be detained." (I Refuse to Die: My Journey for Freedom Koigi Wa Wamwere)

9 August 1975: SADF moves 50km into Angola and occupies the Ruacana-Calueque hydroelectric dam complex and other installations on the Cunene river.

10 August 1975: UDT in effective alliance with Indonesian-funded APODETI launches, with support from key rightist Portuguese

figures a coup against the FRETILIN and potentially dangerous proindependence Portuguese civilian authorities. Over 2,000 are killed as UDT takes the fight against FRETILIN beyond Dili. UDT has met the Indonesian figures concerned with Timor, Gen. Ali Murtopo who has indicated that any possibility of sovereignty rests with the elimination of FRETILIN.

- 11 August 1975: Government takes control over the otherwise failing British Leyland, in danger of bankruptcy soon according to external auditors.
- 11 August 1975: Britain abstains in, whilst United States vetos the vote on admission of Vietnam at the UNSC.
- 13 August 1975: 400 women workforce of Corah Ltd's clothing plant in Abergoed, South Wales, are told the factory will close next week. Management explains the decision is as a result of Marks & Spencer suddenly scaling back and cancelling orders for the following year.
- 13-18 August 1975: Botha and Mulder tour Stroessner's Paraguay on a state visit, signing 4 agreements in Asuncion.
- 14 August 1975: Portugal re-establishes "administrative control" over Angola, the High Commissioner appointed from Lisbon declaring that in the absence of effective government, it will assume full powers for as long as necessary. The measure largely allows the Portuguese landowning colonists to escape justice in Angola and return to Portugal forming a new wing of the centre-right battle against expropriations and socialisations.
- 14 August 1975: British warships once again pass through the Suez Canal. 2 Royal Fleet auxiliaries and 3 RN frigates cross the passage. The Canal has been reopened on 5 Jun 1975 after closure and blockage since 1967.
- 15 August 1975: FCO working under Crosland tells its ambassador to Indonesia "not attempt to seek any information on Indonesian attitudes towards Timor" since an effective deal has been done with US over its reintegration into Timor and any questions might damage British interests vis-a-vis competitors. (Telegram 192 from London to Jakarta, 15 August 1975, FCO15/1715)
- 15 August 1975: Rod Stewart releases his album <u>Atlantic Crossing</u>, it reaches number one and stays there throughout September, when the main single 'Sailing' is at number one for four weeks. It is considered an honest work of travel and exile describing his departure from Britain to Los Angeles. In fact he is a recent 'tax exile' (a category that could be replaced with 'mobile parasitic snake') seeking to retain personal profits from earlier albums' sales.

In a similar fashion, Tom Jones has left to settle in Los Angeles in 1974. David Bowie sets himself up as Swiss resident in the Alps in Blonay in 1976. In 1978 all members of Pink Floyd become nondomiciled in various locations. James Bonds, symbols of British tough decency, also leave: Roger Moore in 1978 for Gstaad, Switzerland, Sean Connery for Spain. In early 1979 the two Ronnies - Ronnie Corbett and Ronnie Barker - become Australian residents, although they barely live there at all, and continue to sap the investment into British television shows. Michael Caine moves to USA in 1975. He spends several years in the United States before returning to Britain after 1980 when the Conservative Budget eases the tax intake from parasites. Musicians Paul Rodgers, Simon Kirke, Mick Ralphs and Boz Burrell, who make up supergroup Bad Company move to Malibu, Los Angeles in 1975. Moody Blues member Graeme Edge becomes a tax exile in Europe. Marc Bolan of T-Rex leaves first for Monte Carlo and then USA in 1974 and stays there until 1976, at which point he recognises that the public in Britain, who purchase most of his records, are forgetting about him. All members of the Rolling Stones, Slade, Elton John, Eric Clapton, several members of Status Quo all become tax exiles in USA. Robert Plant from Led Zepellin becomes a tax exile on Jersey buying a large villa. Formula One drivers James Hunt and Jackie Stewart, military novelist and screenwriter Len Deighton, heavyweight boxer Joe Bugner, who became a British citizen following his escape from Hungary after the Soviet invasion; Englebert Humperdinck, Ryder Cup captain Tony Jacklin, tennis champion Virginia Wade, playwright and screenwriter for the James Bond franchise Wolf Mankowitz, actors Peter Sellers, Richard Burton, Marty Feldman and James Mason all become tax exiles under Labour's office. Cat Stevens, Shirley Bassey, and Sandhurst graduate and 'suave gentleman' actor David Niven (Dr Clouseau, Phileas Fogg) all continue their tax exile status throughout the period, having escaped in the first Wilson or Heath era.

- 15 August 1975: British owned, but registered to the Bahamas, oil tanker Globtik Sun ignites after colliding with an unmanned platform in the Gulf of Mexico. 6 workers are killed in the fire.
- 15 August 1975: Military coup in Bangladesh takes place with Khandakar Ahmed, former Commerce Minister of the old government as President for the military regime. British reaction is essentially supportive of the path towards "complete normalisation" and denationalisation charted over the following months. Martial law regulations as well as targeting members of the old Awami League regime prohibit strikes and cessations of production.
- 15 August 1975: Birmingham Six are convicted, with general press congratulation on the superiority of justice since it is "British".

16 August 1975: Opening day of England & Wales Football League season sees fighting at and near grounds across the country. Around 200 are arrested.

Violence associated with the Wolverhampton Wanderers-Manchester United fixture sees 14 stabbings.

On football violence: "What's so marvellous is that these kids who are doing bum jobs and are said to be idiots, can get themselves organised like this and set up a fantastic military strategy that goes into battle... It's great to see it. We have been brought up on war psychology so long that it has become part of our culture and teenagers expect to be fighting. When there are no wars, there will be things like punch-ups at soccer matches."

- 18 August 1975: Iceland formally invites Britain to discuss fishing issues in the future since Iceland must either have greater access to fish cooperatively or extend its limits unilaterally. Britain rejects the offer of talks, remaining opposed to Iceland's demands.
- 18 August 1975: <u>Evening Standard</u> City Editor notes the current "boomlet in commodities" is "being fuelled almost entirely by speculators". Investment is also taking place in land and fixed assets to let, instead of social production. Here "overproduction" (in respect of returns realisable on the market exchange) is the main problem. Profit returns on industrial activities are not tempting enough.
- 18 August 1975: US sums up new Murtala Nigerian regime: "We are simply too far apart on the political issues which they exalt, mainly Southern Africa and the whole range of UN controversies. The Communist countries have no better political opportunities, unless they foment and become involved in the jihad scheme, which I believe to be as imprudent for them as for us. It is in the economiccommercial area that the USG will have greatest opportunities. Even in this area it is the private sector, motivated by the USG, which is in the best position to advance our interests. And it is in this area that Muhammed has demonstrated some responsiveness. ... there is also no reason to think that he will be any more successful in rapidly developing the country, and rapidity is the great need if he is to avoid Gowon's political problems stemming from stymied development. ...capacity is low (corruption, unrealistic planning, confused priorities, and a demonstrated reluctance to turn to the outside)... British and Canadian communications interests have absorbed Nigerian revenues for years without producing a workable system. Other fields point up similar examples, as USG policy has deferred to a British sphere of influence. What we badly need, to put it bluntly, is focused American investment and economic penetration of Nigeria." (Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs John Reinhardt to Kissinger 18 Aug, 1975)

- 18 August 1975: A bomb is left outside the Algerian Embassy in Kensington, London by remaining exile dissidents of the `72 generation.
- 19 August 1975: Campaigners for the release of George Davis, serving 20 years at HMP Albany for armed robbery, rip up the pitch at Headingley cricket ground declaring leaving banner 'George Davis is innocent'. Final Ashes Test is abandoned. George Davis is released later, but the male participant in the Headingley attack serves 18 months in prison nonetheless.
- 20 August 1975: Fire in a Herne Hill nursing home, south London. A 29-year old Irish nurse runs back into the blazing building to try and rescue the unaccounted for patients. She is killed, the 2 patients are also killed, 5 patients are severely injured. Fire service is not on strike, hence there are no widespread calls for greater fire service spending or that 'something must be done'.
- 20 August 1975: Wilson's 'urgent announcement' on radio and television asking for acceptance from the public of the £6 limit, admitting that real living conditions will fall further for the population. He asks the public "to give a year for Britain" to work abandoning oneself to price rises and low pay rises.
- 20 August 1975: People's units and militants broadly supportive of FRETILIN take back the Portuguese barracks from UDT/APODETI, freeing the civilian authorities.
- 21 August 1975: <u>The Times</u> examines a new Bond Street jewellery showroom that can, it claims, help some of those "depressed by the Prime Minister going on about the fight against inflation". It states "with banks behaving as they are at present there is a good deal to be said for wearing your money round your wrist or depositing it on your wife's bosom" The owner states "business is booming and not just with foreign visitors", a necklace is priced £10,950, a watch £2,265, a lighter £432, a pen £420.
- 21 August 1975: Glasgow District Council vote narrowly to peg council house rent increases to the rate of inflation for the year.
- 22 August 1975: A new Department of the Environment circular to local councils setting out the implications of the government's anti-inflation measures. It warns all councils that unless pay settlements are below the £6 limit their finances will be cut. Many councils in response simply start offering managers perks and non-financial bonuses.
- 22 August 1975: Peter Chappell chief of the "Free George Davis" campaign, and Mrs Gerry Hughes are arrested over the protest at Headingley cricket ground and charged with trespass and criminal damage.

- 22 August 1975: SADF begins Operation Sausage II, a vast raid into southern Angola to destroy SWAPO bases there cleansing the area for UNITA.
- 22 August 1975: Scotland Secretary Hugh Brown explains Glasgow District Council will have to raise rates, after its decision to peg rent rises to inflation: "Rates would go up faster than they would normally. Otherwise they would be in trouble, wouldn't they? There is no other way open to a local authority if it incurs an increasing deficit in its housing account." The government has recently postponed a £3.75mil housing improvement scheme in Possil, Glasgow.
- 22 August 1975: Federal German glass and porcelain firm Rosenthal confirm their receipt of an order to supply the House of Commons with £12,000 of crockery. "Rosenthal products are sold all over the world and they will carry the firm's trade mark and the words 'Rosenthal Germany'" Inevitably the decision has been attacked on national grounds.
- 22 August 1975: Glasgow Chamber of Commerce attack Glasgow District Council's decision not to implement the totality of council house rent increases to defend the public.
- 22 August 1975: Spain passes a new law specifying fines, suspension and imprisonment for journalists and editors responsible for articles "which defend, stimulate, approve or praise illegal organisations or their members". In the space of a week, 5 magazines' issues are seized and 2 are forced to re-write articles.
- 22 August 1975: Department of Prices confirms it has agreed massive price increases for the Post Office. From 29 Sep 1975,  $1^{\rm st}$  class 8.5p,  $2^{\rm nd}$  class 6.5p, from 1 Oct 1975, a 66% increase in telephone charges is passed on.
- 22 August 1975: Belfast workers stage protests against the threat of withdrawal of the P&O service to Ardrossan. Workers refuse to accept passengers on a number of routes. TWGU dockers' branch committee attacks "the inactivity of the management in informing them of future plans for the car passenger ferry vessel Lion, which operates the Ardrossan route."
- 22 August 1975: national Joint action committee of TUC Steel Committee meets in Conn ah's Quay, Deeslde, North Wales. Gordon Massie states: "There will be a national lobby of Parliament In October and [blocking imports] will be one of the major points we intend pressing on the Prime Minister and his Ministers. At present 19% of the steel used In Britain is imported and this is generally reckoned to be the equivalent of 30.000 jobs." A resolution to that effect is passed overwhelmingly. The Committee

- also pledges support for the 300 workers at the Tollcross foundry, Glasgow. William Kennedy, convener of Tollcross shop-stewards, says any attempts to close the' works would lead to a work-in or sit-in.
- 23 August 1975: Construction work begins on a massive Ian Paisley Free Presbyterian church in Magherafelt.
- 25 August 1975: Argentinian peso is devalued once again. It is the fourth devaluation of the year and largely benefits Britain's trade balance in financial terms.
- 25–26 August 1975: Victoria Falls 'Train Summit' Conference is held in a South African Railways coach on the Victoria Falls Bridge between Zambian-Rhodesian border. It features Ian Smith, Rhodesian Prime Minister and representatives of the UANC, with officiators Kaunda and South African Prime Minster John Vorster.
- 25-28 August 1975: Ghana, Nigeria, Gambia and Sierra Leone's broadcasting organizations hold formal talks in Freetown, Sierra Leone, to begin closer cooperation in state broadcasting.
- 25 August-2 September 1975: Prince Philip conducts a tour of Poland as an official guest to comrades from the P.U.W.P.
- 26-27 August 1975: Colonel Lemos Pires, Governor of Portuguese Timor, and his staff, leave Dili, decamping to a small island Atauro. In doing so they take Portugal's only public doctor and ransack the civil service items. José Vaz seizes furniture and chairs belonging to the Viqueque Comissão Municipal. Several UDT officials leave alongside the Portuguese as well. Some UDT officials seize cognacs, wines and brandies from several sources before leaving.
- 27 August 1975: Joe Walker is sacked from Howard Farrows Ltd. The reason is his having telephoned the local factory inspector as a GMWU safety representative, after discovering large amounts of asbestos dust lying around with Marinite and Asbestolux sheets being cut manually with power saws. He refuses to leave and calls the Factory Inspectorate.
- 27 August 1975: David Malbert, City Columnist of London's <u>Evening Standard</u>, in response to a reader question asking 'Please can you tell me why the Financial Times Index always shoots up when high unemployment figures are given?': "It is a good question which must be in the minds of many.... It would be dishonest to pretend that rising share prices are unconnected with rising unemployment

but the relationship is rather more subtle than the above interpretation" yet fails to give any other explanation.

27 August-28 October 1975: At British Leyland's Cars division a series of negotiations takes place between a 32-person senior shop steward committee led by Eddie McGarry, T&GWU chief at Triumph, Coventry. An agreement is signed by 31 of the 32 senior stewards on the committee. It is not offered to the shop-floor for voting. It concerns the implementation of a complex productivity scheme.

28 August 1975: A republican protest against internment in Belfast. 10-year-old Stephen Geddis is shot in the head by a plastic-bullet near the Divis Flats, Falls Road, dying 2 days later. "A very quiet child, he had refused to go outside for three weeks after returning from a sponsored trip to the USA, a break from the conflict at home. Despite eyewitness accounts at the time which stated that Stephen was an innocent bystander, no soldier was ever prosecuted for his murder." (United campaign against plastic bullets 1997) "The boy had just returned from a six-week break in the US but was reluctant to mix with other children... Those who saw the incident maintain that he had not been part of the riot and was standing some way away when he was hit by a plastic bullet fired from about 40 metres - circumstances not contradicted at the inquest." (The

Independent, Aug 24 1995)

30 August 1975: PdVSA, Venezuela's new national oil holding company is formed under the Nationalisation Bill, becoming operational on 1 Jan 1976. Venezuela begins payment of \$1,018mil to 21 separate foreign firms and 17 satellite subsidiaries, within 5 years at 6% annual interest. PdVSA later signs a series of technical service agreements with oil firms to provide the new national formation with services for production, refining, market acquisitions and training. One of the firms with a technical service agreement is Shell, whose subsidiary Shell de Venezuela controlled 26.7% of total oil production in 1973, whilst a joint Shell-Gulf-Exxon subsidiary, Mene Grande, to hide its foreign control (like Exxon's Creole) held 6% of production. (Franklin Tugwell: The Politics of oil in Venezuela, 1975, p10)

Maraven, the successor to Shell, has been purchased by the Venezuelan government paying Shell shareholders. As a result of the technical service agreement Shell figures work on contract for Maraven, the new nationalised ('Ven' in the name) operating company. It is these British and other Western technical expert figures that encourage the adoption of standard management technique and style. In Jul 1976, Maraven's contract engineers and managers produce - in association with other nationalised operating firms Lagoven, Meneven, Llanoven and Corporacion Venezolano del

Petroleo – produce a rationalisation report explaining how to combine production units and replace labour with capital similar to trends elsewhere in the oil industry.

31 August 1975: AP reports on the rise of private medicine: "Harry Baxter had such a hard time finding a hospital to take care of his hernia that he decided to build his own. Industrialists, medical men and the citizens of Enfield, the North London suburb where insurance broker Baxter lives, got together behind him to raise the money because they, too were dissatisfied.... Their \$1.9-million, 30-bed private hospital will be ready by the end of the year. It's one of many now planned or under construction In what looks like a boom in private medicine in Britain [which] reflects the profound change British medicine is undergoing."

It reports the "growing disillusionment with the NHS, by doctors and patients alike, is paving the way for the re-emergence of a thriving private sector long overshadowed by the socialized system. Patients complain of long waiting-lists for treatment in NHS hospitals and indifferent care -when they get there. Doctors complain of poor pay, crippling work schedules and politically determined priorities. The NHS, founded 23 years ago, is in deep crisis because of perennial shortages of money, equipment and trained staff; a revolt of oncedocile hospital employees; complex political pressures; bureaucratic chaos; and the ravages of inflation.... 4,500 beds in state hospitals reserved for private, fee-paying patients are being phased out. ... the nation's top doctors and medical elite, known as consultants, are being forced to choose between working exclusively for the NHS or in full-time private practice.... The move, the hottest issue in the NHS crisis, is the result of pressure by militant hospital trade unionists— porters, cooks, laundrywomen and others on the left fringe of the Labor party—long infuriated with the priority given private patients in a system founded as a great socialist ideal. The specialists see the government's hardline move as a threat to their jealously guarded professional independence and have threatened to guit the service. Other doctors and administrators, frustrated with the NHS's poor pay, political strings and what they claim are rapidly declining standards, also are becoming increasingly militant... Some disenchanted doctors, meantime, have teamed up with big business and prosperous health insurance groups to plan a major expansion of private medicine. The newly formed Independent Hospitals Group (IHG) will coordinate these efforts. One plan being considered is a \$120 million network of 100-bed hospitals financed by big business to fill the gap left by what experts consider Is a crumbling state-run system. The IHG's first priority is replacing the 4,500 NHS beds being abolished. The Nuffield Homes Trust, one of the few private hospital chains, plans to convert three London hotels into temporary hospitals until new

ones are built. It's backed by the British United Provident Association (BUPA), biggest of the major health insurance outfits and spearhead of the drive to build up private medicine. There are about 100 private hospitals in Britain, compared to the NHS's 2,080. Most are run by such groups as charity organizations, religious orders and, ironically, labor unions.... One indication private medicine is growing is the burgeoning enrolment in health insurance schemes, the major force in the field. More than 2.5 million Britons now belong to them. The big three—BUPA, the Private Patients Plan (PPP) and the Western Provident Association (WPA) - have increased membership by nearly 300,000 in the last four years."

31 August-3 September 1975: Thatcher conducts her tour of socialist Romania.

September 1975: <u>Tribune</u> uncovers that the <u>Daily Telegraph's</u> Saigon correspondent, 'John Draw', has been none other than Nguyen Ngoc Phac, member of the General Staff of the Saigon armed forces, whose articles have been converted into suitable English by Telegraph editors in Britain and passed off as British journalism by a correspondent on the scene. No investigation is ever held about the deception.

September 1975: British Army in Northern Ireland steps up its move to computerisation of records on its targets: one battalion noting the delay of paper systems: "P cards and P files. Having 2 methods means duplication of work, usually to the detriment of one or the other. The P files tend to be amorphous masses of paper, with no specified layout for index, folio numbers or running traces. We have spent a disproportionate time bringing both systems up to date". (3 Light Infantry Post Action Report, April-August 1975). The computing system is linked to the operations rooms of the brigade headquarters and to control sections in each battalion. The battalions all have access to computers equipped with transmitters and receivers, creating a secure form of communication. The military computer system also taps into the computer systems used by the Northern Ireland Health Service.

- \* September 1975: Labour NEC votes to have Labour's National Agent, Reg Underbill, prepare a report on entrism in the Party.
- 1 September 1975: UDT chairman Lopes da Cruz says he is effectively in favour of integration with Indonesia. The party's Indonesia wing openly call for merger with Indonesia on 5 Sep 1975. This is largely reported, if at all, as the entirety of the UDT cadre.
- 1 September 1975: South Africa's Turnhalle Conference in Windhoek, Namibia begins with invited tribalists and excluded

- SWAPO. It aims to incorporate these tribalists into the current whites-only Parliament.
- 1 September 1975: Thomas W. Ward agree with British Leyland on the imminent sale of the assets and the business operation of Marshall-Fowler, Gainsborough. Another bankrupt firm will effectively be nationalised.
- 1 September 1975: A Senior Factory inspector arrives at Howard Farrows' site in Ealing.
- 1 September 1975: Dr Alexis Saries of Bougainville, leader of the Republican Government of the North Solomons, announces Bougainville's independence. Father Momis, former deputy chairman of Papua New Guinea's constitutional planning committee, supports the move. The dispute is a battle over taxation revenue that can be withdrawn from Bouganville Copper Limited, joint subsidiary of CRA and Rio Tinto Zinc, without it threatening a lockout.
- 1 September 1975: Egypt signs an interim agreement with Israel calling for a reduction in political warfare against Israel.
- 1 September 1975: Harold Chatten, former general manager of Rosyth Dockyard since 1970, takes up his new post as chief executive for all Royal Navy dockyards succeeding Rear Admiral Frederick Lawson.
- 1 September 1975: Callaghan, at the UN General Assembly on world economic problems, successfully resists any demands from the Third World at which, once again, cannot act as a bloc:
- "opened ... by the foreign minister of Algeria, Abdul Aziz Bouteflika... address was laden with warnings. The international community faced a choice: either the world economy could be restructured (by means which he did not specify), or industrial countries would continue to defend their privileges in what he called an 'obsolete order'. If they chose the latter course, developing would inevitably adopt a confrontational countries Bouteflika's virtuoso firebrand performance had two effects: it concentrated the minds of the representatives of the moderate developing countries and made every subsequent speaker sound reasonable. James Callaghan, as he had done before, spoke of the importance of avoiding confrontation, of growing interdependence and of the need to set rhetoric aside and work for specific agreements" (Sir Donald Maitland, Diverse Times, Sundry Places)
- 2 September 1975: US Treasury Secretary William Simon told the annual meeting of the World Bank and IMF warns against any increase in OPEC oil prices: "Let there be no misunderstanding about the result of another major price increase. It would seriously jeopardise the balance upon which global economic recovery now depends" Since 'market forces' mean financial firms and holding and investment banks stacked around Wall Street and London's City,

making assessments on the basis of the wisdom of an investment he also argues for generalised floating of currencies: "US policy is to have our own exchange rate determined essentially by market forces and not by arbitrary official actionism."

- 2 September 1975: <u>The Times</u> economics correspondent reports the ongoing capital strike: "The gloom industry [is] the fastest growing sector of the British economy."
- 3 September 1975: British Shirt Manufacturers write a letter to <u>Daily Telegraph</u> urging action against Hong Kong textile exports stating "these exports are now threatening the very existence of the British shirt industry... a great many children are what is innocuously-described as family workers' ie they are not directly employed by industry but assist older members of their families" in textile labour.
- 3 September 1975: TUC Conference. Jack Jones: "in recent months there has been a fantastic level of wage claims, which could have meant 30, 40, 50 or 60% in some firms. Arising out of fear for the future, yes, but they did affect prices and they have affected jobs... the union I lead myself personally have never supported the idea that trades unionism is a licence for any group to look after themselves and to hell with the rest... Not a free for all but a fair for all - that is our policy... we cannot afford the luxury of destroying the Labour Government and handing power to Mrs Thatcher and a few of her associates. We cannot afford the luxury of feeding our egos and ignoring the mood of the British people" warning of the "terrible damage to the interests of trade unionists that would be done if the TUC failed to join the Government in the attack on inflation" He attacks the "fantastic level" of some recent wage claims as what must be scaled back or "unemployment will become Britain's incomes policy for a long time to come." He places "Either we trust this Government and trust this General Council or not. I think we should trust the Labour government to do their best against the terrible economic problems they face" He states the £6 a week limit is essential "whilst we are facing the crunch". A composite motion urging support for the pay limit and the General Council is won "overwhelmingly" by a show of hands. Approval of the TUC document setting the boundaries of bargaining for the next year within the limits is won 6,950,000-3,375,000.

## 3 September 1975:

3 September 1975: Chile announces refuge and asylum for the Ecuadorean hard-right militarists led by General Raul Gonzalez, who has attempted an unsuccessful coup against the softer 'democratic' regime of Guillermo Lara. Chile's ongoing militarist presence in Latin

America remains a base for hard-right 'subversion' throughout the region. Ecuadorean right begins to reorganise itself with financial assistance from various sources.

- 3 September 1975: 400 TGWU bus drivers at Ibrox garage vote in a mass meeting to organise a strike for 1 November 1975, date of the Old Firm Rangers v Celtic clash, in protest at the failure of Rangers fans to control their behaviour.
- 4 September 1975: Britain is an observer as Israel and Egypt sign an agreement for the transformation of northern Sinai into a U.N. buffer zone.
- 5 September 1975: <u>Time Out</u> reports Michael Morris "police sergeant in the South African security police... known to a generation of students at Cape Town [University] where, as he admitted, he operated as an infiltrator and an informer upon the student leadership" (The Guardian, 1973) living in Britain as an author, since the early 1970s (almost certainly involved in the BOSS-MID anti-AAM thefts, slanders and infiltration) in Britain has visited and had dealings with ISC since 1973.
- 5 September 1975: Commanders of the US nuclear task force, including the largest warship in the world USS Nimitz, currently anchored in the Firth of Forth, are given a special ceremony with the Lord Provost of Edinburgh.
- 5 September 1975: A bomb explodes in Park Lane's London Hilton's lobby killing 2 and injuring 60.
- 7 September 1975: British Rail increases its fares by more than 15%.
- 7 September 1975: <u>Sunday Mail</u> leads a backlash campaign against gay visitors discussing homosexuality in prisons and schools. Its front page leads with a huge headline 'Boys get shock visitors GAY TALKS IN BORSTAL' "Two self confessed homosexuals were allowed to give a lecture..."
- 8 September 1975: Total UK unemployed figures 1,249,000.
- 8 September 1975: Strathclyde firemen end a 4-month long work to rule achieving minor concessions.
- 8 September 1975: Hugh Sharpe, City Office editor, in the London Evening Standard: " After a quiet start the stock market- began to talk over Mr Wedgwood Benn's weekend manifesto and rapidly came to the conclusion that it must be bad for shares. So out came the red pencils and soon £1,000 million had been knocked off quoted values."
- 10 September 1975: 2 diving repair workers are killed in an oil rig chamber working on a rig 200 miles north of the coast.

10 September 1975: Wilson and Northern Ireland Minister Rees holds a private briefing with Thatcher and Neave, They state they will continue the Convention, that specifically excludes Sinn Fein, for as long as possible: "It was wrong to regard the present situation as a breakdown and government policy was to allow the Convention to exhaust their timetable. If the Convention decided that they should remain in session for a further three sixths, they would certainly have the Government's blessing." They explicitly state Britain will not withdraw from the 6 counties: "Secretary of State [Rees] said that the Irish press were bound to continue to talk about a British pull-out from Northern Ireland, but this was nonsense. The Prime Minister said that we could never give in to I.R.A. wishes in this way"

They explain the rationale for ending internment: "the problem that arrests for membership only exacerbated the difficulties we were facing over the shortage of space in the prisons in Northern Ireland. ... The Prime Minister added that at the time of the burning of the Maze Prison, there had also been a problem of a shortage of warders. The Secretary of State said that recruitment to the prison service had recently shot up by leaps and bounds, but that the accommodation problem still remained. He mentioned that Mr. Whitelaw had started the system of special category prisoners and he would have done the same. But he wanted soon to announce the ex>d of special category status for new prisoners and would keep in touch on this with Mr. Airey Neave. The difficulty was that no parole system existed in Northern Ireland and it was essential to find some way of reducing the prison population.... The Secretary of State also explained his policy on detention, and told Mrs. Thatcher that although Sinn Fein had made contacts with the Government, nothing had been done which had not been reported to the House of Commons. He could assure Mrs. Thatcher that no "deal" had been done on anything at all."

"The problem of lack of control by the IRA was increasing daily. In South Armagh, subversive elements were acting independently... The IRA Officials who were mainly Irish Marxists, had had a ceasefire for some 3 years. The IRSP, however, a Trotskyist breakaway organisation, attracted to them certain ex-Provisionals who were chafing at the ceasefire.... assassinations of Official IRA members had taken place without the Provisionals being involved et all.... the sudden arrest of Daniel O'Connell by the Irish Government had removed the one person who was able to exert tight control at the top, and who was determined, for whatever reason, to maintain the ceasefire."

"Unfortunately there were certain elements in the police who were very close to the UVF, and who were prepared to hand over information for example, to Mr. Paisley. The Army's judgement was that the UDR were heavily infiltrated by extremist Protestants... The Prime Minister added that the RUC were now much more successful than before at getting people before the Courts.

Wilson praises the efforts of Willie Whitelaw: "The Prime Minister said that the police in Northern Ireland were of a much better calibre now than they had been previously, and that Mr. Whitelaw had been responsible for starting this improvement. The current Police Chief was due to retire next year and Scotland Yard had a good potential successor"

"Mrs. Thatcher asked whether the recent bombing at the Hilton Hotel was the work of a splinter group. It did not sound like the classic work of the IRA. The Secretary of State said that this was a matter for the Home Secretary, to whom he had spoken. Sinn Fein had fervently denied responsibility but it was clearly the work of either a breakaway group or the IRA. The answer was probably that both Caterham and the Hilton looked like the work of a breakaway organisation although me only thing that distinguished the Hilton bombing from old style IRA activity was that no code word had been given."

"Mrs. Thatcher agreed that the Press should be told that this had been a routine meeting to review the situation in Northern Ireland. The Prime Minister confirmed his agreement that" (Ken Jordan, Memo Northern Ireland Office, 11 Sep 1975)

- 12 September 1975: North Sea oil pipeline is sabotaged with explosive near the village Crook of Devon, Tayside. One of a series of attacks halting production.
- 12 September 1975: <u>Tribune</u> reports of Chile "There is no doubt that the military Government rules by fear and fear alone. Economically, its plan... has failed miserably and with severe consequences, despite on-the-spot assistance given by the "Chicago school" of economists under the watchful eye of Professor Milton Friedman.... Their refusal to allow Investigators from the United Nations Commission on Human Rights into the country to conduct an inquiry has angered many Third World representatives In New York and already there is talk of an expulsion resolution being pressed later-this year... The latest Military Balance report from the International Institute for Strategic Studies also lists an arms deal with Brazil involving 10 T25 training aircraft and points to significant increases in Chile's military personnel. The army alone has increased from 32,000 last year to 40,000 while the navy is up from 18,000 to 21,300 and the airforce from 10,000 to 12,000. In total

this represents a 13,800 increase in strength which is, of course, complemented by an increase in arms... training programmes with America are also quietly taking place while, according to one member of the Chilean airforce recently in Britain, 50 Chilean airforce officers are presently being trained in Spain.

- 12 September 1975: British Embassy in Jakarta notes [Suharto] "does not want to take any action which might prejudice his hopes of arms supplies from the Americans and Australians". Suharto has called off 2 invasions in Aug 1975 unsure of their outcome. (Telegram 342 from Jakarta to FCO, 12 September 1975, FCO15/1716)
- 13 September 1975: A Black Watch patrol shoots dead 17-year-old Lee Norney, close by Turf Lodge estate. The patrol fires from the open ground on one side of Shepherds Path, ahead of Leo and to his left. Four teenagers who stumble on the scene moments after the shooting, are forced to lie down and keep their heads down by soldiers. They peek from the sides of their eyes to see soldiers kicking a motionless body on Shepherds Path. They also see soldiers moving a body towards a military ambulance.
- 14 September 1975: At 4am British soldiers in armoured cars arrive in force at the Norney family home on a search raid. His parents believe Lee Norney is staying with relatives. The raiding party stay in the Norney house for some time, but do not inform the parents their son is dead. In the morning, the mother goes out to look for her son. She calls several relatives' homes but none have seen him. At 2.30pm a priest informs the parents of the news, they later find the body in the right hospital, after going to the wrong hospital on the word of the RUC. They notice bruising on the hands and face. The British army Press Office later issue a statement that one of the "patrols was fired on by two gunmen, and they returned fire. One man was killed and another ran away carrying the guns with him." Challenged by relatives and others for the proof of their accusations, the British army say "We have positive evidence to substantiate our original claim about the shooting."
- 14 September 1975: Indonesian armed forces and their trained APOEDTI/pro-Indonesia UNT to dislodge he FRETILIN government as it begins to civilianise its operations, attacking towns in the Timor's western districts of Ermera, Bobonaro and Covalima. FRETILIN is forced to adopt military resistance.
- 15 September 1975: SADF instructors step up training FNLA militants at Mpupa in the use of their newly-provided mortar rockets

and machine guns, within a few weeks new training bases are established at Serpa Pinto for FNLA and Capolo for UNITA.

15-16 September 1975: Prince Charles attends the Papua New Guinea midnight independence ceremony at Port Morseby, where "he addressed the rebellious people of the off-shore island of Bougainville. They had declared their own independence in an attempt to throw off the stranglehold of Rio Tinto Zinc who were destroying the island with open-cast copper mines. Quoting an epistle of St Paul he warned: "Everyone must obey the State authorities, for no authority exists without God's permission, and the existing authorities have been put there by God. Whoever opposes the existing authority, opposes what God has ordered and anyone who does so will bring judgement on himself" (CIS Highness Anti-Report 1977).

An Australia-Papua New Guinea Independence Air Race is held on the days before the ceremony, pilots of the two air forces symbolically racing between Australia and Papua. British Commonwealth and a British ally in the UN is created Papua New Guinea enters, with Queen Elizabeth as head of state.

Over 35,000 foreigners, business leaders, tradesmen or engineers, dominate the economy. Australia in Aug 1975 has backtracked in talks with Prime Minister Michael Somare and finance minister, Julius Chan, on its promises of long-term aid, one of the conditions of the negotiated independence, resulting in British multinational Rio Tinto Zinc retaining future economic control over mining. Mining is seen as the main solution for development problems since 90% of the the Papuan population works in subsistence farming and hunting. The denial of aid as colonial reparation has resulted in a strong secessionist movement in Bougainville and several secession groups on the main island of New Guinea.

m-September 1975: <u>The Observer</u> receives from a Home Office source an affidavit by an apparent member of the WRP claiming that WRP are hiding weapons at an education college. The Observer holds onto the story for two weeks the story, until September 28, the day before the annual Labour Party conference - a golden time to re-examine the ongoing fight against extremism in the labour movement to influence readers towards "moderation".

Observer newspapers are increasingly supplied by sources from Labour and the Civil Service, particularly Foreign Office and Home Office, sources. The reporting hence follows the 'line' of those organisations. Observer's senior journalists Nora Beloff, Gavin Young and Andrew Wilson have many civil servant friends passing on the leaks they wish to. Astor is said to act as unofficial public relations officer for the "Social Democratic Alliance" wing of the Labour Party. "Observer Foreign News Service", a news agency

offshoot run by the paper, has the closest connection with the Foreign Office, particularly in the Middle East and Africa.

17 September 1975: Financial Times reports on ongoing poverty amongst women: "Many wives are not benefiting from their husbands' pay rises ... Over half the husbands still earning less than £20 a week have been unable to increase the housekeeping money over the last 12 months. The findings are from a two-part survey commissioned by the National Consumer Council to discover whether hidden pockets of family poverty are being caused by husbands' failure to pass on a share of higher wages. The survey covered 4,000 questionnaires returned by readers of Woman's Own and 1,830 interviews carried out by National Opinion Polls. Both samples show that a significant minority of husbands have failed to give their wives a housekeeping rise. According to the Woman's Own sample, one in five is managing on the same budget as last year even though 58 per cent of husbands have been given a rise since then. Nationally this would mean that more than 2 million wives have 20p less in the pound in real terms. The NOP sample suggests that wives are having an even tougher time - with one in four husbands failing to increase the housekeeping allowance. Both samples indicate that the poorer the family the less likely is the wife to have had a rise."

18 September 1975: Ford, Thatcher and Peter Ramsbotham, Ambassador to USA hold a meeting.

Thatcher: That is a wholesome thing

The President: It is. It lets us avoid doing things which wo to inflation in order to deal with employment. There hasn't pressure -- the marches, etc. about unemployment. We

Next year we think unemployment will gradually decline. We will still have the problem of heavy unemployment, but the ones with jobs will feel more job security. That should translate into votes. Thatcher: I think also other countries France and Germany -- are aware of the problems of inflation. It is good for the world economy that we aren't rushing for solutions. I am very strong on this. Ford: Yes. I have been accused of Hooverism and Coolidgeism, but the American people are beginning to learn that these quick fixes aren't really the answer.

A bigger problem is the aid amounts for Israel, and somewhat for Egypt. We have a problem that you don't have in that we have to induce Congress to go along.

Thatcher: That must be very difficult. An additional uncertainty. And Turkish aid?

Ford: That is so frustrating. That is the worst decision I have seen in my 26 years in Washington. The Speaker feels the same. It hasn't helped Greece or Cyprus; it hurt NATO and our bilateral relations and our intelligence. We think now we have the votes, but it is tough... I think you could help on Cyprus by trying to insist, if the embargo is lifted, that progress has to be made. We can't allow the situation to just sit.

Thatcher: I think the Nine could help there"

- 18 September 1975: <u>Yediot Aharonot</u> reports: "Forty per cent of those employed in agriculture in Israel are non-Jews. The Ministry of Agriculture, which is taking a very grim view of this situation, will make efforts to transfer Jewish manpower from other sectors to the agricultural sector during the seasons in which they are most needed. The Ministry will also try to expand mechanisation of agriculture."
- 19 September 1975: Bernard Donoughue describes Britain as "a society of failures, full of apathy, and aroused only by the success of others" although the government is excepted from such criticism.
- 19 September 1975: At the Congress of the Coordinating Council of South African Trade Unions, South African Minister of Labour announces plans to institute black works councils subject to state supervision.
- 20 September 1975: 13.000 strong blastfurnace-workers' union calls off strike action due to begin the following week.
- 21 September 1975: PBS broadcasts the Firing Line, its premier current affairs interview programme, hosted by notorious Vietnam war advocate William F Buckley interviewing Thatcher. He opens the programme declaring "So much has been happening in Britain that suggests the desperation of its affairs". Thatcher is introduced as "her militancy is in defence of traditional British life, values and liberties [biography and background] in due course she emerged as an expert as formidable as any in defence of the free marketplace and genuine opportunity"
- 21 September 1975 Yang di-Pertuan Agong announces Essential (Security Cases) Regulations 1975 "shall have application throughout Malaysia." Independent Malaysia's government positively reminisces colonial era policing: "We are clearly suffering the casualties of 1956 and 1957 without inflicting the casualties of 1956 and 1957."

- 21 September 1975: Malaysia shoots dead 3 guerrillas, in a rubber plantation at Pendek Lahu.
- 21 September 1975: Former Prime Minister Heath visits Comrade Mao Zedong on a visit to Beijing as part of a private Asia tour. He later states "I found him very well informed on world affairs, fully informed. He has a firm grasp of world affairs. He has firm views and expressed them very vigorously." He states they have discussed the threat PRC faces from the Soviet Union, but does not elaborate further. His meeting with Zhou-en-Lai is delayed by several days but does occur.
- 21 September 1975: A fertiliser bomb explodes on a very late Sunday evening in the Clyde Tunnel, Glasgow.
- 22 September 1975: Thatcher makes a speech in Chicago praising tax exile part-resident in Switzerland, and friend of Guatemalan militarist-industrialists, Friedrich von Hayek. She announces a clear vision of backlash: "The percentage of our Gross National Product being absorbed by the public sector is between 50%; and 60%;... It is not surprising therefore that I find people saying 'Get Government out of our hair'. They complain that Government takes too much of their incomes for what is now called the 'Social Wage'. This is the estimated annual value of the services provided out of public funds for each individual. They would rather have a little less public service and more freedom of choice on how they spend the money they earn. Perhaps universal subsidies are the best example of something many would prefer to do without. Selective subsidies [means testing for supplementary benefits and social programmes] would be less costly and better. I have a lot of sympathy with them, because the public sector is not known for its efficiency in producing goods and services. Absence of growth, rising unemployment and a rapid inflation are the outward signs of our malaise. Inwardly we have the doubt and uncertainty they cause. Inflation is a pernicious evil capable of destroying any society built on a value system where freedom is paramount. No democracy has survived a rate of inflation consistently higher than 20 per cent. ... savings and investment are undermined, the basis of contracts is distorted and the professional and middle class citizen, the backbone of all societies, is disaffected."
- 22 September 1975: Ministry of Defence notes the importance of the Sep 1975 NATO Nuclear Planning Group meeting at Monterey California, where US Defence Secretary James Schlesinger has warned Mason that the US will "reconsider its bilateral arrangements" in communications intelligence and assistance in

nuclear weapons including Britain's Polaris missiles. (McDonnell (DS1MoD) 'Dr Schlesinger's Visit' 22 Sep 1975, T 225/4177)

- 22 September 1975: Northern Ireland Minister Rees denies a document containing talking points for a peace deal between government and PIRA is genuine. The document has been discovered as a result of the David O'Connell arrest in Dublin. 22 September 1975: The Times reports more trans-ideological Anglo-Soviet enterprise: "This is a good time for Anglo-Soviet trade... The Export Credits Guarantee Department (ECGD) was known to give the Soviet Union a top A rating.... It is generally agreed that Britain is now well placed to take advantage of Soviet appetite for capitalist goods... A tendency exists perhaps among non specialists to underestimate the advances of Soviet science... Once a contract has been signed, there are few businessmen who could say that the Russians have not honoured their obligations... Few international corporations can match Gosplan, the state agency which calculates supply and demand... Russia has the facility to produce industrial plant... The Soviet market is so vast that it is almost impossible to cover completely... The Soviet central buying agencies will expect the very highest performance standards, and will ask for very comprehensive guarantees."
- 23 September 1975: NUS rescinds its half-hearted but official blacking of Chilean ships.
- 24 September 1975: US Defence Secretary Schlesinger holds talks in Whitehall where there is broad agreement of the "crucial importance" of base expansion on Diego Garcia.

  24 September 1975: Princess Margaret visits RAF Bruggen.
- 25 September 1975: <u>Flight International</u>: "2 Hawker Siddeley Doves operated by the Royal Jordanian Air Force are shortly to be transferred to the Air Academy for civilian training. The eight Scottish Aviation Bulldogs at the academy, which are used for both civil and military *ab initio* training, are currently averaging some 80hr per month."
- 25 September 1975: David Basnett explains in his articles in <u>The Times</u>: "We are not seeking a revolution, which would destroy the livelihoods of hundreds of thousands of our members.'
- 27 September 1975: <u>New York Times</u> reports on organised hidden funding for the Portuguese PS: "A State Department official said today that the CIA had been sending \$2 million to \$10 million a month to the Portuguese Socialists"

27 September 1975: Police raid WRP's Marxist College of Education in Derbyshire in the evening. Entering from all doors and windows, they secure the site and round up adults downstairs. Adults that have been gathered together by the police on the ground floor are thoroughly in some cases strip-searched. Every room in the building is thoroughly turned upside down by policemen. The police claim 9 . 22 bullets, 6 spent and 3 live, apparently found in a cupboard, either planted or there but unnoticed, represent . Police do not consider that large country houses in the countryside have farm weapons.

28 September 1975: An article appears in <u>The Observer</u> detailing a police raid on a WRP college where heavy weaponry has apparently been found. In fact, this article is put to press in the early afternoon of Saturday 28 September, before any raid has taken place. It is part of a calculated smear. This kind of black propaganda and dirty tricks from the media, police and civil service eventually makes it more difficult to actually accept the correct reports about the WRP, who blame dirty tricks and lie over allegations that Gerry Healey is an authoritarian rapist leading a quasi-cult formation.

28 September-3 October 1975: 3 men attempt to steal the week's takings at upmarket Spaghetti House restaurant, 77 Knightsbridge, Chelsea. Armed police surround the restaurant. West Indian community figures are used to help end the stand-off, hostages are released without harm and police arrest the raiders. \*

29 September-2 October 1975: Labour Conference 1975.

29 September 1975: Michael Foot says Britain is experiencing "an economic typhoon of unparalleled ferocity, the worst since the 1930s" He delivers a defence of government policies on incomes and unemployment. The speech sees Jack Jones and David Basnett immediately jump to their feet to give a standing ovation from the platform.

Joe Gormley: "I think we hive a duty to give this Government a chance," he said. "We can all speak rhetoric and sny we want to have a Socialist society, but it is a question of priorities. The priority this year is to give the Government a chance to get out of the morass that was left to them." Tom Jackson opposes a demand from an AUEW motion for government spending to reflate the economy. He declares Britain would become totally and absolutely uncompetitive in world markets, the pound would slump, import prices would rising, and bigger and bigger demands for wage increases to meet increased prices would result. This would all mean a worse situation than existed in the 1930s.

Jack Jones states: "There should be developed a boycott of Spanish goods and tourism. The Franco regime has been tolerated and

buttressed by people who have spent their holidays in Spain." He does not call for any specific action. He reiterates his support for the social contract.

29 September 1975: 100 protesters including Pat Arrowsmith protest outside the Old Bailey in support of the Peace News 14. Judge Neil McKinnon states he has been shown several pamphlets about matters which are 'sub judice'. If the accused are seen to have handed out any leaflets they will be jailed and bail rescinded. 29 September 1975: Foreign Secretary Callaghan makes an important speech at the Labour Party Conference fringe calling for stronger EEC-USA ties: "The Community must continue to strengthen its relationship with the United States. And Britain too must keep her bilateral relationships with the United States in good repair. The United States is an essential part of Europe's defence effort. ... the strength and influence of the USA is so important that the well being of the world can only be achieved by close active partnership in decision-taking with North America and Japan." (later published as Fabian Tract 439, Challenges and opportunities for British foreign policy)

30 September 1975: At Labour Conference, Wilson states the root problem of 'national industry' lies in "our inflation at more than twice that of our competitors".

He attacks ideologists: "I do not want to lead a party of zombies". He attacks infiltrators, starting with the left: "This party needs to protect itself against the activities of small groups of inflexible political persuasion, extreme so-called Left and in a few cases so-called moderates, having in common only their arrogant dogmatism. These groups, equally the multi-chromatic coalitionist fringe or groups specifically formed to fight other marauding groups, are not what this party is about." Attempting to prove he still values the Labour Left, he states his first act as as Labour leader [in 1963] was to restore the Whip to Michael Foot, bringing him back into the PLP.

Chancellor Healey attempts to use reverse psychology. He recalls it was 30 years ago that he first spoke at Labour Conference from the floor, and he has spent only 5 Conferences on the platform. He says he would not mind spending the next year or more on the floor because he could then criticise the national executive with abandon. "In a situation like I face today, I am always reminded of one of Frederick the Great's generals who was ordered into a military action which was bound to lead to retreat. "He sent the following message back: 'Please tell His Majesty that after the battle my head is at his disposal. But during the battle I propose to use it in his service'. It is your battle, and it is our battle, and I am not going to let up until together we have won a victory which is final and

conclusive. If, when that time comes you give me my medals back, so much the better. It is your battle, and it is our battle, and I am not going to let up until together we have won a victory which is final and conclusive. If, when that time comes you give me my medals back, so much the better."

30 September 1975: At a Conference fringe meeting, Home Secretary Jenkins states: "There are battles to be fought for the heart and direction of the Labour Party. There is a concerted attempt to infiltrate and take over the party and we must fight back"

30 September 1975: Labour Conference agrees to bring forward the increased affiliation fees due to be introduced on 1 Jan 1 1977, to 1 Jan 1976. This will mean £120,000 more income a year. Joe Gormley, who has already given £10,000 in 1975 promises a further £15000. Other trade union leaders pledge financial support as well.

30 September 1975: Duke of Edinburgh returns from his visit to King Hassan III in Morocco.

October 1975: Appeal over the conviction of Cliff McDaniel (Cliff McDaniel v Commissioner of Metropolitan Police) is successful after a long campaign by black activists organised in Stroud Green and Hornsey and linked to the George Padmore Saturday School. Police have assaulted Cliff McDaniel in Hornsey near his school and then charged him with assaulting police and insulting behaviour in R v McDaniel. He has been convicted on testimony of police officers who have blocked the entry of 2 witnesses to the trial. The Black Parents' Movement and Black Youth Movement is born in the course of the campaign.

October 1975: Consumer gas prices are increased by over 20%. October 1975: Dr. A. Q. Khan is tasked to translate from German into Dutch sensitive documents concerning a German technical breakthrough in the ultracentrifuge uranium enrichment process. For this purpose, Khan spends 16 days at Urenco's facility in Almelo. When there he makes copies in Urdu and asks one of his FDO colleagues to help him photograph plans of ultracentrifuges at Urenco. The suspicious colleague declines and reports the incident. In response, the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs asks FDO to shift Khan away from Urenco. Khan is transferred away from enrichment work at FDO. According to Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers, CIA and American embassy officials ask the Dutch government not to arrest him because he is being tracked as part of a presumable eventual sting by the Americans. Over the next few months, Dr. A.Q.Khan uses S.A.Butt at the Pakistani embassy in Netherlands as a conduit for supplying centrifuge-related technical literature, blueprints, plans for plant design, and lists of equipment and material firms to the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC).

October 1975: Argentina discovers Britain is planning to send a surveying mission to analyse oil and prospects in the South West Atlantic. It protests to Britain, which at first denies any intention until the evidence is overwhelming. Argentine ambassador Manuel de Anchorena, is withdrawn from Britain in protest. \*\*

- 1 October 1975: Muhammad Ali-Joe Frazier fight with a winner's guarantee is \$4.5mil or the option of 43% of all income when it is greater than the guarantee.
- 1 October 1975: As Ian Mikardo makes criticisms of the Labour leadership and TUC leadership into a <u>Tribune</u> Conference meeting, Jack Jones storming the platform uninvited marches shouting: "I detest this whole attack on the trades unions." He is calmed by Michael Foot, whilst Tony Benn and Eric Heffer look on.
- 1 October 1975: At the <u>Tribune</u> meeting Michael Foot attacks the Labour Left: "Please don't say to us you have got to have carried through all our policies about public ownership before you deal with the trade unions on how you deal with inflation" he shouts loudly at Ian Mikardo: "That's daft, you can't do things like that." He attacks the Labour Left in general: "If you are impatient you will prevent us holding on to the precarious power that we have. I want to see a Labour Government over the next 10 years so that we can take power from them and transfer it to the people, but you won't do that it you throw away a Labour Government."

Chancellor Healey later comments defending Jack Jones: "The torrent of sour and malignant abuse which has just been directed, against the trade union movement at a meeting organised by the Tribune group would have been natural enough from Mrs Thatcher. It is astonishing coming from people who have always called for loyalty to conference decisions."

- 1 October 1975: At Conference Labour MP Ernest Perry urges that private firms should be introduced into the catering side of British Rail, after recent price increases have left its prices comparing unfavourably with retail chains.
- 1 October 1975: A motion from Labour Bristol S.E. CLP calling for the nationalisation of 250 major British companies as part of the Industry Bill is lost on a card vote 5,721,000-407,000.
- 1 October 1975: Rival trade union deputations from Ayrshire and Lanarkshire meet Gregor Mackenzie, Minister of State for Industry, urging the siting of the BSC's new high-tech 400,000 tonne electrical furnace plant to be in their respective areas.
- 1 October 1975: Chief executive of the London Stock Exchange, Robert Fell holds a reception for more than 100 property agents to help them to size up the space available in the Stock Exchange's

- Throgmorton Street skyscraper so that it can be let out to other firms at a cost of at least £13.50 per sq. foot.
- 1 October 1975: Sterling drops to a new low. Dealers explain that overseas operators are upset over the Labour Party Conference particularly the replacement of Chancellor Healey by Labour Left Eric Heffer on the NEC.
- 1 October 1975: Franco explains in a televised speech the problems of social order are caused by "a leftist masonic conspiracy among the political class in collusion with communist terrorist subversion."
- 2 October 1975: Commerce Minister Stan Orme hopes for a new ethos at Harland & Wolff's to secure improvement in productivity before the end of the year with the appointment of a joint management-union productivity action group. He states future government support will be conditional on the yard's new productivity measures.
- 3 October 1975: David Astor, editor of <u>The Observer</u>, congratulates Margaret Thatcher in a letter on the success of her North America tour.
- 4 October 1975: <u>The Times</u> editorial worries over future of pay limit 'Will the policy survive more than a year of high unemployment and income restraint?'. Daily Telegraph: 'If this time next year the economic situation and the unemployment figures are still bad, then Mr Wilson could be in deep trouble with the unions and his party'.
- 5 October 1975: Neofascists arsonise an office of the Milan Palace of Justice that contains material for around 100 court cases including several Mafia cases.
- 5 October 1975: Receiver, Robert Smith, liquidator of Upper Clyde Shipbuilders publishes its report on Drypool advising liquidation and hiving off of capital since it is no future "as a group." It lists as a potential buyer of the Drypool Selby yard, Sir Ian Stewart— former 'rationalising 'head of Fair-fields Shipbuilders. None purchasers are identified for other yards.
- 5 October 1975: Sergio Gomes, journalist at <u>O Estado</u> and <u>Agencais Folhas</u>, member of the growing opposition party MDB (Movimento Democratico Brasileiro), is arrested by the IV Army in Rio de Janeiro then transferred to military detention facilities in Sao Paolo. He is tortured by being held in total isolation, has a rib broken, is beaten with sticks on his back, naked buttocks and palms of his feet, has an ammonia-soaked bandage tied across his face, his mouth is filled with salt and electrodes are put on his ears before electric shock treatment is applied, and is forced to consume

- creosote fluid, in order to extract confessions that he is member of the PcdB.
- 5 October 1975: <u>The Observer</u> publishes the first part of its soft interview of Thatcher by Kenneth Harris (it is completed on 12 Oct 1975)
- 5 October 1975: SADF's mobile attack unit 'Foxbat' roaming across southern and central Angola clashes with MPLA guerrillas, winning and securing Nova Lisboa, (present day Huambo) deep in central Angola for UNITA.
- 6 October 1975: Reflecting the concern about insufficient exports, it is announced that the general Queen's Award to Industry will be replaced by two separate awards: the Queen's Award for Export Achievement and the Queen's Award for Technological Achievement.
- 5 October 1975: After several months worth of planning from a base in Madrid, with the joint efforts of MSI hard-rightist Stefano Delle Chiaie, DINA agents including Michael Townley and Cuban rightist exile Virgilio Paz Romero, and Spanish intelligence agents and secret police, former Chilean Vice President Bernardo Leighton (centrist DC) and wife Anita Leighton are both sniped at in the head outside their flat in Rome.
- 6 October 1975: EEC Foreign ministers agree to give Portugal emergency financial aid worth £75mil.
- 7 October 1975: Standard Telephone Co. announces closure of its Larne plant with a loss of 750 jobs. It will be gradually run down and some production transferred.
- 7 October 1975: It is announced a joint management-trade union task force has been appointed at Harland & Wolff's to monitor the firm's productivity following a further meeting with Stan Orme,
- 7 October 1975: EEC Foreign Ministers and Maj. Melo Antunes Portuguese Foreign Minister hold talks about eventual Portuguese entry to EEC.
- 7 October 1975: Beginning a new stage of Operation Flamboyan, Indonesian armed forces initiative new covert thrust into Timor with 2,000 Indonesian troops alongside naval and artillery bombardment, seizing Batugade on the first day.
- 8 October 1975: Speech to the Northern Ireland branch of the CBI, Sir Ralph Bateman, CBI Chairman, denies that British industry is engaged in economic withdrawal from Northern Ireland. He states

the economic problems of the region are the same as that of any 'development' region in the U.K.

- 9 October 1975: Jock Bruce-Gardyne worries in <u>The Times</u> that union leaders are no longer inhibited by the fear that wage demands might jeopardise the continued employment of members. He effectively suggests unemployment should be greater to achieve this effect, so that wage demands are limited.
- 9 October 1975: Cabinet backs Home Secretary Jenkins's bagcarrying for the police who object to TUC proposals for identified official pickets to be allowed to obstruct a highway for a reasonable period to communicate with drivers of vehicles. (CAB 128/57 Cabinet Conclusions, y October 1975)
- 10 October 1975: Jack O'Brian writes on "Frederick Forsyth of fiction-goosebump fame dashed off a 10,000-word ghost story "The Shepherd" and it's being adapted into a \$625,000 play for Sir Lew Grade's ITV British firm"
- 10 October 1975: NATO SACLANT publicly reaffirms that plans are in place for operating South Africa's Simonstown base in the event of emergency need to secure oil supplies for NATO members. (Johannesburg Star, 11 Oct 1975)

Britain's ending of the Simonstown relationship with South Africa has been explained by Frank Judd "the Royal Navy must not become the scapegoat for [an ill-considered] policy... If British and Western military involvement with South Africa were to continue, black Africa, for fear of pre-emptive strikes by South Africa, is likely to look to one or other communist camp for greater support. We shall have helped to provoke the expansion of communist influence in Africa and the Indian Ocean." (Speech in Portsmouth, Oct 1974)

- 10 October 1975: A bomb in a bag explodes at a central London bus stop, killing 1 and injuring 20 other civilians.
- 11 October 1975: National Co-Ordinating Committee against Cuts in the NHS is launched at a delegate conference organised by MCAPP (Medical Committee Against private Practice). It is a fairly standard Broad-Left effort featuring Labour Left MPs on its coordinating committee.
- 11 October 1975: Police reveal that a retired doctor in Beaconsfield has killed his wife then drugged himself to death, after telling friends of his despair a the state of the British economy.
- 11 October 1975: Queen Mother opens Queen's Barracks, the new TAVR centre in Perth, Scotland.

- 12 October 1975: Romania becomes a member of the World Bank's International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes in order to prove its trustworthiness to international, including British investors.
- 13-19 October 1975: A series of visits from Britain to PRC. The guest list in Beijing over the week includes former Defence minister Lord Carrington, former Buckingham Palace Queen's private secretary Lord Aldeane, NAFF founder Viscount De L'Isle, Viscount Dudley and Lord Chalfont, amongst others.
- 13 October 1975: Charitable status is granted by the Charities Commission to the Dicey Trust to "encourage the rule of law" through lectures, events and presentations at schools and colleges. It is a hard-right grouping that has organised private prosecutions of those who were involved as spokespeople for the 'Stop the 70' demonstrations against apartheid sport.
- 13 October 1975: In a written answer Defence Secretary Rodgers states "At the end of July [1975], about 2,000 Foreign and Commonwealth students were attending training courses run by the Services. In 1974–75, the last complete financial year, receipts [income] for such training amounted to just over £7 million."
- 13 October 1975: Northern Ireland Office spokesmen deny any harassment by British troops is occurring in culturally Irish parts of Belfast the former 'no-go areas'. Motor cycle plant Norton Villiers at Wolverhampton employing 1,600, is officially closed to production.
- 13 October 1975: Queen Mother visits H.M.S. Ark Royal training in the Moray Firth.
- 14 October 1975: Spokesman for the Northern Ireland Electricity Service criticises plans for bringing in cheap gas supplies to the province by a pipeline from Scotland saying the plan will interfere with plans for the early introduction of nuclear power in the province.
- 14 October 1975: Queen Mother visits HMS Ark Royal. "The ship's Land Rover had been polished so that it gleamed. The Land Rover had been parked so that it was offset from where the lift came down into the hangar deck. ... various displays had been put up representing every department of the ship. For example, the bakery had fancy loaves baked and the seamen had got wire-splicing. ... Of course you're not allowed to touch a royal person but I had to keep advising Her Majesty about the ring bolts. After a couple of mentions about ring bolts she turned to me and said, "Oh, you are looking after me", to which I replied, "Well, we have to, otherwise

what would your daughter say" (Britain's Greatest Warship Ark Royal IV, p183)

14 October 1975: Operation Savannah, South Africa's full-scale armed invasion into Angola begins. John Stockwell, former CIA officer, explains "there was close liaison between the CIA and the South Africans" for the assault. Although US publicly denies any instigation "'high officials' in Pretoria claimed that their intervention in Angola had been based on an 'understanding' with the United States" (John Marcum, Lessons of Angola, Foreign Affairs, Apr 1976) The invasion occurs with the silent approval of Zambian President Kaunda and Foreign Minister Rupiah Banda.

15 October 1975: Annual report of Northern Ireland Housing Executive revealed that the "loss" on housing has risen from £4m in 1973/74 to £14m in 1974/75. The Chairman calls for more expenditure on restoring unfit houses, but says this can occur only after new legislation. In 1974/75 the number of houses built by the Executive at 5252 is over 1000 short of its own modest target.

15 October 1975 7pm: Police enter Kenyan Parliament, seize and then detain John-Marie Seroney, Deputy speaker, and Martin Shikuku MP, in violation of MPs' immunity from prosecution for speeches in the Assembly. They are detained for openly suggesting KANU is dead as an organisation on 6 Oct 1975. The 2 MPs remain imprisoned in solitary confinement until Dec 1978, without adequate food, medical attention or visits. Seroney's health fails him and he is unable to return to politics, dying in 1982. British press reaction is largely absent with uncritical reporting merely reporting events as Kenyatta's triumph. The episode has "skilfully broken the back of his opponents".

15 October 1975: Australian officials examines Indonesia's military actions in Timor: "Foreign Minister Malik's agreement to talk with his Portuguese counterpart is part of the pattern. ... On the basis of the Townsville talks, President Suharto will assume that the Australian Government will make every effort to give Indonesia what support and understanding it can. The Prime Minister's statement in the House of Representatives on 26 August confirmed this assumption. An example of the Indonesian Government's confidence ... is the extent to which it keeps us informed of its secret plans. There is no doubt in my mind that the Indonesian government's fundamental assessment is based on the talks between Mr Whitlam and President Suharto in Townsville." (Secret Priority cable from Australian embassy Jakarta to Canberra, 15 Oct 1975)

15 October 1975: Dr Donald Coggan makes a plea for supporting the established constitution: "Your vote counts. Your voice counts."

You count. Each man and woman is needed if the drift towards chaos is to stop."

16 October 1975: Home Secretary Jenkins announces he supports Des Warren staying in prison: "I believe that in this matter the Parole Board should make its decision.... the circumstances in which Mr. Warren appeared on report on 26 occasions in five different prisons hardly made the case very favourable for parole.... I do not accept the fact that Mr. Warren is a political prisoner, nor, I understand, does Amnesty International, which has informed us that it is reconsidering its provisional decision in this matter."

Amnesty International has ignored their political status since their case has been subject to interference from political leaders pressuring a judicial case to accede to charges of 'conspiracy'. "the Tory government interfered with the judicial process by encouraging the prosecutions to deter effective picketing." (The News Line, 3 April 2012)

16 October 1975: A senior police officer at Notting Hill Carnival 1975 explains "the whole weekend was noisy, disorganised and potentially explosive" urging cancellation, another venue or greater numbers of police than the 200 deployed. (MEPO 2/10891)

16 October 1975: The Balibo 5 (a group of 2 British, 2 Australian, 1 New Zealand journalists in Balibo) en route to the Indonesian military target city of Maliana, under orders from Capt Yunus Yosfiah are captured by Indonesian special forces and executed. Their bodies are shot carefully, corpses dressed in military uniforms, rifles placed beside them, and photographs taken of them in an attempt at black propaganda. With their deaths, no foreign journalists remain in the Indonesian route to Maliana, able to directly witness the Indonesian Special Forces incursion.

Jose Ramos Horta describes the initial Indonesia: "I told Brian Peters 'It is better that you leave this place because in the next few hours the Indonesians are going to launch a heavy attack' The warships had their guns trained on our position, and a helicopter was overhead. But they said they wanted to film the action. So we left some soldiers with them. When those soldiers arrived in Dili later they told me the newsmen put up their hands when the Indonesians arrived and came out of their house shouting 'Australia'. The first to be shot was Brian Peters. One of the eyewitnesses said the Indonesians told them to face the wall, and then they just shot them. The next day Radio Kupang, the Indonesian Government radio, said: 'We taught a lesson to the Australian Communist journalists. If more come they will find the same fate' It was no accident. They were just executed and Radio Kupang was making a big thing out of it."

"Indonesian special forces landed secretly at the port of Balibo in East Timor... and murdered five newsmen working for Australian television, including two Britons. Had the journalists lived, their reports would have alerted the world to the full-scale invasion that came seven weeks later." (John Pilger, New Statesman, 30 Oct 1998)

17 October-21 November 1975: Sultan's air force, with RAF planes, unleashes a wave of air strikes into the region of Hauf, within the sovereign territory of the PDR Yemen in the struggle against guerrillas. Royal Navy ships are docked close to the Khuriya Muriya Islands.

17 October 1975: Newham Careers Office reports on bedding firm Spiralynx's East End plant. It is one of the small firms owned by the Goodman family. Others include Sun Resta, Multi Resta, Sleepy Valley, Multi Spring. Several are "contractors to H.M. government" including hospitals. Machines have "no proper safeguards... a cutting edge had no automatic stopping device... floor was littered with metal, wire, shavings... greasy and the premises filthy ...machines gave off choking fumes... I was not allowed to speak with workers" It is one of thousands of 'small businesses' whose plight, but only very rarely those of their workforces, is bemoaned by the press. 17 October 1975: Northern Ireland Housing Executive announces plans for the sale of a limited number of council houses to tenants are to be prepared in areas where demand for rented housing is less severe, in an attempt to reduce overall council tenant numbers. 17 October 1975: Standard Telephones and Cables is ordered by the government to renegotiate downwards a pay increase agreed with employees in excess of the £6 limit, or face the consequences of withdrawal of custom by the government.

17 October 1975: South Africa begins flying new armoured vehicles and mortar rockets for UNITA to Silva Porto, site of a SADF training camp, in preparation for war against MPLA.

17 October 1975: FCO's detailed report for the Republic of Ireland desk on the possibility of making a commitment to withdrawal from northern Ireland declares: "more or less permanent instability on the whole island: the creation of a 'Portugal on our doorstep... leaving aside any moral considerations about our obligations to the democratic majority in Northern Ireland and the bloodshed which would follow a withdrawal, it is in our own best interest, selfishly defined to stay in the province" (FCO Ireland Desk)

17 October 1975: Malaysia prime minister Hussein Onn in a national radio broadcast on all radio stations warns the population

to "be prepared to sacrifice their lives and property in defence of the country's integrity and sovereignty against [the] communist threat" He says the government will "increase the strength of the Police Field Force to deal with the communist threat" every single member of the security forces will be equipped with modern and sophisticated weapons.

18 October 1975: 280 workers at the Personna International razor blade factory in Hillington Industrial Estate, on the edge of Glasgow, occupy the plant. "In August of this year, the Personna management proposed another 35 'last' redundancies, (28 shop floor workers and 5 staff), plus a 12% increase in productivity. The workers agreed to voluntary redundancies, but rejected the suggested increase in productivity. The management accepted the position" but has now torn up its agreement.

18 October 1975: James Whitton, appointed provisional liquidator, offers <u>Scottish Daily News</u> for sale at an undervalued price to the major Fleet Street newspapers. It is a workers' cooperative assisted by the NEB after Lord Beaverbrook has terminated his Glasgow production centre in 1974. <u>Scottish Daily News</u> has survived for just under 6 months. A private capitalist firm again ends as the eventual recipient of state assistance.

19 October 1975: British landowner in Portugal, Patrick Wardle's 1000-acre plus farm is occupied by Portuguese farmworkers. Wardle and his wife leave the farm as a result but return on 22 Oct 1975 with 9 occupying the farm welcoming them to live in their house. Nonetheless they feel insecure and take only their personal belongings to Wardle states "They were perfectly civil and said they only wanted to follow the law... They also said they had been told that all farms were to be taken over in the name of the people."

19 October 1975: SADF and UNITA forces occupy Pereira de Eca, present day Ongiva.

20 October 1975: NAFF win their first organised case. A P & O NUS ferry crew having been dismissed on arrival at Southampton, respond by picketing the ship blocking the transport of cars to force P&O to reinstate the crew. Gouriet and McWhirter hunt to find a middle-class owner, willing to be a test case, to challenge the NUS action in court, not the P&O sacking in court. After a hearing at the High Court lasting 8 minutes, the injunction is imposed requiring the release of the cars or else severe legal penalties. the car owner, John Nundy. The dispute is lost as rehiring cannot be imposed on P&O for fear of further injunctions. This becomes "the Eagle Ferry case" and is used to impede picketing actions.

20 October 1975: Newry and Mourne District Council pass a motion calling on the British Army to stop blocking off border roads. Army maintains road blocks across hundreds of roads.

20 October 1975: Stratford King Edward VI Grammar graduate Peter Davis, former Labour PR and advertising chief, Junior Energy Minister defends Britain's deal to extract uranium from occupied Namibia/South West Africa: "the contract for the purchase of uranium from Namibia is with the Rossing Uranium Company, and it provides for the delivery to the United Kingdom of 7,500 short tons of uranium oxide (yellow cake) beginning towards the end of this decade. The material will be further processed in the United Kingdom and converted into fuel elements for use in our civil nuclear power reactors. ... the Rossing contract has been assigned by the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority to British Nuclear Fuels Ltd (BNFL). There is ... a world shortage of uranium, and this is particularly true of non-processed uranium ore, which the Rossing mine will supply. If the contract had been cancelled there would have been no prospect in the present world supply position of replacing the material ... our present uranium supply position is that our existing stocks... will provide sufficient material to meet the fuel needs of our nuclear reactors up to the early 1980s. in the present world supply position, we would have no prospect of finding alternative supplies in this time scale if we abandoned the Rossing contract. ... we are opposed to measures which are in the nature of sanctions in relation to Namibia. Only the Security Council can authorise mandatory sanctions. It has, in our view rightly, refused to do so. ... we cannot accept that the [UN Namibia] Council is the lawful administration of the territory. We do not agree that the UN General Assembly was competent to confer this status on the Council. Consequently, we do not regard this decree as having any legal effect. ... The result of cancelling unilaterally would have been that others would benefit from the release of short-term supplies while we would have gone without, with serious implications for our nuclear power programme. ... the export value of these uranium mining developments will be of tremendous importance to the future prosperity and stability of that country.... any successor State in Namibia would, we think, start with a distinct advantage on the basis of arrangements such as those obtaining between Namibia and United Kingdom companies, already firmly in position and capable of extension by mutual agreement."

21 October 1975: BBC management fires António Cartaxo and Jorge Ribeiro, journalists who have been working at the BBC Overseas Service for 12 and 7 years respectively, for breach of contract in professionalism and bias. A centre-right campaign against their "bias" and lack of integrity in reporting labour struggles has been

- waged for several years. With the collapse of the Caetano regime and stirrings for economic democracy their 'critical' voices have become redundant and dangerous.
- 22 October 1975: Closure of Lloyds Menswear plant in Derry is announced for December with 60 job losses.
- 23 October 1975: European Commission of Human Rights in Strasbourg warns the British and Manx governments its provisional decision is that birching defies the European Convention on Human Rights.
- 23 October 1975: Basil Burwood-Taylor, chief representative in Ethiopia for 14 years of Gellatly Hankey, a London firm of shipping traders, British honorary consul in Asmara, is kidnapped by ELF guerrillas urging an end to military and economic assistance to the Ethiopian regime.
- 23 October 1975: James Anderton is appointed New Chief Constable of Greater Manchester Police. He soon states Britain has "spawned an undisciplined and ailing offspring" which the police have been prevented from tackling.\*
- 23 October 1975: European Commission in Brussels announces EEC has been defrauded of 894,526 units (£550,000) Jan-Mar 1975 due to illegal claims. They represent the tip of an iceberg, where more fraud in the cereals and dairy products sector is notoriously easy involving false accounting entries or obtaining export rebates and premiums for apparently converting cereals into animal feed, but then selling the cereals on.
- 23 October 1975: Leyland Innocenti's managing director, Percy Plant, tells a press conference in Rome that British Leyland has imposed a new condition on the future of the firm. Unless Leyland-Innocenti Milan secures an agreement with unions for a 1/3 reduction in workforce by 3 Nov 1975, and productivity for the remainder to increase by 25%, Innocenti will be allowed to go bankrupt, meaning the entire plant will be closed.
- 23 October 1975: SADF and South African-trained UNITA guerrillas invade Angola.
- 23-24 October 1975: Reports are publicised of South African troops having taken Sa de Bandeira, Angola.
- 24 October 1975: Peter Hain is arrested in west London over having apparently stolen £490 from Putney branch of Barclay's Bank (major supporter of apartheid)

- 24 October 1975: Donaldson Textiles Ltd, in Alloa, announce the plant will be abandoned to a subsidiary of Coats Paton, involving the reduction of the workforce from 500 to at most 350.
- 24 October 1975: Richard Burwood-Taylor, British consul in Asmara, is arrested and abducted by Eritrean guerrillas protesting Western military assistance to the Ethiopian military regime.
- 24 October 1975: Loading of 30 tons of highly radioactive fuel waste onto British liner, Leven Fisher, begins in Tokyo. The waste from the nuclear plants at Tokai and Tsuruga, heading for Windscale, is part of a deal of 1500 tonnes to be processed by Britain and France by 1982.
- 24 October 1975: Africa Confidential reports on the new wave of repression in Oct 1975 instituted in Kenya against forces within KANU seeking land for landless peasants and accusing government security forces in the disappearance of J.M. Chelagat Mutai, a young female MP is arrested and sentenced for 2 years, ostensibly for an old offence but actually for criticizing the detention of Seroney and Shikuku. Peter Kibisu and Mark Mwithaga are also arrested in Oct 1975 for minor offences committed back in 1973.
- 25 October 1975: Vladimir 'Vlado' Herzog, journalism professor at the University of São Paulo, is tortured to death after willingly, peacefully, responding to a request by the Command of Brazil's 'Second Army', to make a "declaration" at an army centre. He is taken to the São Paulo headquarters of the Centre for Internal Defence Operations (DOI-CODI), where he is beaten and strangled.
- 25 October 1975: Having arrived by private jet from Paris, hard-rightist Alabama Governor George Wallace, visits Edinburgh Castle, and the Wallace monument in Stirling. It is part of an attempt to increase his visibility as potential candidate for the US Presidency.
- 25 October 1975: Violence breaks out between supporters of West Ham and Manchester United. Many are hospitalised.
- 25 October 1975: Oman government announces aircraft from Oman have attacked installations near Hauf, in neighbouring South Yemen. 3,000 Iranian soldiers and 12,000 Omani soldiers are still active alongside 2,000 British military personnel of one sort or another, slowly crushing extending state rule in Dhofar.
- "Officially the British admit to only 600 military personnel In Oman, but there are actually over 2,000 including combat officers and pilots, training operatives and communications experts at the two RAF bases of Salalah (in Dhofar) and Masirah. The elite branch is the 200-man Special Air Services (SAS), a counter-insurgency unit used in behind-the-line missions and for training local forces. In the words of one British officer. Dhofar is "the last place in the world

where an Englishman is still called sahib." (Fred Halliday, PNS Oct 1975)

26 October 1975: 300 locals using bulldozers, reopen 3 border roads between Crossmaglen and Co. Monaghan, Ireland, which had been barricaded shut by the British Army.

27 October 1975: Gulf Oil announces it has withdrawn from negotiations with Saudi Arabia, begun in May 1974 on a 50-50 ownership basis with Saudi Arabia, to build a refinery and petrochemical complex. It cites economic reasons declaring that capital could be better used in other operations.

27 October 1975: (later Sir) James Goldsmith, chief of Cavenham, a food conglomerate succeeds Jim Slater as head of Slater Walker. At the same time, 2 leading merchant banks, Rothschild and Hambros, with the Bank of England's encouragement, have been appointed as financial advisers to Slater Walker. Jim Slater's resignation is prompted over an inquiry by Singapore and Hong Kong authorities into a dealing company set up in 1972 as a pseudo-subsidiary of Haw Par, for the financial benefit of Slater-Walker executives. Slater says "a newly constituted board, not connected with the original development of Haw Par will find it easier to resolve the outstanding problems with Haw Par and the authorities in Singapore." The Singapore government has said its registrar of companies has found "numerous unsatisfactory features" in Haw Par's reports-ie unaccounted for, pocketed payments.

27 October 1975: Michael Ivens, in an interview in USA: "About 10 to 15% of the trade union leaders in Britain are Communists. They are trying to wreck the fee enterprise system to pave the way for more socialism... Before the election two years ago. we tried to run ads warning that radical trade unionists were going to take over the government... [many] printers wouldn't set it.... The London Times did back us up but lost quite a bit of circulation." Ivens states Britain is too generous with jobs as a result of trade union resistance to automation, meaning it is in debt: "It will take a long time to pay off our creditors before we can enjoy all the advantages [of North Sea oil] fully... Free enterprise faces a crisis of confidence in Europe, especially in France and Germany. America must get back on its feet tor Europe to rebound. If you sneeze, we catch pneumonia. [But] there's also hope in the fact that Marxism, once so strong in Europe, is losing its grip there."

28 October 1975: India's Kotha Raghuramaiah tells the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference "there should be no base

- in the Indian Ocean. There should be no presence of the superpowers" He describes the construction of the base as "a new colonialism" that could lead to a militarised spiral in the Indian Ocean. Mauritius criticises the base on Diego Garcia and describes Britain's deportation of over 1,100 islanders into Mauritius to clear the way for base construction as "a real scandal."
- 28 October 1975: It is announced Donald Stewart, SNP Western Isles MP, has written to the Prime Minister for financial assistance to Scottish Aviation.
- 28 October 1975: A 22-year old paper mill is crushed to death at Fettykill paper mill, Leslie.
- 28 October 1975: John Clancy an unemployed 18-year old, who lives in a family of 6, fined £40 for taking potatoes worth 44p from private growing field declares: "I realise It was stupid of me to take the potatoes. I get £8.60 social security a week and my mother needs most of it to feed us."
- 29 October 1975: A Glasgow Sheriff declares he would like to "put the Glasgow social work department in custody" after a work to rule by social workers at an office Osborne street, Glasgow in protest at office conditions of overcrowding, insufficient ventilation, inadequate heating and toilets. David McLean NALGO social worker, said: "We are not on strike. We have taken this action as an act of protest against the poor conditions in which we have to work."-
- 29 October 1975: Supermarket firm Kwik-Save announces increased annual profits up from £2.7mil to £3.85mil.
- 29 October 1975: Sandy Mackay, senior adviser at the East of Scotland College of Agriculture, describes new moves for agriculture following a study tour to Federal Germany and France. "I believe there are openings in the quality meat export trade, particularly if we get a foothold in France. They can't beat us at producing early maturing beef, which would be a very acceptable commodity there. But we've got to organise our marketing expertly, and there are signs that this is already happening. Every encouragement should be given to bodies like the Scotch Quality Beef and Lamb Association."
- He urges further mechanisation on the lines of bull-beef development projects in Angus: "an increase in live weightgain matters, and from what I saw on my visit I'm convinced this is the next logical step for our own most efficient producers"

- 29 October 1975: IRA operatives shoot dead Robert Elliman, an OIRA member.
- 30 October 1975: Princess Anne opens new buildings for the private school Westonbirt School, Tetbury.
- 30 October 1975: The murdered, mutilated body of a prostitute Wilma McCann is discovered and newspapers begin to run headlines about the "Yorkshire Ripper" reflecting severe prejucide against women, forced by the ongoing recession, in prostitution, assuming instantly without evidence that only prostitutes are targeted.
- 31 October 1975: OIRA operatives shoot dead IRA member Seamus McCusker.
- 31 October 1975: Yarrow Shipbuilders is convicted of serious breaches in asbestos health and safety law and is subsequently fined £80.
- 31 October 1975: Sir Brian Morton, former chairman of Derry Development Commission, is appointed new chairman of Harland & Wolff.
- 31 October 1975: Queen and Duke of Edinburgh attend dinner at officers' mess at HQ Strike Command RAF, High Wycombe, after inspecting the rocket launching facilities.

November 1975: In a camp in Savernake Forest, Wiltshire, about 20 Column 88 militants take part in night exercises alongside Territorial Army soldiers with a Territorial Army unit camping nearby. The TA officer in charge "lends" the soldiers for the exercises. No action is ever taken against the armed forces involved.

Column 88's name derives from NSDAP undercover operatives working in Austria to create a public opinion swing towards Anchluss and from the initials of Heil Hitler. Its military commander and trainer is Special Forces Major Ian Souter Clarence, also responsible for 'Viking Youth Commandos' and 'Edelweiss'. Its official leader and intelligence officer is a private detective Leslie Eric Lutz Vaughan, former member of the British National Party and its armed wing Spearhead. Its activities include letter-bombs and small-scale home firebombings of leftists and liberals, and blowing up pylons, which suggests some degree of MI5 infiltration. Its commanders help set up the League of St. George in 1974 as a broad racialist pressure group-movement and the short-lived National Party of the United Kingdom, with John Kingsley Read as chairman in 1976 after his split from the NF.

\*November 1975: Les Male and Joe Martucci of the Police Federation write a letter to members explaining why the Joint

Central Committee of the Federation has stepped up its campaign to focus attention on 'crime'. The campaign is fixated upon the effectiveness of the criminal justice system and the weakness of punishments. It calls for changes in the rules of evidence disallowing the use of alibis and rescinding the right to silence (this demand is formalised in 1994). The letter explains the Police Federation is trying to engage the "silent majority" to assert itself and maintain its loyalism. The JCC appeals to branch boards to play an active role in the campaign by making approaches to local politicians and the press, and to local organisations such trade chambers, Rotary Clubs and youth clubs. Martucci tells boards that the JCC is preparing briefings and publicity material to assist boards to make such approaches. "Members of Parliament who find themselves under pressure from their constituents to say where they stand on law and order will just have to take notice. So will local councillors. Magistrates will have to learn that they cannot dispense justice in a vacuum." It asserts that police officers must act to lead the population they control: "Someone has to give the lead to ordinary people who want to see things change for the better. Who better than their local officers?"

- 1 November 1975: Roy Hattersley explains the reasons for his visit to Soviet officials to press them to release Rudolf Hess "I responded to the mood of the House. There is a great deal of feeling on both sides." A campaign in both houses, led by hard-right Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, has been proceeding over the past several months. Conversely, virtually zero attention is given to elderly prisoners at home.
- 1 November 1975: Dr Sheila Cassidy, surgeon working for Catholic organisations in Chile, is arrested by military officers and DINA at a Santiago Catholic mission hospital, in the middle of a makeshift operation on a nun. DINA has been alerted to her having undertaken a makeshift operation to remove bullet fragments from the legs of Mirista Nelson Gutierrez, shot twice in the leg during an attempted militarist arrest of him and Andres Pascal Allende, nephew of Allende.
- 2 November 1975: <u>Upstairs, Downstairs</u>, a high-budget ambitious historical dramatisation series covering Edwardian and interwar Britain in the Begravia home of aristocrats and their servants, examines the 1926 General Strike.

ITV's official history: "Downstairs, opinions were divided and arguments heated. Upstairs Master James had fun volunteering to drive a bus. But when order restored on the streets, it also returned to the house They didn't all have to agree, but they could still get on with each other. To an audience experiencing strikes, terrorist

violence, and newspaper headlines, asking 'Is Britain manageable?' this was a massively attractive resolution." (ITV: The People's Channel, 2005) The working-class strikebreaking is carefully celebrated, the butler Hudson, usually something of a spoilsport in the series, is given sympathetic reactions from other characters as a Special Constable opposed to the strike, doing a national duty etc.

- 3 November 1975: New York Times reports USA will notify the ILO its intention to withdraw from the 124-member U.N. body. The notice of intention to withdraw has a 2-year duration under ILO's rules, meaning USA will pressure against decisions such as allowing PLO observer status in Jun 1974 and demanding action against multinational firms' labour policies.
- 3 November 1975: Queen inaugurates Britain's first major North Sea oil pipeline from its Forties field 130 miles out at sea, close to BP's control centre at Dyce, Aberdeen. She states the moment is of "outstanding significance in the history of the United Kingdom." She is accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh and Prince Andrew, she flies on a private jet back to Buckingham Palace after lunch. Duke of Edinburgh flies to Federal Germany to visit BAOR units and RAF Germany. Wilson says there will be a "new industrial revolution" based on oil.

Because the oil rigs from BP's flagship Forties field are beyond 3 miles from shore, all labour on them is beyond the realm of the recently-introduced Health & Safety Act.

3 November 1975: Government Minister declares: "Encouraging people to buy British is not at all frivolous. My view is that it is sensible, common sense and wholly beneficial to our own people who want to help their own country at a time of difficulty."

"Labour Left [Eric Heffer]: The introduction of selective import controls is not part of an academic exercise. If my Hon. Friends had been out of work for three or four months, they might take a different view of this issue. Does my Hon. Friend recall that the document 'Labour and Industry', passed by the Labour Party conference, called for selective import controls, as did the general secretary on behalf of the party as a whole?

Labour Government Minister: We are ready to listen to people throughout industry, [and] both sides of the House, about the problem of selective import controls. ... Government policy on this matter is evolving.

Labour Left [Eric Heffer]: It is a pity that it does not evolve a bit more quickly.

Labour Government Minister: ... although I have had no personal experience of unemployment, I need no lessons from the Labour

Benches about unemployment. My father's life was destroyed in the 1920s and 1930s by unemployment"

- 4 November 1975: Rees states in parliament that no offenders convicted after Mar 1 1976 will be given the status of special category prisoners.
- 4 November 1975: Ross McWhirter in a press conference to promote his pamphlet, *How to Beat the Bombers*, urges new legislation to compel anyone born in northern Ireland or Ireland to register with local police forces if they enter the mainland, and provide photographs of themselves, signed by police or other figures if authority, when renting flats, hostels or hotels declaring "I believe in the law". He also naturally urges the application of the still-standing death penalty for 'terrorist offences' on the grounds that they constitute treason.
- 5 November 1975: The Times publishes another large two-third page advert for profit extraction from South Africa:"'A country of boundless retources' states the distinguished Italian journal II Tempo. But did you realise that many of these resources are only now coming to tight? 1975's most taxing decision for the businessman is almost certainly:"Where do I go to find new profits?" For all sorts of surprising reasons you may well find the answer to that question is 5,000 miles away. Because South Africa, always known as giant in the sphere of raw materials, is changing fast and in ways that could prove extremely profitable to you."
- 5 November 1975: NEDC meeting at Chequers proclaims the "new industrial strategy" of state financial support and NEB takeovers of unsuccessful firms.
- 5 November 1975: John Riccardo, chairman of Chrysler, meets union leaders and MPs at the Commons. Jack Jones, TGWU General Secretary, says he is "not unhopeful" over finding a suitable owner for Chrysler UK.
- 5 November 1975: Police maintain a heavy presence across Leeds over bonfire night. They attempt to arrest a black young person under Sus provisions, others try to intervene. Around 100 youths throw bricks at police cars in response. 'Chapeltown riots'.
- 5 November 1975: Zaire's news agency AZAP reports Zairean armed forces have entered the oil-rich 80,000 inhabitant miniprovince of Cabinda, Angola, where (Zaire, FNLA and CIA assisted) FLEC militants are fighting MPLA. No calls are made for Zaire to pull back, to respect the independence of Angola etc as in the case of Cuban assistance to fight against South African forces.
- 5 November 1975: fly to Belize to strengthen British forces to counter a possible Guatemalan threat.

Troops, drawn from the 1st Battalion, the Devon and Dorset Regiment, arrive in Belize to increase the existing force of 650 soldiers to well over 1,000. A party of 6 RAF vertical take-off Harrier aircraft from No.1 Squadron also arrive arrive. RN frigate HMS Zulu has been off the Belize coast for the past week with a small commando force.

Another RN Tribal class frigate HMS Nubian is also on its way to Belize, with Royal Marine commandos. The Harriers then return to British bases in Apr 1976 only to return again in Jul 1977.

- 6-7 November 1975: SADF forces occupy Benguela and Lobito, which are then handed over to UNITA control.
- 7 November 1975: Government formally applies to the IMF for £975million.
- 7 November 1975: Reuters reports Britain's success in Egypt over the sale of 200 Jaguars to Egypt. By the end of 1976 another 300 Jaguars will be sold to Egypt.
- 7 November 1975: Northern Ireland Convention ends its term in failure, culturally loyal unionists, as ever, cushioned by the Westminster buttress of direct rule, block any moves towards cultural democracy or anti-monarchism.
- 8 November 1975: Labour Left Ian Mikardo calls for no expulsions but for ending the Labour Party Young Socialists and Labour Party Women's Section, to avoid any suspicion about Militant infiltrators at a meeting in Eltham. The background is publication of Reg Underbill's 9-page-long 'Entryist Activities' report to the Labour Party Organisation Committee. It is an account of Militant's attempts to gain support within the Labour Party and particularly its vouth wing. Regional officials and Militant defectors supply much of the examples. Overall it tallies with Militant's 'British Perspectives and Tasks 1974' which the report quotes from. Labour Party Organisation Committee discusses the report but votes 16-12 against referring its minutes and (which would mean further discussion) to the NEC for further action. At the meeting Eric Heffer states Trotskyism can best be combated by political persuasion within the Labour Party, Ian Mikardo says Militant is "more of a nuisance than a danger". Underbill's report is leaked to the press allowing a press campaign to develop about Militant, which will reach a new peak in the 1980s.
- 9 November 1975: Hard-rightist Movimiento de Liberación Nacional, strong supporters of President Gen. Kjell Laugerud, trained in the Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, USA, announces its 4,000-strong private army is ready to fight Britain to

'liberate' Belize. Its armed units, originally supplied by the military, mainly act as squirearchy defence force to break up peasant protests for land in Guatemala's poor eastern region. Belize's internal politics remains fixated upon 'Hispanic' ie Guatemalan illegal immigrants.

9-10 November 1975 am: SADF howitzer mortars are fired into Grafanil, a suburb of Luanda with an MPLA camp, killing an Angolan civilian woman. SAAF aircraft also bomb MPLA positions. The bombardment is to assist an attempted FNLA advance on Luanda, advised against by SADF, under-manned and over-exerted that fails – the battle of Quifangondo.

10 November 1975: Queen Mother visits another private school, Merchant Taylor's, Northwood, Essex to inaugurate new teaching buildings including a deluxe music centre. Queen and Duke of Edinburgh attend Royal Variety performance.

10 November 1975: Britain votes against all 3 pro-Palestinian resolutions at the UN General Assembly. One calls for recognition of the Palestinian right to self-determination and the return of lands and housing confiscated from them since 1948. Another calls for the creation of a 20-nation assembly committee to work out a plan for PLO representation at the UN in a report to go to the Security Council for action by 1 Jun 1976. A third accepts "that Zionism is a form of racism and racial discrimination". British UN Ambassador Sir Ivor Richard declares them "capriciously introduced and wantonly pursued". US Ambassador Moynihan states "the abomination of anti-semitism has been given the appearance of international sanction... the General Assembly today grants symbolic amnesty and more — to the murderers of the six million European Jews." After the passing of all 3 resolutions, he states USA "does not acknowledge it, will not abide by [and] will never acquiesce in this infamous act.... Evil enough in itself, but more ominous by far is the realisation that now presses upon us — the realisation that if there were no General Assembly this could never have happened."

British Zionist Federation chief Malvyn Benjamin states: "We are not prepared to stand by passively in this monstrous and crude attempt to stamp anti-Semitism with international respectability. Whatever moral authority the UN ever possessed has now disappeared, Just as nobody listens to the convicted murderer advocating the sanctity of human life, so no heed will be paid to a slanderer claiming concern for the brotherhood of man." A statement by the Israeli Embassy in London says "The Zionist movement was in the vanguard of the drive to liberate oppressed peoples" and ipso facto cannot be racist.

British Board of Jewish Deputies with traditional backlash hysteria passes an emergency resolution against "the latest international

libel perpetrated against Israel and the entire Jewish people by the Arab-Communist dominated Assembly of the United Nations."

Rabin in Israel describes it on 16 Nov 1975 as "an attack on our right to be here [meaning within the Middle East] and two operative decisions for strengthening terrorist organisations in their war against us" threatening "if the position of the world and Arab nations is as expressed by the decision of the General Assembly, Israel will have to seriously reconsider if there is any point in further political negotiations with it."

Standard government view "the passage by the General Assembly of a Resolution equating Zionism with racism... has served no purpose but to bring the United Nations into disrepute. It has seriously undermined international support for the continuing campaign against racism and, tragically, it may also make more difficult the already formidable task of finding a peaceful solution to the Middle East conflict" (Lord Goronwy-Roberts, 26 Nov 1975)

- 10 November 1975: Savimbi is flown to Pretoria for talks with Vorster, where they agree to maintain SADF forces and step up supplies to the militants in weapons they have been trained in.
- 10 November 1975: Petroleum Production and Distribution (Antisabotage) Decree (1975) of Nigeria is officially introduced. It allows the Military Tribunals to try and sentence those accused of the theft, disruption, or interference with the extraction or distribution of petroleum. The death penalty is available for "saboteurs", which can be commuted to a minimum of 21 years' imprisonment under the clemency of the military leadership of Murtala Muhammed. Its aim is to protect the oil firms' operations from villagers to stealing oil from pipelines to use it as fuel a trend has been exacerbated by the worldwide economic crisis and inflation. This protects the hundreds of pipeline heading to refineries such as the massive Shell-BP plant in Alesa Eleme, Okrika, outside Port Harcourt.
- 11 November 1975: Gough Whitlam's Australian Labour Government is dismissed by the Governor General. This comes after the Senate (elected for long six-year terms under a state-by-state single transferable vote system to ensure the House of Representatives government has no power to effect too significant social or constitutional change) has "blocked supply" the passage of government expenditure.

His justification is 'the constitution': "The only solution consistent with the Constitution and with my oath of office and my responsibilities authority and duty as Governor General is to terminate the commission as Prime Minister of Mr Whitlam and to

arrange for a caretaker government able to secure supply and willing to let the issue go to the people."

Chief of the Anglican hierarchy, Primate in Australia, Archbishop of Melbourne, Old Marlburian, Trinity College, Cambridge, Sir Frank Woods, another British figure, defends the decision: "How thankful I am that the Governor-General is both an expert lawyer and absolutely trustworthy man."

Pro-apartheid Queensland Premier Jan Bjelke-Petersen welcomes the Governor General's efforts to cut off "a complete dictatorship and one-party rule" before it has emerged.

A mainstream critic on the episode: "Representative democracy, as it is understood in the framework of liberal democratic theory, is designed to place political power in the hands of the majority of those whom it affects. It is fundamentally an anti-absolutist principle. Thus, to resort to claims that a Governor-General holds his reserve powers at the ready, to step in in times of political crisis is to engage in dangerously anti-democratic thinking. It is impossible to see Sir John Kerr's actions on 11 November 1975 as part of a liberal democratic process. On the contrary, they are significantly illiberal. And they are rendered even more abhorrent by legality" (Allan Patience: By-passing liberalism. Constitutionalism in Australian politics)

A subsequent hard-left view: "In 1975 Labor prime minister Gough Whitlam, his government the object of a concerted CIA destabilisation campaign, threatened to expose the role of the top secret US spy bases. The Queen's man and more importantly the CIA's man, Governor General John Kerr, dismissed the elected government. Utterly committed to the institutions of the capitalist state, including the constitutional powers invested in the Queen, the ALP tops preached loyalty to the parliamentary process rather than let an enraged working class get 'out of hand.' The events of 1975 illustrated how the constitutional monarchy in Britain and here could be used in some future crisis to bestow 'legitimacy'" (Australasian Spartacist 144, Autumn 1992)

Sir John Kerr defends himself relying on the concept of the monarch's (and his or her representative's) silence: "the Prime Minister has no claim to be made privy to the Governor-General's inmost mind" (Sydney Morning Herald, Nov 28 1978)

- 11 November 1975: House of Lords rejects an item of legislation for the first time in 26 years- the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act. It is denounced by crossbenchers and opposition alike as an attack on freedom of speech, and freedom of the press for allowing unions representing journalists to form closed shop agreements.
- 11 November 1975: President Mobutu announces he does not recognise Cabinda as part of Angola.

11 November 1975: Dr Sheila Cassidy at the end of her detention and torture is forced to sign a declaration, without which she will not be released, stating 'while I was held in the Alamos detention camp I have not suffered torture or bad treatment. What is more I have had no personal knowledge that other detainees have been tortured, beaten or ill-treated, I declare that I am in a perfect physical and mental state.'

She has been detained first in the Villa Grimaldi, then the Tres Alamos detention centre where her torture takes place with her being stripped naked put on a 'parillada' (literally barbecue), an iron bedframe wired with electric currents: "The hands that secured me to the metal bed frame were rough and the ropes or straps tied so tightly that my circulation was severely impeded. I asked them to loosen the bonds but they made no response. During the first interrogation I never knew where the electrodes had been placed and the pain was generalised. Now they became more sophisticated for one electrode was placed inside my vagina and the other, a wandering pincer, was used to stimulate me wherever they chose. From the first moment it was different. The pain was appalling and, determined not to be deceived again, they questioned me with a speed and ferocity that allowed no possibility of fabrication. I don't remember a moment in which I decided to talk but I know that after a while it seemed less likely that my friends would be killed and therefore less urgent to lie. Indeed I found it quite impossible to lie for the shocks came with such frequency and intensity that I could no longer think. So they broke me. Little by little I answered their questions. It was a slow and painful business for I told them as little as I could... I received many gratuitous shocks because they could not believe the nuns and priests were involved. Their disbelief was very hard to bear for their seemed no escape from the white hot sea of pain in which I found myself. Terrifying too was the increased callousness of the interrogator. Each time they passed the current a gag was forced into my mouth and I was told, 'Raise your finger when you are ready to talk' Unable to cry out and with my hands nearly paralysed I could call for relief only through the upward movement of my finger and this they ignored, filling me with a desperation the like of which I have never known. How long it went on I don't know: perhaps an hour perhaps more" (

## is held in the and

12 November 1975: ACAS is officially instituted. Jack Jones describes it as "it was my baby"- a 9-person tripartite body, 3 members appointed by the TUC, 3 by the CBI and 3 government appointees of 'objective' experts with experience of industrial relations, with the Employment Secretary retaining powers to

appoint Committees and Pay Award Bodies for disputes it cannot resolve. Jim Mortimer, Personnel Director of London Transport, is appointed its first Chairman.

- 13 November 1975: "Indonesia is waging an undeclared war in East Timor. The original objective was to have anti-FRETILIN forces in control of some two-thirds of the population and pressing close to Dili by early this month when Indonesia's Foreign Minister (Mr. Malik) met in Rome with his Portuguese counterpart, Major Antunes.... In East Timor today Indonesia probably has about 2600 men..... Many are ferrying supplies to anti-FRETILIN forces and doing other rearguard work. Indonesian soldiers from various elite units have played a key role in the lighting in East Timor over the past five weeks. ...Late last month several hundred Indonesian marines were ferried by sea from a 3500-strong garrison on one of the Indonesian islands north-west of Portuguese Timor. They landed on the coast near Bacau, the colony's second town and site of the international airport [to] capture and secure the Bacau area and nearby Los Palos, both of which were formerly UDT strongholds, and then move on Dili to open a new front on the east."
- 15 November 1975: 96 printers sacked by the <u>Daily Express</u> are reinstated only after a strike by 400 prevents printing of newspapers in the London area on 14 Nov 1976.
- 15 November 1975: <u>The Spectator</u> publishes an utterly fraudulent account of the Angola conflict by Robert Moss, casting Savimbi into a hero democrat, failing to even mention the presence of SADF forces or SADF training for its tribalist forces. Moss has, presumably with the assistance of Mi5 or BOSS forces spent several weeks embedded beside Savimbi to give the strong appearance of reliability and authenticity.
- 15-17 November 1975: Rambouillet Economic Summit meeting of Six Industrial Powers.

Sydney Morning Herald: "seems unlikely to yield any major new economic policy initiatives despite, or perhaps because of, the serious nature of the problems it is dealing with. Given the state of the world economy and the difficult problems of inflation and unemployment, coordinated international action over a range of areas is obviously desirable. ... United States will lead discussion on energy matters.... Britain on relations with developing countries. ... No doubt the pressure that was brought to bear in (he OECD on the United States to reflate more quickly will be repeated, and would seem to have about as much chance of success as on the previous occasion, when it was decisively rejected." (17 Nov 1975)

- 16 November 1975: Bangladesh's militarists announce a new martial law instituting a mandatory death penally for anyone attempting to incite members of the armed and paramilitary forces to disobey orders.
- 17 November 1975: 3 oil-rig supply vessels chartered by the Government sail north from Lerwick, Shetlands, "to carry out exercises". RN sets aside frigates for duties on four days' notice. 2 support vessels equipped to give technical assistance have been chartered by the Government, as talks on a new fishing agreement between Britain and Iceland end without success. Britain has proposed a figure of 110,000 tons, revised down from an earlier demand of 130,000, in the annual catch of cod allowed in waters claimed by Iceland, as opposed to an Icelandic offer of 65,000 tons. Roy Hattersley declaring: "We will protect our fishing fleet as much as is necessary.... If the time comes when it is necessary for the Navy to be there the Navy will be there. We will carry out our duty"
- 17 November 1975: National newspapers are broadly supportive of of all editors agreeing to black-out reporting of the kidnapping of Alio Kaloghirou, 18-year old daughter of a Greek shipping magnate. "suppression goes against the grain for newspapers ... If and when another victim is kidnapped and if the police again ask for secrecy; newspapers will hare to make another difficult decision. It must be made at the time on the merits of the particular case.' (Daily Mirror) "In any democratic country, the police, like all other powerful institutions, must expect to be scrutinised and reported upon continuously. That is the rule. The nine-day suspension of news coverage in the Kaloghirou kidnap was the exception." (Daily Mail) "Pacts of silence of this kind are proper so long as it remains a matter of unfettered discretion for the media concerned whether to co-operate and for how long." (The Times)
- 17 November 1975: Queen's Private Secretary explains her position on Australia: "The Australian Constitution firmly places the prerogative powers of the Crown in the hands of the Governor-General... The only person competent to commission an Australian Prime Minister is the Governor-General... The Queen has no part in the decisions which the Governor-General must take in accordance with the Constitution." Hence the "prerogative powers of the Crown" are in the actions of the Governor General himself. The British 'crown' has never thus far never willingly, unilaterally, repudiated any "prerogative powers".
- 17 November 1975: Ross Belch, managing director of Scott Lithgow attends the launch ceremony of the Nordic Commander sister to Nordic Clansman, for Maritime Fruit Carriers, part of a 4 supertanker deal. He states: "We no longer look on ourselves

simply as shipbuilders but rather as major steel fabricators, and as such we are very much concentrating our attention on the kind of structures likely to be required for offshore oil -in the North Sea" Having recently returned from India he states he is confident that eventually orders for ships from Indian shipping firms will eventually be finalised.

- 18 November 1975: <u>Yorkshire Post</u> interviews Arthur Scargill, NUM's Yorkshire president, who demands import restrictions as the price for NUM having accepted terms of the social contract: "The Government has asked us to give a year for Britain. Well, loyalty works both ways, and I would hope, if the Government means what it says, it will stop imports of coal immediately."
- 18 November 1975: President Nyerere of Tanzania arrives in London on a state visit and is given the lavish state banquet with many members of the royal family and Callaghan at Buckingham Palace. On 21 Nov 1975, Nyerere returns the favour with a banquet in Whitehall.
- 18 November 1975: <u>The Times</u> publishes a sympathetic 14-page Special Report on Sultan Qaboos's first 5 years at the head of Oman.
- 19 November 1975: Duke of Edinburgh attends at the Café Royal the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner of the Gallipoli Association, begun in November 1915, to commemorate the definitive British assault on the Middle East, planned to ensure a calm Franco-British partition of the entirety of Anatolia and Mesopotamia.
- 20 November 1975: Wilson makes a firm backlash speech at Eastbourne, joint conference of Local Authority Associations.
- 20 November 1975: Conservatives in the House of Lords, where some speech is slightly looser applaud Jack Jones and the TUC.
- "For the immediate future this will mean giving priority to industrial development over consumption, or even our social objectives. There is no other way of developing the industrial base on which the Government's whole programme of economic or social reform depend. As I say, these sentiments were subscribed to not only by the right honourable gentlemen who have the duty and the responsibility of governing this country at the moment, but also by Ralph Bateman, the noble Viscount, Lord Watkins on, and other leaders in industry, and by such trade union leaders as Mr. Jack Jones." (Lord Thorneycroft)

"Social Contract has been replaced by something which, as the Lord Privy Seal said, is working a great deal better; that is, the £6 maximum. That was a policy adopted on the initiative of Mr. Jack Jones of the Transport and General Workers' Union. If it had not

been for his massive and powerful support, that policy would not have been any more successful than the Social Contract." (Lord Molson)

"The cause of my optimism was the lead being given by Mr. Jack Jones of the trade union movement to the Labour Government.... it was Mr. Jack Jones who showed the way. At the time, I said that his idea of a flat rate increase was most attractive, but I feared that the powerful unions had such a self-interested respect for the differentials that I doubted whether that detail of his proposition for a new voluntary incomes policy was realistic. We now know that this tinge of cynicism on my part was unjustified. Mr. Jones persuaded the Government and the TUC that this was the way forward, and he performed a great service to the nation... £6 pay limit has been not only agreed but held, and it is being held.... Who are the enemies of the £6 pay limit? They are not members of the Party opposite. I doubt whether even the most determined free enterpriser wants to return to a free-for-all in wages" (Lord Ardwick)

Lord Robbins, life peer, university administrator, representing crossbenchers joins in: "I am sure that no one in this House would wish to underestimate the degree to which most of the leaders of the great trade unions have moved towards some degree of realistic appreciation of the pickle in which we find ourselves. I echo the praise which has been given to the initiative of Mr. Jack Jones"

- 20 November 1975: A Hawker Siddeley HS125 executive jet aircraft, flown by pilot RAF Group Capt. John Cunningham, crashes into a vehicle near Guildford, Surrey. Six, all car passengers are killed. The HS jet is carrying the Chinese trade ministry delegation and Zeng Cheng, Vice Minister of Communications, is taken to Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford.
- 20 November 1975: BMA hospital consultants' committee declares an emergencies-only work to rule will begin from 1 Dec 1975, unless government legislation aiming to end 4,000 pay beds in NHS hospitals is not scrapped. The government decision is denounced as "entirely politically motivated." Health Minister Castle declares it "unique in the history of strikes in Britain that we should be threatened about a piece of legislation to go before Parliament before Parliament has even seen that legislation."
- 20 November 1975: Rafael Calzaqada, chief of the Restaurateurs' Association, declares the death penalty must be applied to those found guilty of planting bombs: "I envisage hanging. All the precautions in the world do not absolutely ensure safety."
- 20-27 November 1975: After 5 weeks where no direct Western concern over the execution of the 5 British, Australian and New Zealand journalists in Balibo emerges, Indonesia resumes its

assault, securing Atabae in a week-long battle with decisive naval and aircraft support.

- 21 November 1975: Queen inaugurates the new Post Office Research Centre at Martlesham, Woodbridge. The main activities there are focused upon reducing labour costs by replacing labour with machinery.
- 21 November 1975: Industry Secretary Varley announces Drypool will not be nationalised and jobs will not be rescued.
- 21 November 1975: ICI's Malaysia subsidiary Chemical Company of Malaysia reports profits accumulated in the 1974-5 year as 29.8milM\$, this is 25% higher than the previous year. In general, overseas wings of ICI perform much better than profits from contracts within Britain.
- 21 November 1975: Glasgow Herald tackles Spain after the news of Franco's death: "The possibility of a vacuum developing must be of serious concern to Western Governments. ... From now on the Western Powers must get used to dealing with a Spain which may be unpredictable and inexpertly governed. The difficulties may not show themselves for some time... This is a serious consideration in view of the disarray in Portugal. The humiliations inflicted upon the Government there by armed forces and civilian dissidents are sufficient illustration of the chaos which often follows dictatorship. Western Europe's "soft underbelly" in the Mediterranean is acutely exposed to Communist influence, which will grow unless the West can find ways of countering it. ... There will be no Portuguese style confusion in Spain. The Rightist elements are well organised, passionately determined, and entrenched in power. The army is not demoralised by unsuccessful colonial wars."

It seems to welcome the reformed Francoism emerging: "Ironically Franco's firm rule led to a real revolution – the kind of social and economic change which opens people's eyes and enhances their ambitions. His successors cannot halt that process. Spain's future lies in her growing and prosperous middle class"

- 23 November 1975: Sent by the government, Cabinet Minister Lord Shepherd, Lord Privy Seal and Labour leader in the Lords, attends Franco's funeral in Madrid. The day before the new Prince Juan Carlos, chosen by Franco as his successor in 1969, has been anointed King and also attends the funeral.
- 24 November 1975: Prince Charles speaks at the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary dinner for the Cambridge and Oxford University Air Squadron at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea.

- 24 November 1975: Michael Daly notes with satisfaction: "In the eyes of the Dublin government, the IRA are an armed conspiracy, bent on subverting the very fabric of the state." (FCO 87/471, Michael F. Daly, British Embassy, Dublin, 24 Nov. 1975)
- 24 November 1975-2 June 1976: Operation Heliotrope officially begins as Nimrod and Hastings T5 sea aircraft resume intensive surveillance flights in the Atlantic to assist the Royal Navy in the struggle against Icelandic ships, in the ongoing confrontation over economic zones. At least 158 Nimrod and 20 Hastings sorties were flown in support of RN. The Hastings were drawn from the Bomber Command Bombing School at RAF Scamplou and affectionately known as '1066 Squadron'.
- 25 November 1975: Portuguese armed forces' countercoup brings to an end most developments for economic democracy. Nancy Bermeo reviewing the period 'Worker control has encompassed fewer than 3 per cent of all industrial firms and involved fewer than 6 per cent of all industrial workers.' (Modern Portugal: The Revolution and its consequences). However its possibility has significantly turned British capitalists against what are seen as potentially dangerous innovations such as "industrial democracy". 25 November 1975: Labour sends 3 frigates to enforce British claims on the disputed Atlantic fishing grounds.
- 26 November 1975 pm: 4,500 workers at the British Leyland-Innocenti plant in Milan occupy the plant in the second (afternoon) work shift in order to prevent the removal of equipment and car stock. Workers urge the government to arrange for an Italian private or public group to take over the plant and continue production. British Leyland has announced the previous day that it will go ahead with closure of the plant after failing to extract enough concessions from the Italian government. British Leyland previously had taken over the vehicle division of Innocenti to produce Leyland model minis.
- 27 November 1975: Duke of Edinburgh visits Madrid to represent the British monarchy at ceremonies marking the accession of King Juan Carlos I in Madrid, Spain.
- 27 November 1975: IRA operatives shoot dead Old Marlburian Ross McWhirter. Subsequent to his death, the press only concentrates on his offer of a £50,000 reward to information about explosives in mainland Britain, not on *How to Beat the Bombers* for which it is a gimmick. Actual explosives launched over the Omani countryside by British officers at the same time are ignored in the press welcome accorded for this reward. The reward itself is carefully directed against 'republican terrorists' thus steering clear of culturally

loyalists' explosives, that are targeted in the Republic or the 6 counties and in part the result of collusion with SAS and MI6 (who themselves collude, to various degrees, with other fans of explosives in CIA, BOSS and elsewhere).

Tributes appear in the press about his dedication to 'freedom'. Absent are his dealings with militarist forces and efforts to ensure apartheid firms in South Africa receive unrestricted supplies, his essential help in securing the prosecution in 1972 of organisers of the Stop the '70 anti-apartheid demonstrations under the charge of 'conspiracy'. Peter Hain describes the 1972 prosecution: "The Rightwing Society for Individual Freedom (which was closely linked to British Intelligence) backed the prosecution, and Gordon Winter was instructed by BOSS to offer his help and pass over his material on me. This he did liaising initially with Gerald Howarth, its General Secretary... in June 1971, the 'Hain Prosecution Fund' was launched to raise £20,000 for [hard-right Commons law drafter, former Pakistan and Ghana constitution drafter, founder of the anti-trade union Professional Association of Teachers, barrister Francis] Bennion's private prosecution. Howarth was its Treasurer and Ross McWhirter its Chairman. These two, together with Winter, respectively provided links with the hard right, MI5 and BOSS." (Peter Hain, Sing the beloved country, pp103-6)

Virtually zero discussion of his successful private application for a temporary ban on broadcast of a biopic about Andy Warhol (issued by the Appeal Court 16 Jan 1973) without having seen the film in question, citing press reports of nudity that feature a female using the top half of her body to perform an action-painting with smeared paint. A series of pro-generalised censorship challenges are brought throughout 1973 as a result. The climate of fear engendered by legal judgement persuades in early Feb 1975, Lew Grade, ATV chief, not to broadcast a documentary on Michael Collins. As board member of the Society for Individual Freedom HQ-ed in spacious Park Lane offices, whilst internment is being extended across northern Ireland, he has written: "The people of this realm did not consent to the abolition of the death penalty; they did not consent to the legal relaxation of laws against homosexual practices and abortion; they did not consent to the planting of the massive timebomb of mass immigration; they did not consent to the arrogant subversion of the British Broadcasting Corporation to the personal ends of some of its politically motivated employees; they did not consent to the appeasement of the Queen's enemies in Ulster; they did not consent to surrender to trade union demands." (Freedom First, Jul 1973). In late 1973 he also begins instigation of efforts of behalf of the Unison Committee for Action, the ultra-loyal private strikebreaking force, that later terms itself Unison. He also creates a non-union media outlet Current Affairs Press to act as

right-wing clarion during any press or media strikes. He assists with the benefit of donations from Aims of Industry and others, other backlash organisations including middle-class anti-trade union propagandists Self Help and anti-food subsidies and anti-EEC Anti-Dear Food Campaign. The news-sheet he edits <u>Majority</u> sums up the basic thrust of his approach a Labour government is acceptable only "so long as it is not manipulated, so long as it is decently and honestly run". The judgement of 'non-subversion' can, of course only be given on the lines of the counter-subversion experts of MI5 and MI6 – once again spies as rulers of society.

- 27 November-13 December 1975: The first major overseas tour by a Jaguar aircraft takes place. The British two-seat trainer version of the Jaguar International aircraft flies 53 sorties in all including 24 flights with representatives of potential customers on board. British Aircraft Organisation has organised the tour, with financial support from the Ministry of Defence, Rolls-Royce, Marconi-Elliott and Ferranti. Flight demonstrations were given in Oman, Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Dhahran, Riyadh, Qatar, Kuwait and another four Middle East countries but these are not disclosed. Other visits for potential partners and customers included Rome, Tehran and Istres. "It was a fabulously successful tour and tremendous interest was shown by Air Forces wherever we went" says Jaguar divisional sales manager Glen Hobday.
- 27 November 1975: Burmah Shell's Indian operations, a joint venture between Britain's Burmah Oil and Anglo-Dutch Shell (majority British shareholders, main stock exchange Amsterdam) will be purchased by the Indian government according to the say's "memorandum of understanding". A refinery, 5 port installations and a network of 73 storage depots and 3,175 retail pumping sites will be sold.
- 27 November 1975: Botha finally admits publicly that South Africa is assisting FNLA and UNITA.
- 27 November 1975: Pinochet dissolves the Comite pro Paz, the largest ecumenical force for opposition to torture that is headed by a Catholic bishop, but features Jewish leaders, Baptists, Methodists, Pentecostal Methodists, Lutheran and Orthodox Christians and a representative of the World Council of Churches.
- 28 November 1975: Thatcher explains that "those who have committed this terrible crime against humanity [murder of Ross McWhirter] have forfeited their right to live"
- 28 November 1975: FRETILIN movement declares independence after the fall of Atabae to Indonesian militarists, announcing they cannot sustain defence on existing terms and must mobilise the

entire Timorese population. This allows the The next day, the four other East Timorese political parties – UDT, Apodeti, KOTA and Trabalhista – issued their 'Proclamation of Integration' accusing Fretilin of obstructing a peaceful solution and asking the Indonesian government and people to integrate East Timor into Indonesia. This proclamation has since been known as the Balibo Declaration. Indonesia invaded on 7 December 1975.

28-29 November 1975: London editions of the <u>Daily Mirror</u> are not published because of an unofficial printing machine operators' strike against pay restrictions imposed upon them compared to the rest of company payroll.

30 November 1975: DINA officials raid the house of Columban Fathers in Santiago, killing 1 and injuring others.

December 1975: Cuts in education are announced in a steady stream. The number of teacher training places is to be cut from 114,000 to 60,000 by 1981. 14 Colleges of Education are to be closed or merged with other institutions.

December 1975: Israeli magazine <u>New Outlook</u> announces Israeli bulldozers have obliterated large cemeteries and Arab housing on the site of the Israeli settlement of Yamit on the Sinai peninsula. The Israeli Ministry of Housing announces in 1976 it plans for a population of 100,000 Israelis in the city. Ammon Kapeliouk, the author of *La fin des mythes* records how, for Yamit, Israeli soldiers have expelled 10,000 Arab peasants, levelling their homes with bulldozers, and destroyed Arab fields and peasant water wells.

December 1975: The month's <u>Harper's</u> sees Robert Moss in an extended feature 'A Ticket to Lisbon' urge material support for Francoist, Opus Dei and Falangist against the threat of a new Portugal.

December 1975: Tyndallist Richard Verrall, author of *Did Six Million Rally Die?*, begins the campaign against internal autonomous local decision-making in NF in the month's <u>Spearhead</u> in 'Left wing shift in the National Front'. John Kingsley Read and Roy Painter Read, new arrivals as ex-Conservatives, the 'Populists' have begun a campaign for transparent elections and slates, where Read has just been voted NF Chairman. The dispute will eventually have led to Read's expulsion and the formation of the National Party still retaining its journal *Britain First*.

\*December 1975: Lucas Aerospace Joint Shop Stewards Committee launches the 'Corporate Plan' initiative, aimed at transferring production away from armaments. One new production proposed is breaking systems work, which could have been implemented in

passenger coaches, potentially avoiding the May 1975 crash, instead armament production has been Lucas' mainstay effort.

- \*December 1975: Witnesses testifying before the US Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Activities disclose that economics professors of at University of Chicago, under the tutelage of Milton Friedman and Arnold Harberger have received CIA funding to write a 300-page economic blueprint for Chile that has been given to Chilean military generals prior to the coup.
- 1 December 1975: Migrants from Britain seeking Australian citizenship, in line with all other nationalities, are forced to undergo citizenship ceremonies, marking the end of formal legal special privileges for British migrants, transferring privilege into the arena of professional qualification and skills instead.
- 1 December 1975: BMA NHS hospital consultants begin their "emergencies-only" strike, refusing to treat all but emergency cases in a bid to retain 4,500 private beds within NHS hospitals.
- 1 December 1975: 11 prominent members of IRSP resign, including elected executive members Bernadette McAliskey and Jim McCorry, issuing a statement denouncing the present course of the IRSP as "indistinguishable from either wing of the Republican Movement and possibly combining the worst elements of both". The main point of contention is that the INLA's activities will not be brought under the control of the IRSP's Ard Cohmairle.
- 1 December 1975: After 9 months of negotiations, Kuwait gains the remaining 40% of the Kuwait Oil company. Its signs an agreement with BP and Gulf Oil over the compensation to the 2 formerly joint-owners.
- 2 December 1975: It is announced Gainsborough Fabrics, subsidiary of Carrington Viyella, in Bangor will close over the next 3 months with 280 job losses.
- 2 December 1975: Ireland Minister for Justice Pat Cooney issues a statement saying continued criticism of the Republic's policy and action against the IRA is damaging cooperation between the Republic and Northern Ireland in their common fight against terrorism.
- 2 December 1975: Official launch of NAFF takes place with maximum publicity in the wake of the assassination of Norris McWhirter, featuring a press-friendly 15-point Charter of Rights and Liberties.
- 2 December 1975: Indonesian Foreign Minister Adam Malik visits Atambua, where military training of anti-FRETILIN forces has been taking place for a year. He tells leaders of the MRAC (Movimiento parties: "You are racing against time, and you face a tough struggle

ahead. However you need not worry, we will give you our full support, quietly or openly. Now we meet at Atambua, and soon we shall meet again in Dili. I expect you to invite me to come to Dili soon. The solution to the Timor problem is now in the front line of battle."

- 3 December 1975: Government confirms cuts in local authority housing budgets: "public expenditure budgeting for improvement, and, indeed, municipalisation... await[s] the results of the public expenditure review... I regret that I cannot undertake that no ceiling will be imposed on the budgets. Regrettably, the economic situation has pushed us in this direction. There will be budgeting, and not a no ceiling situation."
- 3 December 1975: British Aircraft Corporation signs a multi-million agreement with Iran to supply tracked versions of new low-level Rapier missile system over the 6 months and to assist in the construction of missile assembly plant in Iran to be completed before the end of 1978. This agreement locks BAC firmly into Iran. To organise the technicians for the plan it institutes new examinations for young teenagers in the selective schools of Iran to place them later on special training courses.
- 3 December 1975: Duke of Edinburgh gives a reception at Buckingham Palace for potential and newly-commissioned officers of Grenadier Guards. He later attends the Grenadier Guards' dinner at Brooks's, St. James' Street.
- 3 December 1975: Princess Anne launches and inaugurates the H.M.A.S. Otama in Greenock.
- 3 December 1975: Minister Rees states detainees from internment will be released, but he will retain powers to re-impose "detention orders" [internment] if necessary.
- 3 December 1975: Membership of the Bullock Committee is announced. The chair is historian Sir Alan Bullock, former Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University, Master of St Catherine's College. 2 trade union chiefs Jack Jones TGWU and Clive Jenkins ASTMS. 1 trade union economics expert David Lea, secretary of TUC Economic Department, unelected by trade union members. 3 chiefs of industry: Norman Biggs, former chairman and chief exec of Esso Petroleum, current head of Williams & Glyn's Bank Ltd; Sir Jack Callard, former chairman of I.C.I. Limited, current head of BHS British Homes Stores; and Barrie Heath, chairman of G.K.N. Ltd. 2 departmental head legal professors Prof. George Bain, Director of Warwick University Industrial Relations Unit, and Wedderburn, Cassell Professor of Commercial Law, at LSE. 1 consumer rights spokesperson, John Methven, head of Fair Trading, the consumer rights' association, who later has to resign because he is appointed Director-General of the CBI. 1 city commercial lawyer

Nicholas Wilson, senior partner at Slaughter and May, who are representing banks and financiers investing in the Ranger uranium mining complex in Australia, which is subject to legal wrangling from 1972-78. Aboriginal leaders are forced to sign away the land rights under duress, being told all Federal support will be withdrawn unless agreement is reached with Ranger. When the complex is finally finished in 1981-2, it begins covering chunks of aboriginal Mirrar Gunjeihmi country with uncontrolled, unplanned leakages, in addition to its legal release of contaminated water and the dispersal uranium tailings into the atmosphere that increase the prevalence of cancer diseases amongst workforce and Jabiru towndwellers alike. Slaughter and May's other successes include representing investors in the Forties oil field on the "production" payment" scheme and RTZ's Bouganville copper mine in Papua New Guinea. (He later argues against equal representation between trade union and owner board members, despite supporting the Majority Report, arguing in his 'Note of Dissent' that "shareholders should have the right to appoint a majority of board members") Prof. George Bain later leads an inquiry into firefighters wages in condemning their voted intention to strike because "firefighters are well paid" compared to the un-unionised poor. Clive Jenkins' commitment to pay restraint thus far has been

Clive Jenkins' commitment to pay restraint thus far has been exemplary, as part of his eagerness to promote responsible, loyal trade unionism.

- 4 December 1975: Assisting in efforts to portray the 'normal' non-militarised picture of Indonesia after questions over its ongoing assault onto Timor, invited by Indonesian authorities, British group Deep Purple, defying dissident Malaysian and Singaporean trade union, boycott attempts play a concert at the Istora Senayan stadium in Jakarta.
- 4 December 1975: Wilson announces Lord Beswick as Chairman of the Organising Committee and, in due course, Chairman of British Aerospace (BAE) the state supported amalgamation of various military and engineering firms.
- 4 December 1975: Priests of St Paul's, Belfast refuse to allow the body of PIRA operative, Paul Fox, into the church for requiem mass.
- 5 December 1975: Soviet-Kuwaiti Communiqué is signed. Soviet Union endorses the "establishment of trust and good neighbourly cooperation between all states of the Gulf Zone on the basis of non-interference in their internal affairs of respect for their right to free and independent development." It is welcomed in Britain as a big boost since Soviet aid to opposition forces in the Middle East Gulf rapidly ends.

- 5 December 1975: Queen visits the Royal British Legion village in Maidstone, Kent.
- 5 December 1975: The final group of republican internees are released. Minister Rees calls on the "community as a whole, and particularly the minority community" to see that it is not necessary to reintroduce detention. The releases are broadly condemned by 'mainstream' Unionist politicians. Several also oppose the end of detention orders and vigorously promise to reintroduce once power is devolved to Stormont. Whilst internment has operated 2,060 republicans and 109 loyalists have been interned without trial. (Hogan and Walker, Political violence and the law in Ireland, pp93-4)
- 5 December 1975: Don Concannon reveals that only 10,000 out of a potential 66,000 Housing Executive tenants have applied for the new rent rebate scheme, mired in a distant bureaucracy.
- 5 December 1975: Indonesian Foreign Minister Malik summons Western, ASEAN and Soviet ambassadors warning them "not to be surprised" by developments that might take place in East Timor.
- 6 December 1975: <u>Sunday Times</u> reports a £500mil deal between Rolls Royce and US firm Pratt & Whitney. It has secured British government financing to assist the venture. The deal "will involve Rolls in a financial commitment comparable with the RB211 engine development which bankrupted the old Rolls company." With government support, bankruptcy is unlikely.
- 6 December 1975 pm: Jakarta meeting of Ford, Kissinger and Gen. Suharto giving the green light for full-scale invasion of East Timor so long as US weapons are not used. In fact they are used, but since no Western journalists remain alive after the execution of Roger West, the reports of Western weaponry are deemed FERTILIN-Communist and untrustworthy and hence ignored. In the evening, the following day, after Ford and Kissinger's air convoy has left South East Asia
- 6-8 December 1975: Balcombe Street Siege. Police wait to follow PIRA operatives Martin O'Connell, Edward Butler, Harry Duggan and Hugh Doherty and as they enter 22b Balcombe Street, and attempt an arrest. The four break into a house and seize a woman, demanding a trial in Ireland, but later give up the hostage and then themselves. They are later jailed for life and are released under the terms of the Good Friday agreement.
- 7 December 1975: David Frost interviews Wilson on the programme 'We British' on BBC. All questions come from a right-wing backlash perspective on inflation, on pay and trade union apparent dominance.

- 7 December 1975 pm: Indonesia's Operasi Seroja begins the naval bombardment of Dili, airborne landing of battalions of paratroopers followed by marine landings from 20 warships. Drawn from two military commands, the air operation clearly lacked coordination and was severely compromised. Although the two Portuguese corvettes positioned off Atauro Island detected the advance of five Indonesian warships and one submarine, they offered no resistance and. on 8 December, made a final exit from Timor. 20 warships along with 13 airplanes (Hercules B-26 and AC-370) took part in the invasion of Dili, backed up by 21 aircraft belonging to the Indonesian national carrier. Comprising some 10.000 soldiers, drawn mainly from the Java-based Brawijaya and Siliwangi divisions. KOPASSUS units also participate.
- 7-11 December 1975: With superior helicopter technology, SADF Foxtrot unit secures a strogpoint bridge against Cuban-assisted MPLA guerrillas. 4 SADF dead and over 400 Angolans and Cubans killed.
- 8 December 1975: Argentine representative to the United Nations denounces British attitudes in the initiatives, since Britain has accepted discussion over sovereignty, but immediately has supplanted these discussions with proposals for limited, joint "economic cooperation."
- 8 December 1975 am: FRETILIN radio broadcasts that reach Darwin tell of the Indonesian invasion: "FRETILIN forces are trying to stop the invasion but could not halt such powerful forces. They are killing indiscriminately, women and children are being shot in the streets. A lot of people have been killed."
- 8 December 1975 am: Roger East, the only foreign journalist remaining in Dili at the time of the invasion sends a dispatch to AAP-Reuters saying that most of the Timorese in and around Dili have moved to the hills following reports that an Indonesian invasion was imminent. He is killed by Indonesians within hours of the invasion, leaving no foreign observers to record the events.
- 8 December 1975: <u>The Guardian</u> reports: "Chancellor Denis Healey might be forced into another squeeze which will push unemployment up to two million unless he changes course and introduces general import controls. This is the view expressed by a leading firm of stockbrokers, Phillips and Drew, in its monthly economic forecast published today. It predicts that Britain will find it very difficult to borrow enough to finance its balance of payments deficit in the next two years."

- 9 December 1975: Eurogroup NATO (Britain, Turkey, Spain, Italy, Germany, Denmark, Luxembourg, Holland, Sweden, Norway) Defence Ministers agree to add hundreds of tanks, jet fighters and rockets, at least 333 tanks, 1273 other armoured vehicles, 15tf modern fighters, 71 land-based helicopters, 172 anti-aircraft missiles, and 1524 anti-tank rocket systems, 5 new destroyers and associated escort ships, 4 submarines, 13 speedboats, 14 naval helicopters, the addition of land-to-air rocket units to 6 destroyers, the addition of multi-target rocket-units to 8 warships, the addition of laser precision guidance systems to 60 aircraft. Eurogroup says the 10 have increased their defence expenditure by more than \$1,200 million in 1975. Eurogroup also proposes asking France to rejoin the Independent Programme Group, to organise European weapons sales to North America.
- 9 December 1975: Stan Orme explains at the Northern Ireland Economic Council it is government policy to promote "more soundly based" indigenous Northern Ireland firms, he states it is in the interests of the province to support local enterprise because many of the firms closing down in the recession are mainland-based.
- 10 December 1975: Jury brings a not guilty verdict in the Peace News-British Withdrawal from Northern Ireland Campaign incitement to disaffection trial after a 51-day trial.
- 10 December 1975: Northern Ireland Electricity Service NIES announces a loss of £28m for 1974.
- 10 December 1975: The executive Board of the International Transport Federation, ITF, the ICFTU federation-based in Clapham, London, finally issues a non-mandatory call for blacking Chilean ships and aircraft in 1976: "We ask you, in accordance with the Board's decision, and with effect from 1 Jan 1976, to take any action you can against Chilean ships and aircraft whenever the opportunity arises... we are sure that the ingenuity of our affiliates is such that almost all of them will be ale to find one way or another to respond to the Executive Board's call."
- 11 December 1975: Southampton University Staff Consultative Group sees Sir Bernard Miller, University Treasurer, explain that the nation is on the verge of bankruptcy and that the plight of universities should be seen against the background of a financial crisis which is national in scale and affects all. Hence cuts and job losses are unavoidable.
- 11 December 1975: 232 MPs vote for (361 against) execution for those declared guilty of terrorist crimes.

- 11 December 1975: Merlyn Rees again says he would not hesitate to use preventive detention internment against republicans again, when the situation calls for it.
- 11 December 1975: UN General Assembly votes a resolution calling on Indonesia to withdraw from East Timor. US indicates that it will veto, Britain again 'defies the will of the UN General Assembly' by tacitly supporting the US announcement.
- 12 December 1975: Department of Education announces 30,000 schoolchildren will resit a section of the 11+ examination held in November since some children had used a practice paper.
- 12 December 1975: 240 of the 290 workers at a Derry shirt factory were to lose their jobs.
- 12 December 1975: Foreign Secretary Callaghan takes part in NATO Quadripartite (Federal Germany-France-Britain-USA) meeting in Brussels at the American Ambassador's Residence in Brussels. He describes his fears about the Italian realignment; wants to concentrate minds upon West European Communist Parties and others who 'worm' into trade unions; offers to help mould the ILO to suit US interests; considers using Kenya in the struggle against the MPLA; believes Cubans in Angola will better stiffen pro-Western axes in Black Africa; offers to talk to his university friend Kaunda to push for their useful behaviour against the MPLA

"[Italian Foreign Minister] Rumor was afraid that if there was a discussion of Italy's internal affairs here, it would have a dangerous effect on the Socialists. In other words, he sees a Popular Front as possible. There is no problem in Germany and in Britain.

Callaghan: Except that it weakens the alliance if it happens elsewhere. My point is we should recognize they are still the true enemy and not let them increase their appeal. Although the nuisance value is more from these little parties that worm into the trade unions, the Communists are in fact less trouble to deal with. But we shouldn't be deceived. ... presentationally, we should try to make them [West European Communists] appear as not independent, to make them try harder to prove their independence. Kissinger: But we don't want to encourage our intellectuals to try a dialogue with them. ...

Callaghan: We are strong enough intellectually to handle it; that's why we are for détente. But not the trade unions. I find it very hard to talk to the trade unions on this...

Kissinger: Our objective is to use the next two years while we're in it [the ILO] to get reforms so we can stay.

Callaghan: Let me know what reforms you want and our people will help. ...

Kissinger: we encouraged Zaire to turn its equipment over to the FNLA, and also give support to UNITA. The purpose was to prevent the MPLA from dominating the country on Independence Day and

establishing a claim to legitimacy. This we achieved. ... Our estimate in July was that 500 trained people could have taken over the country. Our intelligence people pleaded to send 500. We couldn't [as a result of the Vietnam backlash]. But in Zambia and Zaire we're training people. We've put in \$35 million and we've now approved another \$35 million. But it's a lousy way to do it, through intelligence channels. ...

Callaghan: I'm inclined to think the 2,000 Cubans are an asset [in propaganda terms] to us.

Kissinger: It's more like 5,000.

Callaghan: That can't be permanent. Our public stance should be what we talked about yesterday: Our fingerprints shouldn't be on it. ... They [Zambia] are interventionists [to oust the MPLA regime] as long as they're not branded with the Mark of Cain [apartheid]. I've known Kaunda for 25 years since we were students together. He's for it but he won't say it publicly. South Africa is the fly in the ointment.

Kissinger: There is no question about that.

Callaghan: How can you do it without leaving fingerprints? ...

Kissinger: If we did it overtly, we could break their back. This is what worries me. It hurts us too in China. Our briefing papers said we should ask the Chinese for help. They agreed to help through Zaire.

Sauvagnargues: Really?

Kissinger; Yes. This must be kept secret. For a superpower to plead with them to help [PRC leaders] think "If they can't help in Luanda, how can they help in Mukden?" They'll send in some equipment and some moral support. And they're very concerned about Angola. Mao raised it...

Callaghan: They gain either way. If the US is linked with South Africa, that gives the Soviet Union a ready made case.

Kissinger: We'll kick them [South Africans] out if we can strengthen UNITA. We didn't bring them in - but we didn't kick them out because they're the one stiffening element.

Callaghan: We could all talk to them.

Kissinger: Could we do this in a coordinated way? We can find money more easily than people. We need trained people who can provide communications. We would be delighted to kick the South Africans out [of Angola]. ...

Callaghan: Kenya needs arms very badly now. They have British officers but they are asking us for arms. It's a long way away. But they're the most reliable country there. Kenyatta would do it. ...

Callaghan: Can we share our assessments first? I can talk to Kaunda. I can ask him who he wants to win.

Kissinger: He wants UNITA to win and he's letting us use Zambia to supply UNITA. Can you meet between Christmas and New Years?...

Callaghan: We should exchange views.

Kissinger: It should be tactfully done. We don't want a pro-Western posture; they can be nonaligned. But they have to realize that sometimes in the UN they carry their nonaligned campaigns too far." (Memorandum of Conversation)

- 14 December 1975: A.Q. Khan leaves Europe for good returning to Pakistan with his wife Henny and their two daughters. He informs FDO of his intention to stay in Pakistan and resigns his post. Pakistan secretly launches Project 706 to produce enriched uranium using the centrifuge process. The project involves the construction of a pilot facility at Sihala, to be followed by the construction of an industrial-scale plant housing 10,000 centrifuges at the village of Kahuta. Dr. A.Q. Khan is placed in charge of the new Engineering Research Laboratory, designing the centrifuges for the proposed facilities. Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC) led by Dr. Munir Ahmed Khan is given overall charge of the project, while the Pakistan military's Special Works Commission is asked to help secure illicit purchases from abroad with the use of slush funds. Pakistan government approves, in principle, the plan to build a reprocessing plant and 8 nuclear power plants at the Chashma site, Mianwali, by the Indus.
- 14 December 1975: Merlyn Rees states there will be no return to Sunningdale-style solutions nor will the government make any declaration of intent to withdraw from Northern Ireland.
- 15 December 1975: Health Secretary Castle announces she will extend "the right to private practice by entitling doctors to work privately and in NHS establishments" as part of her provisional deal to end the consultants' go-slow lockout. Ministry of Health will go on providing buildings, equipment and training in public-funded universities for private medical work. She announces that the Board which she will set up, will not eliminate private beds but simply transfer them away from NHS buildings and will do so only when "there is available sufficient accommodation and facilities for the reasonable operation of private practice in the area." The Labour Party conference demand for whole-time public service consultancy contract is simply ignored.
- 15 December 1975: Met Police chief Sir Robert Mark, orders a special police alert in central London. Extra police checks are maintained around the City.
- 15 December 1975: "Very heavy frost. Collected by large Jaguar at 9.15, full of Terry Gilliam in his big white furry Afghan coat... From 11.00 to 4.30 sit on our British Airways jumbo jet at Heathrow gazing out at the ever-thickening fog. Feel very glad that Anne talked us into going First Class despite our guilt feelings. Attentive

waiters served champagne ... they offered to serve those of us who wanted it a meal." (Michael Palin's Diary)

15 December 1975: AAP, Australian Associated Press, Australia's main news agency reports via a special reporter from Bangkok: "Diego Garcia is theoretically a British-controlled base on a British-owned island although there are only about 20 British servicemen stationed there compared with more than 1,000 Americans. The plans for expansion include increased fuel storage and pier facilities that will make it a refuelling stop for American aircraft carriers. So far about \$US65.3million has already been spent on the base. "What Diego Garcia is designed for is essentially a means of keeping an eye on the Russians and there is nothing wrong with that" a British source said. "After all. it is the Russians who remain our most likely common enemy...

Diego Garcia has already earned a reputation among US Navy personnel as a good post to avoid. Sailors sent to the island are warned by veterans that the only females are wild donkeys left behind by native plantation workers who were taken off the atoll"

- 15 December 1975: Admiral Sir Anthony Griffin G.C.B. head of the Navy is appointed chairman of British Shipbuilders. Canadian Graham Day, Director of Cammell Laird Ltd is appointed Deputy Chairman and Chief Executive Designate of British Shipbuilders. British Shipbuilders is the firm overseeing the nationalisation of ship construction yards. Graham Day ends up bored of waiting for the nationalised firm to become operational and so returns in 1976 to carry on management in Canada at Cammell Laird Shipbuilders.
- 16 December 1975: Conference on International Economic Cooperation begins in Paris. Kissinger warns of a total deficit of \$35billion among Third World countries where only \$25 billion could be covered by foreseeable aid and private investment. He states deficits "could endanger not only their own well-being but also the stability of the international trade and financial system". Venezuela's delegate, Manuel Perez Guerrero, calls for a new "economic order" with new structures. Mexican delegate says, in private: "They always try to deal bilaterally with us and when they do we always lose." Britain participates, attempting to delay significant reforms, particularly any efforts to tie commodity prices to the level of industrial prices. It is part of the EEC grouping alongside the other non-Communist economic powers - USA, Canada, Spain, Australia, Japan, Switzerland and Sweden.
- 16 December 1975: Eric Heffer joins in the right-wing campaign against inductive teaching with a crude attack, alongside Rhodes Boyson in a Commons debate on education: "many of us are

concerned about what happens when children get to school? Is the Minister aware that many of us are concerned about the idea, now being floated, that children should not have to learn the three Rs? Many of us believe that the three Rs are the most important part of education. Indeed, without learning them we should not be able to be so articulate in the House. Will my Hon. Friend take note of the fact that it is not a reactionary concept that working-class children should be taught the three Rs?"

16 December 1975: Eric Heffer makes the case for import controls: "we must have further import controls... a 15 per cent. import control right across the board for a limited period. We may have to be as drastic as that...it would upset many people and that there are arguments about retaliation. ... in other countries this sort of policy is being carried out and similar measures are being taken. Many countries are now imposing import controls, some of which are up to 15 per cent, without our appreciating that it is happening. We must stop the outflow of capital and make certain that it is used in the United Kingdom, in the interests of its people."

17 December 1975: South Africa places a 3 month requirement for all reservists to serve in Namibia, thus increasing the supply of conscript soldiers in Angola.

- 18 December 1975: Wilson announces the basic programme for the 1977 25<sup>th</sup> Royal anniversary.
- 18 December 1975: Wilson visits British army soldiers in Ballykinlar and Derry, holds a meeting with British Army and RUC in Stormont Castle.
- 18 December 1975: Department of Housing announces plans to build 4000 houses in the Poleglass near Dunmurry are to be halved and a reassessment of housing needs in the West Belfast area will take place.
- 18 December 1975: Chancellor announces "in consequence of the major issues involved" no wealth tax will be introduced in the current parliament session i.e. the earliest would be only Sep 1976.
- 18 December 1975: Lords spokesman on behalf of immigrants attacks the state of the state-assisted but officially independent immigration law legal aid body, United Kingdom Immigration Advisory Service (UKIAS): "many immigrants consider that it is merely a Government-financed organisation, designed to correct Home Office bureaucratic errors, which does not go into any substantive opposition of the law. It is certainly not seen as the independent organisation that it claims to be. These suspicions are confirmed by the way in which UKIAS staff at airports act as Home Office agents in explaining the decisions of immigration officers to people who have been refused permission to enter. In some places

in the Indian subcontinent, people are encouraged to make their applications for entry certificates through the local UKIAS offices. The organisation is also advertised on forms telling prospective travellers or arrivals in the United Kingdom of their rights of appeal. ... Immigrants believe that it is important not only to fight within the Home Office rules but also to fight publicly so as to get the law and the rules changed. To them, UKIAS seems too close to the Home Office to be able to do that effectively.... UKIAS does not take cases to the European Court, presumably because to do so would be outside the terms of the Government's grant.... It seems that UKIAS is not sufficiently independent of the Government for immigrants to be sure that this is not the case. There is also concern about other factors relating to the organisation's work. Presumably due to the pressure of work which the staff face, there seems to be a reluctance to take up cases in which the chance of success is not particularly great. The PCWI says that it takes up many cases which UKIAS staff have dismissed as hopeless, so that it seems that there is a widespread lack of confidence in this Government-funded organisation."

- 19 December 1975: Militant: "The Labour Government has just given the multinational Chrysler... up to £162.5 million... the deal agreed by the Government and Chrysler has given 8,000 of them the sack!.... The deal includes sacking 3,000 workers at Linwood, 1,500 at Coventry Stoke and 1,700 at Coventry Ryton, with another 1,000 at Ryton and 300 at Stoke to go next year. Meanwhile the jobs of thousands of railway workers are threatened by proposals to slash back railway mileage from 11,000 to 4,000 miles—less than in the 1840s!.... Some of the 'Manifesto' right-wing group are using Tory arguments in demanding that Chrysler, which is in competition with state-owned British Leyland, should be allowed to go to the wall. They point to the queue forming for state aid in critical industries including, possibly, Vauxhall's and even Ford's. The Tribunites in Parliament are demanding, as the Manifesto of the Labour Government promised, that sureties and loans should be matched by an equivalent share of the equity in Chrysler... [Chrysler] have made super-profits in the last 30 years, far higher than their competitors and have not re-invested the loot, but frittered it away on their greedy shareholders." (No Handouts to Bosses - Nationalise Chrysler)
- 20 December 1975: It is announced that UDR soldiers will be on full-time mobilisation in South Armagh. A war rota will operate for that section of the province's UDR activities.
- 21 December 1975: US announces it has conducted an underground nuclear test with a 210 kiloton yield at the Nevada test site.

- 22 December 1975: Northern Ireland Minister Rees criticises "armchair warriors" who make "mischievous" attacks on security decisions in reference to SDLP's criticism of the decision to mobilise the UDR.
- 23 December 1975: Unemployment figures announced 1.2mil.
- 23 December 1975: A ceremony at Bristol Engines Division Ansty plant, where the Viper turbojet engine is produced, is held. It celebrates Rolls-Royce (1971) and its licensee firms having delivered 4,000 Vipers to customers. The 4,000th Viper is the Italian prototype Aermacchi MB339 trainer ground-attack aircraft, due for flight its first flight in mid-1976. Vipers, of various marks, are produced under license with significant royalty payments to the British firm in Romania, Yugoslavia, Italy and Australia.
- 23 December 1975: 2 RUC detectives are each fined £10 on charges of assaulting a man in questioning in July in Bessbrook RUC station in July.
- 23 December 1975: In response to the capture of British, Australian and US weapons from Indonesian soldiers by Timorese guerrillas, US agrees to suggest the Indonesian invasion may have been defensive: "So anybody who didn't want to join Indonesia won't be around or won't be in the hills. That is, I would say, roughly the scenario that the Indonesians plan. So, in any event, I think this is a development which suits our general interests, suits the general interests of the area in the sense that I think this will reduce within a couple of weeks the level of fighting. By that time the Indonesians should have mopped up all the areas that are really important and will have taken all the crossroads of their enemies up in the hills The Indonesians are quite good in anti-querrilla work there. It was not exactly the smoothest operation since Caesar cross the Rubicon- or whoever it was- but it's the level that's going on now. There's some fighting going on between the Indonesian troops. Nobody sees anything. There's no press there. They don't allow the press in.
- ... they've [FRETILIN] come out with a statement saying they have captured US, Australian and British arms from Indonesian troops. The Indonesians have a debate among themselves whether to admit their troops should be there, with Malik and the [Indonesian] Foreign Office wanting to continue to deny it. Everybody knows. We have a letter from Senator Hart asking about the use of our equipment —

Kissinger: So what should I say — we are studying whether their troops are there and after we have determined that we will determine whether they have any American equipment?

Philip Habib: If they press you, you can then say there is an assumption that some American — we haven't told the Indonesians

we're going to say this — we know there is some American equipment there. We know that three of the destroyers that were used to shell  $\operatorname{Dili}$  —

Kissinger: Well, let's not overdo it now... Well, I don't want to leave the implication inevitably that if US equipment was used it's illegal....

Philip Habib: I'd stress the UN resolution. You then have a situation in which the Indonesians have committed themselves and have accepted to withdraw. And that doesn't change the validity of the other argument that there was a defense element in the action of the Indonesians." (Secretary of State's Staff Meeting, Washington, Dec 23, 1975)

- 23 December 1975: Yugoslav state prosecutors bring charges for anti-state activities against Dusan Brkic, Stefanovic, Radulovic and Zigic. They have been detained in 1974 for their announcement of the foundation of a 'real' Communist Party of Yugoslavia in opposition to the present KPJ.
- 25 December 1975: Queen makes a reference to inflation, but none at all to unemployment, as a problem: "We are horrified by brutal and senseless violence, and above all the whole fabric of our lives is threatened by inflation, the frightening sickness of the world today." 25 December 1975: A large new Indonesian thrust into Timor involving more than 15,000 troops, British officials are aware of new invasion forces throughout the month.
- 25 December 1975: An unemployed Belfast man commits suicide in a quarry outside the city.
- 25 December 1975: PFLOA guerrillas fire 8 accurate bullets at an AB205 helicopter of the Sultan of Oman's Air Force (SOAF) in Dhofar on routine anti-guerrilla patrol, causing it to emergency land. A rescue helicopter arrives quickly to pick up the SOAF pilots including Brigadier (later Sir) John Akehurst. (John Akehurst, We Won A War: The Campaign in Oman, 1965-1975)
- 26 December 1975: Newspapers abroad report the Syrian Baathist crackdown on the Syrian Communist Party. Its leader Khalid Bakesh has fled the country, dozens of others have been arrested.
- 27 December 1975: A march commemorating the Feast of The Holy Innocents and the memory of "aborted innocents" takes place in Bury. Similar events are held across the country in support of backlash policies to restrict access to abortion in the NHS.
- 27 December 1975: Commons debate on mining sees the government proceed with its 'normalisation' of the coal industry, to

avoid what are categorised 'subsidies'. Subsidies means income listed on the Treasury's books being transferred to the NCB:

Tony Benn declares: "£100 million ... Government... contributed to the pneumoconiosis compensation scheme, is a most generous contribution towards solving the social problems connected with the immediate past of the coal industry" beyond this 'social grant' no more income from the rich can be used: "It is the Government's policy to phase out subsidies to the nationalised industries. In line with this the Government hope that the coal industry will be able to operate without the need for assistance"

Hard Left MP Dennis Skinner wants markets for coal. Distribution on the basis of need is, implicitly, rejected: "Those working in the industry place a great deal of faith in the Minister [Benn]'s words and actions. I am sure that his words today will be echoed around the coalfields. However, perhaps he should mention the question of securing markets. It is useless to explore, to dig for, and to stock coal without secure markets."

Benn's response implicitly justifies exports (presumably to whatever business interests will pay the highest price) and the existing CEGB pricing arrangements that force up electricity prices year on year. Price increases affect those in the real world not protected by the salaries and expenses of the Commons system.

He aims for "a forum in which the supply and demand for coal can be discussed. ... I have begun the preliminary discussions for a meeting [of] Electricity Council, the CEGB, the National Coal Board and the unions. ... It involves an examination of the coal import position as well as the coal export possibilities, which we are exploring."

He concedes "it is not meaningful ... for a Minister to hold a selfcontained discussion with the coal industry, the oil industry, or any other industry, without regard to the market possibilities which may exist for its products." Constraints from other sectors of the capitalist economy invariably encroach on any decisions: "One of the problems is that houses are now built without flues. Therefore, the possibility of burning coal in those houses does not exist." Of course, most post-war 'nationalised' council housing avoided flue units, particularly construction at high-density in 'tower blocks'. As a government, he claims, "we approach responsibly the task of developing, from our enormous resources of energy, a policy which will win support, make sense and give the maximum assurance of security of supplies for this country, the most economic provision possible of energy for our needs ... to build upon our own indigenous resources so as to promote our [national] industrial development."

John Cronin, former Labour Whip and Shadow Minister of Aviation, says "generosity" is insufficient: "In the last Coal Industry Bill, we

set aside £100 million to provide benefits for pneumoconiosis cases. It seems probable that this sum will not be adequate. ... About 10,000 miners commuted their weekly benefits under the old Industrial Injuries Acts. Most were forced to do so because of their adverse circumstances, living in a part of the world where there was no other work, or because they were bringing up young families" "Whenever I ask ... about the reason why the British miner cannot retire at the age of 60 ... with an adequate pension, I am told that the substantial amount of money required would be too great and that the number of men involved would make such demands on the labour force that it would be quite impossible for the National Coal Board."

Miners' MP from Wrexham praises the NUM not for asserting miners' helping the government: "miners but underpinning the Government's whole economic policy this year. They had a ballot and gave the lead in agreeing to the £6 a week limit on wage increases. The Government owe a tremendous debt to the moderation of the NUM." He warns "Miners are worried about ... 26% drop in the use of coal by industry and the 21% drop in the use of domestic coal. They also see pressure on all sides to save energy, which means that less coal is used. There is also the erosion of the competitive advantage of coal over oil [as oil prices begin to stabilise in the wake of increased production and the end of the OPEC boycott]. It is important to reassure the miners that there will be a real increase in coal markets. It is no use having increased production without increased markets. It is all very well to say there is to be an increase of 42 million tons, but that has to be sold. ... It is important that the NCB should take a more aggressive attitude in world markets. We should be selling more coal abroad, and we must pursue markets for exports... Whatever else happens, we must get the wage determinations right" a "cause of our troubles was the failure of the Board following its introduction in 1963 or 1964 of a centrally determined system for paying piece workers' wages"

- 28 December 1975: Wilson announces: "We come out of 1975 more united, more determined and more realistic about what has got to be done" pay restraint.
- 28 December 1975: Atauro, the tiny island north of Timor, is the final Timorese territory to be declared Indonesia, effectively concluding the invasion.
- 28 December 1975-6 January 1976: Ted Heath makes an extended visit to Jordan holding talks with King Hussein, Seyid Rifai and others.

29 December 1975: <u>Financial Times</u> reports South Africa has cleared an area 650km into Angola for anti-MPLA forces.

29 December 1975: Equal Pay Act and Sex Discrimination Act officially come into force. Equal Opportunities Commission comes into force alongside it, which is designed to enforce the law or recommend cases to an industrial tribunal. It has powers to issue non-discrimination notices, effectively, following a formal investigation. The laws require women to receive equal pay for equal work but allow employers 5 years to upgrade women's wages and salaries. Instead of doing so, many will reclassify jobs, employment tasks and categories, effectively maintain segregated job roles with different tasks and different payment schemes for male or female-majority jobs.

Government has appointed Betty Lockwood, former national women's officer in the Labour Party, as its chair. She states the laws "will enable women to be sea captains, airline pilots and deep sea divers - if they come forward themselves."

As soon as it comes into force its provisions come under backlash attack. The Times chief political commentator attacks the reforms "for telling, me that I have 'got' to re-examine my attitude in my own home or if it comes to it, my wife must re-examine hers. It is outrageous to stretch an act of Parliament to cover not merely the law which is concrete, clear, precise, knowable, but also the spirit of the law." The home and family must remain a sacrosanct, privatised and basically hierarchical system, since it is the bedrock of undermining broad social change. This lesson has been understood from European experience in Germany 1918-19, Russia 1917-21, Spain 1934-7. Concern for an individualised 'private' family inevitably weakens resistance to militarists ready to pounce.

A schoolteacher's letter in <u>The Times</u>: "my personal freedom to choose the kind of person I want to be inside me is being eroded. I find the adolescent maiden a much more graceful person to deal with than the adolescent male."

The Economist's Intelligence Unit declares: "Until the social services for women are improved, such an act cannot possibly succeed. If women are obliged to spend long lunch hours doing the family shopping and take days off to care for sick children, employers are quite justified in their desire to pay them less. Britain in its current difficulties cannot spare the cash to make such an act work smoothly."

Those working in rote occupations see division on the basis of gender in job roles continue. NHS hospital domestics remain on much lower pay than hospital porters despite an early complaint. The section of the Act covering education is exempted from becoming law until 1979. It means schools continue to offer gender-divided classes with girls excluded from woodwork, technology and

other options (and boys from home economics). Taxation, social security and pensions are omitted from the Act, meaning gender apartheid still dominates particularly for those who have worked in lower pay scales and grades. Various exemptions are enforced for the Armed Forces and a complete one for the 'Royal Household', where no employment investigation can ever conducted.

29 December 1975: As a result of the acts, separate systems and pay rates for men and women in police forces are abolished. Policewomen's departments are dismantled. Although the Act is already made law, the 1976 Police Federation Conference debates a motion calling for the exclusion of the police from the provisions of the Sex Discrimination Act. It is defeated by just 27 delegates' votes in a total poll of over 800.

29 December 1975: Jack Sharpe, leading white merchant, is sworn in as new Prime Minister in Hamilton, Bermuda.

29 December 1975: State-owned Rolls-Royce announces closure of 2 plants over the next 18 months with the loss of close to 6,000 jobs.

29 December 1975: Persona Humana (Declaration on Certain Questions Concerning Sexual Ethics) is published by the Roman Catholic Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith with the approval of Pope Paul. It reasserts Church teaching on, amongst other matters, masturbation, suggesting the phenomenon has increased in the modern world: "The traditional Catholic doctrine that masturbation constitutes a grave moral disorder is often called into doubt or expressly denied today.... This opinion is contradictory to the teaching and pastoral practice of the Catholic Church... both the Magisterium of the Church- in the course of a constant traditionand the moral sense of the faithful have declared without hesitation that masturbation is an intrinsically and seriously disordered act. The main reason is that, whatever the motive for acting this way, the deliberate use of the sexual faculty outside normal conjugal relations essentially contradicts the finality of the faculty. For it lacks the sexual relationship called for by the moral order, namely the relationship which realizes "the full sense of mutual self-giving and human procreation in the context of true love." All deliberate exercise of sexuality must be reserved to this regular relationship... the tradition of the Church has rightly understood it to be condemned in the New Testament when the latter speaks of "impurity", "unchasteness" and other vices contrary to chastity and continence. Sociological surveys are able to show the frequency of this disorder according to the places, populations or circumstances studied. In this way facts are discovered, but facts do not constitute a criterion for judging the moral value of human acts. The frequency of the phenomenon in question is certainly to be linked with man's innate weakness following original sin; but it is also to be linked

with the loss of a sense of God, with the corruption of morals engendered by the commercialization of vice, with the unrestrained licentiousness of so many public entertainments and publications, as well as with the neglect of modesty, which is the guardian of chastity."

- 30 December 1975: Mario Soares warns against Cuban assistance to MPLA forces stating that the situation in Angola could become a new Vietnam with this assistance.
- 30 December 1975: To celebrate the introduction of the new Sex Discrimination Act and Equal Pay Act, <u>Dally Mirror</u> features a barechested male pin-up next to its standard nude female pin-up.
- 30 December 1975: Macao's Governor Col. Jose Garcia Leandro and army commander Lt.-Col. Maia Goncalves mark the abolition of the Macao garrison, withdrawing Portuguese armed forces to create a mixed territorial unit.
- 30 December 1975: Director of the Malaysian Students Department, Baharin, is awarded a state medal by the Malaysian High Commissioner to Britain, Datuk Abdullah Ali, at a reception held at the Malaysian High Commission In London last night. He is effectively congratulated for his services in keeping a lid on infection of anti-UMNO, anti-Tun Razak subversion amongst contacts in Britain.
- 30 December 1975: TGWU and AUEW trade union shop stewards finally accept a plan, after 11-hour marathon talks at Chrysler's Coventry office that will cut the firm's UK workforce of 25,000 by 8,500. Shop stewards are divided, the majority offer demands for reduction in working hours to reduce the total number of redundancies. Faced with the government ultimatum the vote to accept the reorganisation plan is fairly unanimous. Chrysler has previously given an ultimatum to its workers: accept redundancies in the government's rescue plan by the end of the week otherwise all Chrysler plants in Britain will close.
- 30 December 1975: State-owned BSC predicts annual loss will be £400mil in 1976 and announces a plan for 44,000 job cuts. It claims it is losing "£6mil a week"
- 31 December 1975: <u>The Times</u> warns of 'subversion' editor William Rees-Mogg announcing "the threat is not so much of successful frontal assault as of being compelled by slow degrees to surrender the values of toleration, truncate the formal procedures of justice and abandon the discreet measures of law enforcement appropriate to a free society bounded by consent." Since <u>The Times</u> is an

enthusiastic supporter of the Prevention of Terrorism Act, its criticisms of toleration are those based on toleration afforded to strikebreakers, police behaviour against arrests conducted of the culturally loyalist and the relatively few NF who are arrested, so as to better transport them away from an area or to provide a necessary provocation.

- 31 December 1975: "Chairman Mao Tsetung met on the evening of December 31, 1975 with Julie Nixon Eisenhower, daughter of former US President Richard Nixon, and her husband David Eisenhower. Chairman Mao had a conversation with them in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. At the end of the conversation, Chairman Mao asked them to convey, after returning home, his regards to Mr. Richard Nixon and said that Mr. Nixon was welcome to revisit China." (Peking Review, Jan 1976)
- 31 December 1975: Attempting to induce greater US, British and French assistance for anti-MPLA forces, Vorster warns "only a bigger Western involvement in all fields" can prevent Angola's slipping "into the Communist fold"
- 31 December 1975: Chancellor Healey in a <u>Financial Times</u> message repeats that he will "prevent any significant increase in public expenditure programmes after this year".
- 31 December 1975: Australia's High Commissioner to London, Sir John Bunting, signs a \$40 million contract with the British Aircraft Corporation for it to supply the Rapier missile system to Australia by mid-1978. The deal provides for base and battery repair facilities in Australia, training equipment, spare parts and vehicles. The supersonic missiles can be towed comfortably by Land Rovers and set up for action in a few minutes by 2 men. Australian military officers have been associated with development, trials and production of the system for the over the past decade. Australian soldiers have taken part in extensive trials at Woomera, near Darwin and Innisfail, northern Queensland as well as in Britain, Singapore and Canada in the past 7 years.
- 31 December 1975: Britain announces it will withdraw its ambassador from Chile, on an explicitly national basis. Foreign Secretary Callaghan: "No British Government can accept such uncivilised, brutal treatment of a British subject at the hands of a foreign government"

Whilst the embassy staff are withdrawn, parallel is the increase in consular staff and functions in Santiago, which are

31 December 1975: Chilean Ambassador to Britain Rear-Admiral Kaare Olsen issues a full ambassadorial statement announcing Dr. Sheila Cassidy has fabricated her torture when under arrest in a

Chilean military prison but that the government will nonetheless investigate. It claims Cassidy has voluntarily stated that she has been well treated. Later in an ITN interview he states she is a liar and has been heavily associated with "terrorists".

1975 Round-up: Oil imports show the top 3 Middle Eastern sources are £857mil from Saudi Arabia, £701mil from Iran, £419.3mil from Kuwait, a large gap until Qatar at £156mil. In total £2742mil of Middle East oil imports are recorded.

1975 Round-up: According to government figures, across the whole country 328 have been convicted for rape over the year, 87 receive a suspended non-prison sentence, 4 receive less than a 6-month sentence, and only 47 receive more than a 5 year sentence.

1975 Round-up: Convictions from offences against the Health and Safety at Work Act (1974) result in only 3 companies being fined over £350. Of 112 fines imposed on firms, 85 are fines under £200, of which 54 are under £100. Of 27 fines imposed on individual owners, 21 are under £100, the highest fine on an individual is under £350. (Written Answer, 16 Jun 1976)

1975 Round-up: Alistair Darling becomes an IMG supporter in his second year at the University of Aberdeen. He is drawn to the pro-Labour side of debates within the group – which has led to some resignations. He joins the Labour Party in 1977. Tariq Ali and much of the membership adopt this approach after May '79.

1975 Round-up: Figures show an increase over the year of the numbers of children attending private schools - 408,394 in 1971 to 421,658 in 1975.

1975 Round-up: 15,350 prosecutions are carried out over social security 'fraud' in 1975, which is estimated to have caused £2mil extra claims than otherwise. Tax evasion is estimated to have lost £1,000mil, 126 prosecutions for tax evasion are secured. (Paul Foot, Why you should be a socialist, 1976)

1975 Round-up: Prison Department Annual Report "1975 was a year dominated by a population crisis throughout the young offender custodial system" Over 9,000 17-20 year olds are in prisons on any given day, an increase of 12% compared to 1974.

1975 Round-up: Over the year "in South Birmingham Health District... the two gynaecologists at the District General Hospital are both Catholics and do not perform terminations on grounds of conscience — a right which they have under the Abortion Act of 1967. This means that there is no way in which the women of South Birmingham can get an NHS abortion within the South District. In 1975 only 6 per cent of women in South Birmingham who had abortions, had them on the NHS. The rest had to pay. Of the 667 women resident in this district who had abortion that year 626 were non-NHS."

1975 Round-up: "overseas factories have begun to make a real impact on the Welsh economy, rather than simply being interesting, but peripheral, "frills" (Davies, G. and Thomas, I. (1976), Overseas Investment in Wales p8)

1975 Round-up: 19 industrial disputes involving 13 branches of the POA Prison Officers' Association take place largely as a result of stresses and strains in overcrowded prisons, to combat these pressures, the government begins increasing non-prison sentences, leading to accusations of treachery and aiding criminals etc etc. When resources are spent on prison expansion, accusations arise of letting services for pensioners wither etc etc.

1975 Round-up: <u>The Grocer</u> in Jan 1976 reports that for 1975 average food prices increases have increased 21% over the year - processed food by 23.7%, fresh food by 17.5%.

January 1976: Abu Dhabi Gas Ownership Law is passed under FNC decision 1, 1976, amending the Constitution. It forms the ADNOC, the holding firm that formalises joint ventures with major multinational oil companies to gather, process, and liquefy UAE gas largely for Western markets.

January 1976: Members of the National Federation of the Self Employed begin their nationwide campaign of backlash non-cooperation, refusing to pay the correct national insurance contributions, refusing to fill in tax questionnaires, demanding that tax collectors come and assess them, thus delaying tax returns and making savings (under the effect of general price inflation) in the process.

\* January 1976: <u>Financial Times</u> notes "fears abroad that the British government has deliberately been indulging in devaluation policies to a greater extent than dictated by considerations of international competitiveness." Many states considered Britain was adopting a policy of "competitive devaluation", squeezing further exports and shutting out imports by rigging the currency market. Several combine to withdraw from sterling accounts.

1 January 1976: Barbados' opposition People Progressive Movement (PPM) condemns the refusal by the governments of Barbados and Trinidad to allow airports including Piarco to be used as refuelling stops for Cuban planes assisting the Angolan repulsion of SADF forces.

1 January 1976: Venezuela's PdVSA is finally fully instituted with a flag-raising ceremony at an oil-field area on Lake Maracaibo. President Carlos Andres Perez gives a speech in front of state, church and military leaders.

- 1 January 1976: Duke of Edinburgh opens the International Boat Show in Earl's Court. This is an annual scheme to boost private enterprise tied to the luxury end of pleasure sailing and cruising, 1 January 1976: Trade Disputes (Essential Services) Decree 1976 begins its operation in Nigeria. Developed by the new military government it allows Federal authorities to proscribe trade unions or associations employed in any essential service that has been engaged in "acts calculated to disrupt the economy or the smooth running of any essential service or has, where applicable, wilfully failed to comply with formal procedures specified."
- 1 January 1976: Reuters reports "More and more Englishmen are facing up to English women's fight for equality by taking Asian brides, according to the head of Britain's first marriage bureau for Asians. Mrs. Suman Bhargava said that her agency had been flooded with requests for Indian and Pakistani brides from white British men unhappy with 'women's lib'. "We do not argue with our husbands and are quite happy to have our marriages arranged." said Mrs. Bhargava. who has offices in Slough, west of London. Her first English customer was Mr Brian Williams, 23."
- 1 January 1976: Malaysia's Tan Sri Kadir, Director general of the Rukun tetangga, warns again that all males, 18-55 must register for compulsory vigilante service against guerrillas. "The Government takes a serious view of those who deliberately turn a deaf ear to the call to help In the nation's security. I have directed the Rukun tetangga Secretariat to take appropriate action against them."
- 1 January 1976: Ian Smith's New Years Day statement suggests limits on the :"To date there has been no discussion on the contents of a new constitution. I hope we will make a start at our next meeting. In spite of this, people in our midst are claiming that I and my Government, have already made an agreement which is a sellout of the white man in Rhodesia. These political opportunists must be condemned, not only because this is a deliberate and blatant lie but because it has a degrading effect on the morale of Rhodesians." He urges action against the MPLA as the most recent manifestation of a tide of Marxist aggression, comparing it to Nazi moves in the 1930s: "Many historians and world statesmen believed that if the Western nations had taken a united and strong stand at the beginning of Hitler's campaign of territorial aggression, the world war of 1939 would have been averted... There is no doubt in our minds as to where we stand. We have always been on the side of the free world."
- 1 January 1976: Lieutenant-Colonel Juan Carlos Moreno's in his New Year speech explains the targets of militarism in Argentina:

"The enemies of the fatherland are not only those who make up the anti-patriotic guerrilla in Tucumán. They are also those who change or deface the verb 'to love' in their school books, those ideologues who in our universities poison the minds of our young people, and provide weapons to the hands that kill... pseudo-trade unionist who acts like a demagogue to maintain his own position, without thought for the future interests of those he represents or of the Nation; the false priest who teaches Christ with a gun in his hand; the Judases who feed the guerrillas; the soldier who betrays his unit by handing over the sentry-post to the enemy; and the politician who does not know how to be a guide or master"

- 2 January 1976: AP files a report on FRETILIN Prime Minister Nicolau Lobato describing the transformation of East Timor into a "prairie of fire and destruction" after a month of the Indonesian invasion. It is broadly unexamined in the British national media.
- 2 January 1976: Argentine Foreign Office publishes a communiqué noting Britain's unwillingness to discuss sovereignty issues: "It wishes to carry on conversations with an open agenda on the subject of 'economic cooperation'" but has not given its officials any mandate or room to discuss or "to listen to what the Argentine party wished to propose on other matters."
- 2 January 1976: <u>Christian Science Monitor</u> reports CIA funding of US forces to fight in Angola beside FNLA and UNITA against the MPLA, and at least 300, including 15 South Vietnamese, have been trained at Fort Benning, Georgia. Presidential press secretary Ron Nessen denies the report but refuses to answer questions asking if non-Americans are being funded in the war for Angola. Although the US Senate has cut off all military funds for Angola, Ford and Kissinger continue to spend from previously approved military appropriations to maintain pro-Western allies.
- 2 January 1976: FRETILIN radio confirms that Roger East was killed by the Indonesian assault on Dili on 7 Dec 1975.
- 2 January 1976: Senator George McGovern meets with Portuguese chief Jose Pinhero de Azevedo and other senior Portuguese cabinet members and party leaders declares that there is nothing to be alarmed by in Portugal and since his last visit in Sep 1975 the program of US aid is "moving forward".
- 2 January 1976: Instead of £1 for a 3-year driving licence, £5 for a 50-year licence becomes operational.

- 2 January 1976: Barbados Police Association rejects a proposal to abolish the post of station sergeant in the Royal Barbados Police Force. corporal Louis Sealy, chairman of the association's central fimittee, said the rank of station sergeant says abandoning the rank will limit incentives at a time when there is a need for more incentives in the force.
- 2 January 1976: Under the ongoing rightist campaign directed from hard-tight exiles in Chile and militarists within Ecuador, President Guillermo Rodriguez Lara's entire cabinet announces its resignation. On 9 Jan 1976 responsibility for internal order is handed to the armed forces, on 11 Jan 1976 Lara resigns as President ceding power to a 3-man junta composed of the Commanders of the Armed Forces' 3 wings.
- 3 January 1976: A fisherman is killed at sea after putting out to sea in spite of the wind.
- 3 January 1976: South African Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Maj.-Gen. Viljoen, head of Angola operations, meet at Bandolita. They discuss South African plans to purchase weapons for Zairean armed forces to carry on assisting FNLA forces in north-eastern Angola.
- 3 January 1976: Uganda Radio reports President Amin as saying of Angola "I cannot take sides. I am friendly with all three liberation movements."
- 3 January 1976: TGWU and other trade unions accept 8,300 job cuts in the next 6 months as part of the government's £162mil rescue plan for the Chrysler's loss-making British subsidiary, Chrysler UK. The government threatens 26,000 job losses unless the deal is accepted.
- 3 January 1976: Ford half-acknowledges Zairean and South African presence in Angola: "We are working with other countries that feel they have an interest in giving the Angolans an opportunity to make the decision for themselves"
- 5 January 1976: Members of PIRA units in Armagh, who have never fully accepted the logic of the truce, declaring themselves the South Armagh Republican Action Force (SARAF) murder 10 Protestant workmen near the village of Kingsmills in apparent retaliation for the shooting dead of 5 culturally Irish workers.
- 5 January 1976: South Africa begins nationwide broadcasts of television. Immediately, it is regarded as a suitable market for BBC exports.

- 5 January 1976: "We left this morning for Teheran" with "Peter Le Cheminant, Frances Morell and Bryan Emmett." Shah is "now pushing us to increase our [oil] purchases. We were met at Teheran airport by Iraj Vahidi [Energy Minitser] with the British Charge d'Affaire George Chalmers" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 5 January 1976: Office of Health Economics publishes a study Murder, Manslaughter and Infanticide investigating rates of killings in England and Wales. It finds that children under 1 are the most likely victims of murder followed by men in their early 20s. Stabbing is the most common form of murder among adults. It reports murder "is rising most rapidly among males in and around their 20s of whom more than 15 per million are now killed each year as a result of the deliberate acts of other persons." United States equivalent figure is 105 per million.
- 6 January 1976: Taking the opportunity offered by the point-blank execution of the Kingsmill murders, government announces an extra 600 soldiers will be stationed in County Armagh.
- 6 January 1976: Malaysia's Trade and Industry Minister announces in the Dewan Negara that the government is beginning to itemise vehicle spare parts as controlled items, where imports, including those from Britain, will become very difficult. It is part of Malaysia's import substitution strategy.
- 6 January 1976: Weakened by the repression of last May, Bougainville's miners' union offers to "reduce the back-payment period by at least half" of a claim for the minimum wage to have been from October 1974. Bougainville Copper (major shareholders British multinational Rio Tinto Zinc) refuses the compromise offer states the firm will hold to the Papuan government's ruling that disallowed retrospective payments to copper workers. The union executive, which has the day before voted to take a case to the Supreme Court, states it will only strike only if all else fails to secure their half-demand: "We have learnt from our mistake last May. We will bend over backwards first to resolve the matter by industrial (arbitration) means" are union president Henry Moses's words.
- 6 January 1976: "I went to see Dr Eqbal, who is chairman of the National Iranian oil Corporation and Parviz Mina, brilliant director of International Relations NIOC. .. I asked about trade unions and he said they had none, they had labour syndicates ... collective agreements on wags and disagreements were arbitrated by the ministry of Labour. Lunch with Dr Akbar Etemad, President of the Aromic Energy of Iran AEOI." (Tony Benn's Diary)

6 January 1976: John Kingsley Read's National Party is officially launched. It is formed by populists (and Strasserites) critical of John Tyndall's authoritarianism. Tyndall accuses them of infection by Marxism. It calls for repatriation of nonwhites whilst criticising the continuing Nazism of the NF leadership. It supports the apartheid and Rhodesian regimes and later develops contacts with the Nazi National Youth Alliance, USA, and Federal Germany's NPD. Paul Kingsley, editor of party journal Britain First, is also a leading member of the British Friends of Ulster. It takes over Raven Books, a successful and lucrative far-right mail order operation. Tony Hancock, head of publishing firm Historical Review Press, also becomes a member, and Its publications are given pride of place. Historical Review Press gains fame for publishing 'Did Six Million Really Die?' its biggest money-spinner.

7 January 1976: New Straits Times reports "Malaysian Students Department in London has forwarded to the Ministry of Education a full report on the implications of the 30 per cent increase in fees for foreign students at universities and colleges in Britain. An MSD spokesman said that the report, sent two weeks ago underlined the changes in fees for separate courses which take effect from September. ... Undergraduate scholarship holders now get £82 per month and postgraduates receive £93. This was a rise from £70-£75 for the former and from £85 for the latter.

Undergraduates I spoke to felt they should receive £100 a month because of the now higher cost of living... the recent 30% increase In transport means an extra £2 [cost] a month within London. There are also some who feel that the Government should adopt an equal-allowance system for all students, under-and post-graduates. One undergraduate who did not wish to be named. Said 'There should be no difference In the allowance, for both classes of students because they are exposed to the same costs of living and have the same needs There is no reason why the post-graduates should be better fed.'"

7-8 January 1976: IMF, with British votes, at its session in Kingston, Jamaica banishes the 'par value system' and accepts floating exchange rates as the norm. The introduction of capital controls becomes more expensive as a result. Article V(3) of the IMF constitution is amended to confirm that the Fund could, and indeed should, place conditions on requests for drawings. The modern predatory IMF is taking shape.

7 January 1976: Reg Parsons senior TGWU official at British Leyland says that British Leyland's Cowley, Oxford plant is "a beehive for extremist activity" which could lead to the total collapse of the company if moderate trade unionists fail to meet their obligations.

He names "extremist" groups as Workers' Revolutionary Party, International Marxist Group, and the Workers' Socialist League. "I am frightened for the future of my industry as a result of the subversive elements, and the activities of such people are eroding the real role of trade unionism. We've now got creeping paralysis, a growing cancer in the car industry". He says the TGWU elections for seven deputy senior shop-steward posts will be "a showdown between extremists and trade unionists". Alan Thornett has been stripped of his shop-steward role in Dec 1975. The TGWU leadership has organised a plan to restrict militants, with a petition calling for a new TGWU branch at the plant. Effectively it aims to switch off the trade union as it stands and start again with new shop-stewards.7 January 1976: TGWU posters in the plant describe constant profit warnings and the dangers of falling orders with the presence of industrial action.

7 January 1976: Steel unions, principally the ISTC, begin a strike in protest at British Steel Corp's plan to cut 44,000 jobs over the next 2 years and to end overtimes rates on Sunday working.

7 January 1976: Seymour Hersh in the New York Times reports on CIA activities: 'Central Intelligence Agency has spent at least \$6 million on political leaders in Italy': "Six million dollars is absolutely nothing," the official maintained. The funds were to help noncommunist politicians get publicity. During Dr. Kissinger's trip to Western Europe early last month he was reliably reported to have insisted that the U.S. was determined to do what it could to prevent communists from moving into Western governments and thus crippling, in his view, the NATO." Callaghan's agreement for US activities has been ascertained in the various four-party (Federal German, French, British, US) foreign ministers' meetings.

7 January 1976: Guerrilla bombing of a military vehicle in Taqah, Oman. 4 British soldiers are killed 3 wounded.

- 8 January 1976: Lord Todd, Chancellor of the University of Strathclyde, visits Malaysia giving a lecture at Hotel Merlin, Kuala Lumpur 'Patterns in Science A Time for Change' urging industrial support of science research.
- 8 January 1976: A patent (no.1,542,168) is filed by Tate & Lyle researchers Prof Leslie Hough, Riaz Khan and Shashikant Punishotlam for 'sucrolase' entitled "Chloroderivates of sucrose" (Application No: 860/77)

Prof Hough: "September 1975 I was worried that Phadnis' ISRF grant might not be renewed on October 1. Naturally, I wanted him to continue. He had just made a tetrachlorinated derivative of sucrose on the ISRF grant. Consequently, I was worried. I rang Chuck Vlitos, Director of Research at Tate & Lylc, Reading, and

asked him if he would support Phadnis with a post-doc grant. He agreed immediately. So I switched Phadnis to a Tale & Lyle grant from October 1 1975....

Then the sweetness was discovered by Phadnis after Riaz rang us to request a sample of the 'tetrachloride'. The next day I went to Reading and informed Chuch Vlitos. The next week there was a sugar meeting in Paris at which the Director of Research of the ISRF was present. So then I went to Paris to inform him of the situation. Lawyers then went to and fro and a patent for the 'tetrachloride' went to ISRF and sweetness to Tate & Lyle. ... [later tate] Chuck Vlitos engaged Johnson and Johnson to become a partner [since the costs of undergoing testing could not be borne alone]." (quoted in From Sugar to Splenda: A Personal and Scientific Journey of a Carbohydrate, Bert Fraser-Reid)

"The nooks and crannies of Hough's lab were scoured for samples, and Riuz Khan's research group at Tale & Lyle's laboratory located in rented space at the University of Reading, worked tirelessly to provide additional chlorinated sucroses to be evaluated by the Panel. Professor Hough recalls that "over 100 sucrose and related derivatives" were tested." (From Sugar to Splenda: A Personal and Scientific Journey of a Carbohydrate, Bert Fraser-Reid)

Later the discovery is publicly disclosed at a lecture at a joint American Chemical Society- ISRF (International Sugar Research Foundation) symposium in September 1976 and in the October 28 1976 issue of Nature. The sharing of scientific research comes after patenting. Tate & Lyle has been funding research into sucrosederived compounds since 1970 at Queen Elizabeth College (later Kings College London).

It effectively takes a major step towards abandoning the sugar industry and moving into chemically-synthesised products sector with this patent.

Again British state-funded educational facilities have sustained the necessary part of the investment for a private firm's success. Within tate & Lyle the products-division has been organised on a huge deficit without much worry by constantly siphoning finance from its sugar production and refinery business. By contrast, state deficit expenditure for social goals immediately attracts higher costs. ('We must cut the deficit").

Today sucralose, marketed as Splenda to consumers and other food firms, brings in over a quarter of Tate & Lyle's operating profit. "Sucralose was developed jointly by US firm (John & Johson subsidiary) McNeil Specialty Products and Tate & Lyle. The London firm became the sole manufacturer of Splenda in April" 2001 (MoneyWeek Shares in focus: How Tate & Lyle turned itself around, David Stevenson June 3, 2011)

"By 2007 Splenda had seized 61% of sugar-substitute sales in grocery and drug stores according to Information Resources Inc, a

research firm." (Sweet and lowdown, Economist Jan 28 2010) This has allowed Tate & Lyle, associated with sugar, to leave the less-profitable competition ridden sugar-production industry altogether.

9 January 1976: Lawrence Ndzanga, organiser of SARHWU (South African Railway and Harbour Workers union) is murdered in detention without trial under the Terrorism Act.

9-10 January 1976: Thatcher visits Egypt and praises the growing reconciliation between Egypt and Israel as "courageous and wise" declaring a just settlement "is not aided by unilateral pronouncements, but only by diplomatic activity between the two of the kind that resulted in the Sinai agreement."

10 January 1976: Gerry Adams writing in An Phoblacht/Republican News: "At the time of writing, and for the past few weeks, Frank Stagg, a republican POW in Wakefield Prison, has been on hunger and thirst strike, while Roy Walsh and two of his comrades are still in solitary confinement in the Prison Segregation Unit (Special Control Unit) of Wormwood Scrubs after their protest there last November. Republican prisoners in England are held under solitary confinement conditions and Paul Holmes, in particular, has spent most of his time in the Segregation Unit of Parkhurst Prison, known among republican POWs as 'The Hole'. They are all making one basic demand, and that is a transfer to Ireland so that they may serve their sentences nearer home. The precedent for this move was made when Dolours and Marion Price were transferred after a long and horrifying hunger strike and again, when Hugh Feeney and Gerry Kelly were moved to Long Kesh. Loyalist prisoners, albeit without hunger strikes, have also been transferred. Once again, England has shown her ability to condemn torture abroad against her citizens, while at home in her own prison hell-holes, day and daily, Irishmen and Irishwomen are tortured in the most cowardly and bestial manner. Within the next week or two support for Frank Stagg will build in the ghettoes and among the freedom loving people of Ireland. This may be too late. It must be stressed that Frank Stagg will die if pressure is not brought to bear... I asked two comrades, Hugh Feeney and Gerry Kelly, to scribble a brief outline of their experiences, so that I could give an outline of Frank Stagg's prison 'routine'. Their notes arrived in this cage this evening and I have used them below almost as they were written. As a republican prisoner myself, who has spent a few years in Long Kesh and a month or two on the Maidstone Prison Ship, I have often felt guite sorry for myself and many times I have had the audacity to feel chuffed at enduring all this. Since reading Gerry and Hugh's account of forced feeding I have stopped kidding myself. My two brief punishment sessions 'on the boards' here, the off beating-up on Brit

raids and the conditions which my visitors endure have all paled to insignificance beside the plight of our people in England... Frank has been on four previous hunger strikes and the conditions he is at present suffering are as they were when he was on hunger strike and in solitary confinement in Parkhurst and Long Lartin. He is now in the hospital wing of Wakefield prison, under the `care' of Doctors Knox and Xavier. Both these men have force-fed Irish prisoners and, last May, Frank Maguire MP reported that a week after being force fed, Frank Stagg still bore the nail-marks of Dr Xavier on his wrists. These doctors call force-feeding, 'tube' feeding. Frank Stagg may be in the hospital wing, but a prison hospital cannot, in any way, be equated with a civilian hospital. Frank has been moved from one cell of the prison punishment block to a greater punishment - the possibility of forced feeding. He still remains in complete solitary confinement and he must inevitably face force feeding again even after the decision by the British Medical Association to condemn it. Forced feeding has not been stopped, but it is left to the discretion of the prison doctor. Frank Stagg was last force fed in May 1975. Jenkins, in a reply a few months ago in the Brit House of Commons, stated that he had left it to the prison doctor. If, as is likely, Frank Stagg is forced fed again he will suffer the following torture and, because his throat and stomach in particular cannot have healed properly, his health will deteriorate more quickly than it is doing at present. He will face the possibility of at least one and maybe two 'feedings' daily. Force feeding is always brutal. No matter how often it occurs the victim does not get used to it. Some sessions are worse than others, but all are terrible experiences. If the 'feedings' are not at regular times each day, and usually they are not, then he spends the entire day trying to prepare himself emotionally.... A team of screws are the first to appear.... He will be 'fed' either in his cell or dragged outside into another one. He will be held in a bed or on a chair. Usually six or eight screws are involved. They swop in an obviously planned manner, holding and pressing down on arms and legs. He will struggle as best he can even though he knows it is useless. One grabs him by the hair and forces his head back, and when he is finally pinned down in the proper manner the doctor and his assistant arrive. Various methods will be employed to open Frank's mouth. His nose will be covered to cut off air, or a screw or doctor will bunch their fists or bore their knuckles into the joints on each side of the jaws. A Ryle's tube will be used. This is a very long thin tube which is pushed through the nose. It is supposedly for nasal feeding, but, in forced feeding, it is simply a torture weapon used to force open the jaws. It rubs against the membrane at the back of the nose and, if not coated in a lubricant (which it seldom is), it causes a searing pain, akin to a red-hot needle being pushed into one's head. If Frank cries out with this pain, a wooden clamp will be

pushed very forcibly between his teeth. If this fails to work, the doctor will use a large pair of forceps to cut into the gums, the ensuing pain again forcing the jaws to open sufficiently for the clamp to be forced in. Sometimes a metal clamp, rather like a 'Bulldog' clip, is used. It is forced between the teeth and a bolt is turned, forcing a spring and the jaws to open. When Frank's jaws are finally pried open, a wooden bit, rather like a horse bit, is forced into his mouth. This bit has two pointed ends, which are used to force and to hold an opening. It 'sits' across his mouth with a screw holding each end, and there is a hole in the centre of it through which the feeding tube is forced. A flat piece of wood is inserted first to press the tongue down and then a three-foot long rubber tube, coated in liquid paraffin, is shoved in and down his throat. A funnel is placed on the open end and they will pour some water in. If the water bubbles, they know the tube is in Frank's lungs. If so, the tube is removed and the whole process starts again.

Michael Gaughan was murdered in this way. When the tube is eventually fixed properly, it is pushed down into Frank's stomach. There are different widths of tube and obviously the wider they are, the more painful the torture. Doctors usually use the widest as food goes down quicker and they don't have to delay overlong. Frank will feel his stomach filling up and stretching, an experience he has undergone before. Automatically, he will vomit up, the disgorged food being caught in a kidney dish. If the doctor in charge is especially sadistic the vomit will be forced back down his throat again (this happened to Gerry Kelly). As the tube is removed it tears at the back of his throat, more so than before because the liquid paraffin has worn off on the way down. The last few inches will be ghastly. Frank will get violent pains in his chest. He will choke and, at this point, he will be sicker than before, as the tube coming out triggers off more retching (Marion Price passed out at this stage once). After 'feeding', Frank will find it impossible to stand up, to sit up, or to move in any way.

Frank Stagg is also on thirst strike. This is dealt with in two ways. The first method employed is simply more force feeding with water fluids in the food. Since this liquid bypasses his mouth (via the tube) that is where he will feel it most. The other method involves putting extra salt in the liquid during force feeding. This causes a more concentrated dehydration and increases the desire for water. To repeatedly alternate between thirst and hunger strike, as Frank Stagg is doing, is extremely difficult and indescribably agonising. He may be refused a towel or water to wash off his vomit as Hugh Feeney was, and his cell will stink of sour milk and disgorged food. On one occasion Hugh Feeney was even denied Communion by a priest, so Frank could find himself denied even spiritual comfort. This then is a broad outline of the barbarism condoned by English politicians in England and condemned by them elsewhere. It is

inflicted, with equal savagery, on girls as well as men. Dolours and Marion Price were tortured like this during a strike which lasted 205 days."

- 10-17 January 1976: Bertrand Russell Tribunal takes place into repression in Latin America. After deliberation it states many multinational firms (including British ones) and 'research foundations', alongside Latin American governments and US Secretary of State Kissinger are guilty of breaking elementary laws.
- 11 January 1976: Around 20,000 landowners and manager-farmers converge in a demonstration in Braga, northern Portugal, warning they will cut off Lisbon's food supplies starting from 2 Feb 1976 unless the law for agrarian reform is withdrawn and farmworker seizures are repressed. They express no confidence in PS Agriculture Minister Antonio Lopes Cardoso, even though he has declared seized lands will be returned by force and that agricultural reform law has gone too far and will be modified. He has promised future nationalisation of land will be carried out only on large estates south of the Tagus, owned by absentee landlords.
- 11 January 1976: Mick McGahey, NUM Vice-President, is elected CPGB chairman, offering a soft Euro-Communist line and devotion to the ideal of 'Broad Left' Labour Left-Communist unity in trade union and popular struggle.
- 11 January 1976: Britain and USA refuse to support any increase in funding to the International Development Association (IDA), the one affiliate of the World Bank that is able to make interest-free loans, at a the joint IMF-World Bank summit in Kingston, Jamaica.
- 11 January 1976: New York Times reports severe cuts in IMF funding to Tanzania and Guyana as result of their failure to follow Western votes at the U.N. Guyana, in its search for foreign currency, later extends its practice of corrupt kickbacks from Jim Jones' Peoples' Temple in Georgetown and Jonestown and leaves it exempt from investigation. Eventually virtually none of the 900+citizens will escape.
- 11 January 1976: 30 major US firms operating in France call for the US government to allow Concorde access to US airports.
- 12 January 1976: Labour Party's research department argues the Wilson cabinet should abandon or delay many of its planned social policies. It claims tax revenue is falling too short of expenditure hence 'something must be done about the deficit'.
- 12 January 1976: Iceland protests to NATO about the actions of Royal Navy warships off the Icelandic coast, performing dangerous ramming patrol boats and fishing vessels.

- 12 January 1976: Wilson states that a united Ireland is not a solution which any British political party would consider.
- 12 January 1976: Northern Ireland Minister Rees speaks on the Convention Report and his projection for a "reduction in the scale of violence, for which the General Officer Commanding and all his soldiers, sailors and airmen and the Chief Constable and his police officers strive throughout 24 hours of every day—sometimes with more armchair criticism than active support." With this reduction "the present commitment of the Army, both in numbers and in the scale of activity, when it has ceased to be involved in internal security" can be ended alongside "the Royal Ulster Constabulary and civil policing playing an increasing role."
- 12 January 1976: Labour Left Kevin McNamara praises "strong measures they have been taking to defeat the IRA within their own country" by "the present coalition Government" in Ireland. "We must not fail to recognise the steps taken by the Irish Government to come to the aid of the British Army and the RUC. The Irish Government have imprisoned, in a far more Draconian way, many members of the IRA in a way that one would never have thought possible even a short time ago." He also praises SDLP-UUP "agreement on security questions and on the procedure in regard to complaints against the police."
- 12 January 1976: Union leaders, part of the TUC Steel Committee, and BSC meet again over the redundancies plan.
- 12-13 January 1976: 100 Libyan students stage a sit-in at the Libyan embassy in Prince's Gate London SW7 to protest at the shooting dead of at least 16 and imprisonment of hundreds more at Benghazi University on January 4 1976. The sit-in ends when embassy officials promise to cable Gaddafi's government a demand for an enquiry and "a public trial of all officials responsible for the massacre."
- 13 January 1976: Argentine statement declares that Foreign Secretary Callaghan "persists in his persuasive intent to refer to economic cooperation, on the other hand, describing as sterile the dispute over sovereignty."
- 14 January 1976: Home Secretary Jenkins announces that he has asked Sir Clause Moser to investigate into "the clerical error" that allowed 'too many immigrants' from the New Commonwealth to enter in 1873-4. Too many deportations are never media scandals throughout the period, only too many immigrant entries.
- 14 January 1976: Conservative Party admits internally the danger where "it would be all too easy and popular with some sections of

the Party - to indulge in union bashing" but it is absolutely essential "to restore confidence between ourselves and the trade unions, even if at the end of the day we were likely to convince only a small percentage. It [has] to be a quiet, long-term exercise" (CPA/ACP (76) 142nd Meeting, 14 Jan 1976)

14 January 1976: Mia Kellmer-Pringle, director of the National Children's Bureau 1975-80, child psychologist and 'child welfare expert' consulted by Labour stresses women mothers must essentially continue to perform childcare, not all sorts of humans: "no wholly adequate substitute has been found for the one-to-one, close, continuing, loving and mutually enjoyable relationship which is the hall-mark of maternal care" (The Times 14 Jan 1976)

This approach updating but not really re-examining the John Bowlby line constitutes the bedrock of her 1974 report for government into children's needs. "Mothering mediates between the child's inner subjective and the outside 'real' world; it recognises and establishes his personal identity and individuality; and her loving care is unique in the sense that it is adapted to his very special, individual needs which are recognized as being different from those of any other child."

Virulently opposed to the socialisation or nationalisation of childcare it is the basis on which the government at first extends but then rapidly retrenches nursery provision. As a point of external reference, a Soviet study, also in 1974, announces that women's presence in the home with children up the age of 3 is is an absolute necessity.

16 January 1976: Foreign Office minister Goronwy-Roberts explains in Kuala Lumpur that withdrawal of the British Gurkha battalion in Brunei will not pose a danger to Brunei security. "It is not for me to deny that the Sultan Is apprehensive about the security of his state. It is up to everyone concerned in the region to remove the apprehension through friendly discussions."

He states of Malaysia: "I gave [Foreign Minister Rithauddeeen] a very clear picture of the situation as we consider Malaysia a very friendly country and the neighbour of Brunei. I am happy that Tengku Rithauddeen understood Britain's position that [inter-state] problems in the region should be sorted out through negotiations". He avoids any criticism of Malaysia's imprisoned opposition and trade unionists.

16 January 1976: Zaire says it holds the MPLA responsible for a guerrilla bombing of unmanned frontier posts and railway. "This action is a casus belli". On 18 January 1976 its Foreign Affairs Minister meets neo-tribalist FNLA leader Holdern Roberto and the

Chinese and Canadian ambassador sounding out their support for a thrust into Angola. He also meets with Algerian ambassador, which has recognised the MPLA regime, and states Zaire wants to discuss peace but will continue to support the FNLA.

18 January 1976: Labour Left MPs Jim Sillars and John Robertson, and Alex Neil, Labour Party's senior Scottish researcher launch the Scottish Labour Party having resigned in protest at Labour government cuts and unemployment and the failure to put through a vote on a Scottish Assembly.

18 January 1976: Reuters: "In 1974, the government published figures showing that it might cost more to scrap the project than to see it through. So far, the British government has provided \$1.3 billion in research, development and production costs to British Aircraft Corp - joint builders of Concorde - and in subsidies to British Airways."

19 January 1976: Thatcher makes a tough backlash case in favour of increased defence expenditure: "The Russians are bent on world dominance, and they are rapidly acquiring the means to become the most powerful imperial nation the world has seen. The men in the Soviet politburo don't have to worry about the ebb and flow of public opinion. They put guns before butter, while we put just about everything before guns. ... I am going to visit our troops in Germany on Thursday.... Still more serious gaps have opened up elsewhere especially in the troubled area of Southern Europe and the Mediterranean. The rise of Russia as a world-wide naval power, threatens our oil rigs and our traditional life-lines, the sea routes. ... They are searching for new naval base facilities all over the world, while we are giving up our few remaining bases. They have moved into the Indian Ocean. They pose a rising threat to our northern waters and, farther east to Japan's vital sea routes. The Soviet navy is not designed for self-defence. We do not have to imagine an allout nuclear war or even a conventional war in order to see how it could be used for political purposes. ... We must also heed the warnings of those, like Alexander Solzhenitsyn, who remind us that we have been fighting a kind of 'Third World War' over the entire period since 1945—and that we have been steadily losing ground. As we look back over the battles of the past year, over the list of countries that have been lost to freedom or are imperilled by Soviet expansion can we deny that Solzhenitsyn is right? We have seen Vietnam and all of Indochina swallowed up by Communist aggression. We have seen the Communists make an open grab for power in Portugal, our oldest ally ... So it is more vital then ever that each and every one of us within NATO should contribute his proper share to the defence of freedom. Britain, with her world-wide experience of diplomacy and defence, has a special role to play. We in the Conservative Party are determined that Britain should fulfil that role. ... This is not a moment when anyone with the interests of this country at heart should be talking about cutting our defences. It is a time when we urgently need to strengthen our defences. Of course this places a burden on us. But it is one that we must be willing to bear if we want our freedom to survive. Throughout our history, we have carried the torch for freedom. Now, as I travel the world, I find people asking again and again, "What has happened to Britain?" They want to know why we are hiding our heads in the sand, why with all our experience, we are not giving a lead. Apparently, we can even afford to lend money to the Russians, at a lower rate of interest that we have to pay on our own borrowings. But we cannot afford, in Labour's view, to maintain our defences at the necessary level—not even at a time when on top of our NATO commitments, we are fighting a major internal war against terrorism in Northern Ireland, and need more troops in order to win it. ...

She states "In their two electoral avalanches at the end of last year, [Australia and New Zealand] brought back Governments committed to freedom of choice, governments that will roll back the frontiers of state intervention in the economy and will restore incentives for people to work and save. Our congratulations go to Mr Fraser and Mr Muldoon. I know that our countries will be able to learn from each other. What has happened in Australasia is part of a wider reawakening to the need to provide a more positive defence of the values and traditions on which Western civilisation, and prosperity, are based. We stand with that select body of nations that believe in democracy and social and economic freedom."

She urges Britain's diplomatic staff to stress backlash themes, basically in defence of US and British interests: "Part of Britain's world role should be to provide, through its spokesmen, a reasoned and vigorous defence of the Western concept of rights and liberties: The kind that America's Ambassador to the UN, Mr Moynihan, has recently provided in his powerfully argued speeches."

She urges mild caution over European integration, wary of the effects of popular action within the EEC: "We are committed to direct elections within the Community, but the timing needs to be carefully calculated. But new problems are looming up. Among them is the possibility that the Communists will come to power through a coalition in Italy. This is a good reason why we should aim for closer links between those political groups in the European Parliament that reject Socialism."

She urges promotion of SAS and police forces to Europe over antiterrorism measures: "We should seek close co-ordination between the police and security services of the Community, and of NATO, in the battle against terrorism. The way that our own police have coped with recent terrorist incidents provides a splendid model for other forces."

She asserts 'some new subsidy' be replaced by defence spending, which is the largest and longest-running subsidy system in operation in Britain: "sedatives have been prescribed by people, in and out of Government, telling us that there is no external threat to Britain, that all is sweetness and light in Moscow, and that a squadron of fighter planes or a company of marine commandos is less important than some new subsidy."

- 19 January 1976: The Anguilla Constitution (1976) is finally agreed coming into effect on 10 Feb 1976, ending fourteen months of non-cooperation between the British Governor/Commissioner and the Anguillan Assembly.
- 20 January 1976: Foreign ministers of EEC states declare they are ready to resume trade talks with Spain. The trade-liberalization talks were suspended in Nov 1975 when severe social pressure was exerted across Europe over the execution by firing squad for five ETA and FRAP guerrillas at the end of Sep 1975.
- 20 January 1976: General Sir Frank King, recently knighted after recommendation on 1 Jan 1976, is appointed Commander NATO Northern Army Group and Commander-in-Chief of BOAR (British Army of the Rhine).
- 21 January 1976: Duke of Kent flies on British Airways' inaugural Concorde flight to the Middle East, Manama, Bahrain, as an official guest.
- 21-22 January 1976: Defence ministers of the Nuclear Planning Group (USA, Belgium, Denmark, Great Britain, Italy, Federal Germany and Turkey where significant nuclear missiles are stored) meet. Their communiqué states "arrangements for an important new phase of the Nuclear Planning Group which... is designed to produce a consolidated statement of NATO policy for the use of theater nuclear forces in defense of the alliance." The talks examine procedures on the use of nuclear weapons.
- 23 January 1976: TUC Steel Committee reaches agreement with the BSC to improve productivity.
- 23 January 1976: <u>The Sun</u> headlines 'Ripper Hunted in Call-Girl Murders', turning the attacks in Leeds, as they are understood at the time, into circus, failing to note that non-call girls have also been left for dead.

23 January 1976: Britain again assists USA's position by abstaining as the USA vetoes a UNSC resolution calling on Israel to withdraw from its occupied territories. 9-3-1 is the final vote. It fails to follow France and Japan in supporting the resolution.

23 January 1976: Sir Frederick Mason, ambassador to Chile during the previous Labour government, 1966–70, before Seconde, in the Catholic Herald adopts the hard line defence of the Chilean militarists: "The Chilean Government has repeatedly denied that she was tortured, the FCO spokesman says he thinks she was I do not wish to argue the point. What I do find misleading about Dr Cassidy's statements is the implied condemnation of the present Junta Government as those responsible for the hunger and misery she witnessed in Santiago. She went to Chile in 1971 at the height of Allende's power. She must have seen or heard of the barbarities perpetrated by the MIR gangsters whose second in command she succoured. She must also know that the Allende Government, which tolerated those gangsters was directly responsible for leading the country into the bankruptcy and misery which she so righteously condemns. The minority Communist government of Allende destroyed 30 years' of patient work of social reforms by his predecessors culminating in the enlightened rule of the Christian Democrat President Eduardo Frei, who still seems to represent his country's best hope for a return to political sanity. Meanwhile the military Junta is at least trying to pick up the pieces after Allende."

23 January 1976: Neil Kinnock in Tribune moves to defend Reginald Seconde and argue for a peculiarly 'national' line in Chile: "Seconde's position as chairman of the British Chamber of Commerce in Chile and the Chamber's sycophancy towards the iunta is well known. But while it would be nice if he would resign this purely honorary post, I don't think that it would matter much to the junta... I wish that Seconde had let fugitives into the British Embassy... but he was specifically instructed by the Tory Government not to give such help... Since February 1974, Mr. Seconde has been doing his job as scrupulously for a Labour Government as he did it for the Tories... A tussle over Seconde's acceptability to the British Labour movement is, however, among the least important of all the issues posed by Chile. Apart from Sheila Cassidy's visit to the Human Rights Commission, the Labour Government has not (up to the time of writing) made any response to the demands which we have made to "put the squeeze on Chile's torturers." Ambassador Olsen, the Chilean servicemen and the DINA (secret police) agents are still here, the armaments have not been confiscated and there has been no announcement of further economic and political sanctions against the junta. Nor, has

- recognition of the junta been withdrawn. But that's just as well we would be ho help to other Sheila Cassidys if our diplomats, instead of working in Santiago were twiddling self-righteous thumbs in London. Obviously there is a lot more for us to do than worry about the history of Reginald Seconde."
- 24 January 1976: Yuri Gavrilov in armed forces newspaper <u>Krasnaya zvezda</u> refers to Thatcher as the 'iron Lady' 'mvedniy leydi', from which TASS refers to once and then Western world press agencies repeat the idea that Kremlin leaders have given her the title reflecting her toughness etc.
- 24 January 1976: Press reports announce that an undisclosed "unique settlement" sum, agreed in Dec 1975 after months of negotiations featuring 5 British Foreign Officials, as compensation on behalf of 6,000 Asian nationals expelled from Uganda, has ended Indo-British-Ugandan wrangling.
- 24 January 1976: Indian president approval is given for India to pay \$26.5mil in compensation to Burmah-Shell, subsidiary of Burmah and Shell and India's biggest oil firm, buying out its 5 port installations, 73 storage depots and refinery. A new Indianised firm Bharat (India) Refineries takes over its operations.
- 25 January 1976: Israeli military court in Gaza sentences a 20-year old Palestinian refugee Nabil Ibrahim Mansour Faraj to life imprisonment for assisting guerrillas in unsuccessful attacks on IDF armed patrols in the area.
- 26 January 1976: RAF establishes a long-term Regiment presence, starting with No.2 Squadron followed by other squadrons on rotation at RAF Aldergrove to meet the increasing threat posed by the IRA.
- 28 January 1976: Over 3,000 workers of the Leyland-Innocenti plant, earmarked for closure. occupy the main Lambrate train station, blocking the majority of rail traffic in and out of Milan. British Leyland remains resolute in its dismissal of 4,500 workers in Italy.
- 28 January 1976: US Senate votes 77-19 to extend EEZ jurisdiction to 200 miles offshore, to begin in Jul 1977.
- 29 January 1976: Government welcomes the reference in the Fianna Fail budget from 28 Jan 1976 that the PIRA are "forces of evil".

29 January 1976: Sierra Leone, under pressure from domestic protests at its earlier support for the FNLA and UNITA tribalists, recognises the MPLA in Luanda. OAU's final tally sees Sierra Leone, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Cape Verde Islands, Sao Tome e Principe, Algeria, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea, Madagascar, Somalia, Burundi, Chad, Comoros, Ghana, Mali, Mauritius, Niger, Nigeria, Benin, Libya, Sudan and Tanzania recognise MPLA, facing Uganda, Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, Botswana, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Gambia, Gabon, Upper Volta, Kenya, Liberia, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritania, Rwanda, Central African Republic, Senegal, Swaziland, Togo, Zaire and Zambia proposing withholding of recognition to force MPLA to accept FNLA's and UNITA's tribalist forces into power.

30 January 1976: Zambian Government issued, under the emergency regulations, a renewable 28-day detention order against opposition figures, a large crack-down develops, particularly against MPLA supporters.

February-March 1976: British firm Marconi finalises sale to SADF of a tropospheric scatter system allowing a direct link between Northern Namibia, on the border with Angola, and Silvermine, in South Africa, the headquarters for SADF electronic battlefield surveillance. It enables a complex system of guerrilla movements to be detected and analysed quickly. Orders for counter-action are then relayed back to operational divisions in Northern Namibia.

"She [South Africa] is also in dire need of electronic and communications equipment for the project "Advocaat", the long-range military surveillance system with headquarters at Silvermine, near Cape Town. The harm done to our cause by the British government's permission to Marconi to supply troposcatter equipment for this system cannot be overemphasised." (Francis Meli, 'Military Doctrine of the Apartheid Regime', African Communist 69, 2nd Quarter 1977,47)

February 1976: Britain continues security assistance to Guyana. There is British Metropolitan Police training for the GPF in firearms. There is also British Army assistance for the GDF, as an ex-GDF member recalls: "I joined the army [Guyanese Defence Force] in 1975 in an attempt to stop the police harassment... Classes were scheduled to start in February 1976 at a naval school in England (HMS Collingwood). I arrived at the naval school sometime in February [1976]" (Assassination Cry of a Failed Revolution, William Gregory Smith)

Walter Rodney describes the PNC regime which "really does incorporate ... the most reactionary and right-wing elements in the country - groups that used to be in the United Force, groups that

used to oppose even the nationalist struggle back in the 1950s... a large number who are clearly representatives of a class which has given no indication, public or private, of any transformation in their world view, their life style or their social objectives. They are encrusted within the party and the government, they represent the party at the highest level inside and outside the country. Overnight they have been given new slogans to shout... It is not a matter of a small deflection here and there, the fellows actually have to turn their sentences around in exactly the opposite direction".

\*February 1976: NF march in Coventry. 1500 antifascists protest.

- 2 February 1976: Queen opens a £45mil National Exhibition centre venue in Birmingham.
- 2 February 1976: National Democratic Front is founded to unite (and bureaucratise) opposition movements in the YAR. It features the Revolutionary Democratic Party of Yemen, Organisation of Revolutionary Resistors of Yemen, the Labour Party, the Popular Vanguard and the People's Democratic Union, and immediately becomes the target of YAR security forces.
- 4 February 1976: US Transportation Secretary William Coleman gives the go-ahead for Concorde flights into USA on a 16-month trial basis.
- 4 February 1976: Phalangists and National Liberals siege and begin bombardment of 2 Palestinian refugee camps/slums in Beirut, Tel Al-Za'atar and Jisr-Al-Basha.
- 5 February 1976: Institute of Directors urges against reflation in the Budget and for effective cuts to public spending, scrapping price and dividend controls. It welcomes plans for the introduction of index-linked private saving, and states maximum investment in the schemes is too small and should be doubled.
- It urges immediate reduction to 85% of the top rate of tax on investment income, to 70% top the tax rate on earned income, to 60% the top rate on capital transfers. It suggests the long-term aim should be to reduce the top income tax rate to 50% and capital transfer tax to 25%.
- 5 February 1976: Chairman of European Ferries, Keith Wickenden, takes action against the nationalisation of Felixstowe Dock and Railway. At the moment, a Private Bill is going through Parliament to allow British Transport Docks to purchase Felixstowe. European Ferries spotting a loophole in the Private Members' Bill, approaches Felixstowe Dock and Railway's board directly for a takeover.

5 February 1976: An international banking consortium finalises and signs a \$315million to finance development of North Sea oil. The consortium is headed by the International Energy Bank and Republic National Bank who are funding the Occidental Petroleum Group (often known as simply Occidental or 'the Group') and Thomson North Sea, subsidiary of the Thomson publishing conglomerate. A separate \$40mil agreement for Thomson is being made by a consortium led by the Royal Bank of Canada. The government states it shows that business interests have not been discouraged by Britain's policies on participation agreements.

5 February, The Defence Amendment Bill, making provision for the employment of South African conscripted troops anywhere outside South Africa, is approved. The Defence Force may now, at all times, be deployed to prevent or suppress any armed conflict outside the Republic which is, or may be, a threat to the Republic.

5 February 1976: BBC camera crew begins filming footage for the documentary Sailor. It is a carefully packaged propaganda series, constructed to appear independent and an accurate reflection of true life.

John Purdie, the producer: "I had just made a film called Ambassador which was a portrait of the American Ambassador in London.... a new style of documentary, covering behind the scenes. Prior to that documentary everything was set up and it was almost prescripted. ... this was the start of a new era when you tried to do it first take for real. You asked people to ignore the camera. We were moving more towards important institutions and important iobs, trying to capture them in a documentary format. The Ambassador film had involved spending a fair amount of time with the American Embassy in Grosvenor Square, following the Ambassador around, seeing his daily ritual. In the course of doing this I got to know the First Secretary and Press Officer in the American Embassy and he invited me to a NATO briefing in Naples to see how defence correspondents are briefed because I might find another story there for a future documentary. ... I went on to a NATO exercise in the Mediterranean with the US Navy Sixth Fleet. I was hosted on board the American aircraft carrier USS Forrestal... US Senior Navy officers conversation mentioned their colleagues, the British"

"I wrote to the MOD explaining I had been on this trip and thought Bulwark was perfect.... Up to that point all service documentaries were incredibly old-fashioned, they were scripted, etc. MOD invited me to discuss my ideas. I told them I loved the honesty of the guys and that everyone had a secret sneaking affection for the Navy. ... I made the mistake of saving that if you went on board the "Rusty B" the guys had to make do and the man in the Ministry said, "I'm not

sure we want everyone to know that, but we like your enthusiasm and it's a good idea." They came back to me and said, "Forget about the Bulwark, we don't feel the Bulwark is good enough. Everyone knows it's a terrible ship and we think you should go on board the Hermes. The Hermes is going on a NATO exercise off Norway and you will see us with our NATO allies"...

I said to the Captain I can't ask every single person on this ship for their permission to film... the ground rules should be this: we are a part of the ship and we should be able to film everything within reason, because I want to push the boundaries as far as the bounds of taste. ... it must be stressed at every level that because we film something it doesn't mean it will go on air... if someone says, We know you filmed me doing so and so, but I'd rather you didn't use it", then I won't use it. ... this is how I operate. When we put the programme together we could then have a factual approval session, which wasn't editorial approval but it would allow selected people from MOD or Ark Royal to check that we haven't distorted the facts. ... Eventually [Captain] David said, "I want you always to tell me if you can, what you are doing" I said... I would do my best and at the start of the day I would touch base with him to tell him what I was planning to do that day, and would tell him at the end of each day what we had clone, to which he replied "I will know". ... The size of the ship also presented a challenge to know what was going on the whole time. While I like to believe the series was fairly representative of life on board, it was in fact one particular portrait of what was going on because you can't film everything. If I had placed five film crews on board I would have ended up with five different versions of life on board."

It is broadly celebrated as an accurate depiction of the RN, instead of a smart propaganda piece. It goes on to create Warship

"The BBC has not finished with the Royal Navy. As "Sailor," that fine documentary on the Ark Royal finished the other week, production is nearing completion on a return series of "Warship" which will introduce in the New Year a new heart-throb in the person of Derek Godfrey. And because HMS Hero his been promoted to the status of half leader, he will be wearing the four rings of a Royal Navy captain." (Glasgow Herald, 15 Oct 1976)

5 February 1976: Sterling falls below \$2.00.

6 February 1976: It is announced that Nixon will visit at the hosts' invitation the PRC government.

6 February 1976: 60 British former soldiers leave for Angola via a chartered flight from Gatwick to Belgium then to South Africa to fight alongside pro-Western UNITA and FNLA forces. Reports tally up around 200 mercenaries have left from Britain to South Africa

- recently. A few days later reports emerge of white mercenaries killed in Angola.
- 9 February 1976: Dick Harmer, Victoria Principal, gives the go ahead for Concorde in Melbourne: "Australia, Victoria and Melbourne have much to gain by giving a fair trial to this great technological triumph."
- 9 February 1976: Former soldier mercenary John Banks holds a press conference declaring FNLA forces are double-dealing white mercenaries. He says he is "half convinced" FNLA militants have killed the mercenaries for refusing to fight without proper equipment or back-up. Maj-General Paul Daniels, of the British Military Volunteer Forces, says mercenaries may not fight in Angola if they have been killed by FNLA but "we're ready to fight Communism wherever it shows itself."
- 9 February 1976: Prince Charles begins up his military post commanding the HMS Bronington at RN Rosyth facilities, with a RN pipe band playing. "The Navy had taken every precaution against calamity by ensuring that he was served with the best available junior officers. In particular, his First Lieutenant, Roy Clare, had already been marked out as a high-flyer, while the navigating officer, James Rapp, was widely regarded as the best of his generation."
- 11 February 1976: Government reiterates the benefits to Britain of the EEC model in sugars: "the Sugar Protocol of the Lomé Convention is one of guaranteed access, a guaranteed minimum price and the free negotiation of prices between buyers and sellers. Thus the earnings of our traditional cane sugar suppliers are safeguarded since access is assured for an agreed quantity for each State at a minimum price negotiated annually under the provisions of the Protocol."
- 12 February 1976: Roy Jenkins reiterates Labour policy on immigration: "There is, in present or any foreseeable circumstances, a strict limit on the amount of immigration that this country can absorb.... Together with that strong control over immigration, we must have a most determined and liberal policy of complete equality for those settled. I regard these matters as two sides of the same coin."
- 12 February 1976: Queen visits and inaugurates the new building at the Union Jack club, Waterloo.
- 12 February 1976: Frank Stagg, dies after 61 days on hunger strike in HMP Wakefield, Yorkshire, in protest at the government's refusal to transfer him to a prison in Ireland. Exactly 5 months from this

point the government congratulates itself on making every effort to save the lives of the group of mercenaries led by 'Colonel' Callan. Callan, a former paratrooper in northern Ireland in the early 1970s, has murdered 14 fellow mercenaries, countless other fellow FNLA militants for evasion of battle, at least 2 Angolan civilians and tortured many others for information. Separate from these crimes in Angola, he is also accused by New Scotland Yard of having killed no fewer than 167 in addition to the killings enunciated in the Luanda trial. Goronwy-Roberts declares "Do we not feel ashamed because we appealed for clemency for these people? No, indeed not! ... We should feel proud that, although we may find the actions of the mercenaries morally repugnant to us, we nevertheless were capable of making every effort to save their lives" (Hansard, 12 Jul 1976) Where the government's pleas for clemency cannot save a life very easily (since the British government has been aiding, in a junior position, Zaire, FNLA and UNITA), the government congratulates itself on having made the effort of trying to save it. Where it can be saved by a simple act entirely within its power, it refuses do so. Government claims of standing up for human dignity, the right to life do not withstand elementary scrutiny. Stagg, on hunger strike with a clear request, but an example of those acting against perceived 'national' interests, can be dispensed with.

- 12 February 1976: Talks between the United Ulster Unionist Council (UUUC) and the SDLP break down after an hour's meeting, the UUUC, since they have the gerrymandered majority, refuse to agree on SDLP involvement in any future Northern Ireland cabinet.
- 12 February 1976: Government plans its response to threat from below in Northern Ireland "No act of Government can change the economic structure of the province. Some predominantly Catholic areas are likely for a long time to suffer from inadequate employment opportunities and social difficulties, some of which, they have created themselves. ... Though relatively few people are really prepared to commit acts of violence against the abstract concept of British Sovereignty, it is likely that a greater number will be prepared to react violently to the presence of troops on the streets in regions they live... Civil disobedience and the threat of civil disobedience is likely to remain one of the major potential threats to law and order during the period under review. This threat covers a wide spectrum [including] casual refusal to pay rent, rates and services at one of the spectrum through organised rent and rate strikes" (Notes)
- 12 February 1976: Wilson and Foreign Secretary Callaghan hold talks with Zairean Foreign Minister, Jean Nguza Karl-i-Bond, nephew of Katangan tribalist Moise Tshombe, who urges action against the MPLA declaring "the Soviets and the Cubans are not going to stop in Angola"

- 12 February 1976: Scotland Yard announces that no criminal charges will be brought against the British mercenaries of British Military Volunteer Forces.
- 12 February 1976: 11,000 top BMA consultants finally end their campaign in favour of pay beds in NHS. They vote 2-1 to accept a modified package whereby the government agrees to the institution of an independent board that is to phase out the 'pay beds' *only* as and when alternative private facilities become available in private clinics in the area.
- 13 February 1976: Demonstrations and mass meetings are held at aerospace factories across Britain called by the Aerospace Shop Stewards' Liaison Committee pushing for nationalisation and government assistance in securing orders. Employers' association, Society of British Aerospace Companies, gives them a guarded welcome: "The demonstrations clearly show the workers' dedication to aviation and to the superb products that they manufacture and their wish to continue the existence of the industry... How much better it would be, if there is any money to spare, to do as suggested and put it into new projects and expand the industry rather than continue in a state of stagnation due to political dogma inhibiting action."
- 13 February 1976: TUC sends a cable to the AFL-CIO appealing for support over Concorde, to push the US government to accept Concorde flights despite its noise and pollution problems. Most AFL-CIO engineering unions believe its entry into USA aviation will reduce orders from Boeing and the like.
- 13 February 1976: NUM Executive announces a national overtime ban from next Monday In protest against Government plans to close a Derbyshire mine.
- 14 February 1976: Maj-General Paul Daniels, of the British Military Volunteer Forces, declares the private anti-communist army 500 strong will no longer go to Angola to fight the MPLA because of "top-level sources" in Angola and Mozambique indicating that Western powers have cut a deal with the Soviet Union: "We cannot fight treachery and treason on such dimensions."
- 14 February 1976: Italy's <u>Il Stampa</u> provides detailed exposure of the that rightist Catholic Comunione e Liberazione group is "a political organization created by CIA subsidies of 2 billion lire"
- 15 February 1976: Maj-General Paul Daniels, of the British Military Volunteer Forces, declares the private anti-communist army, 500 strong will not go to Angola to fight the MPLA because of "top-level sources" in Angola and Mozambique indicating that Western powers have agreed with the Soviet Union not to resist a new wave of

- invasions upon South Africa and Rhodesia: "We cannot fight treachery and treason on such dimensions."
- 16 February 1976: Wilson Civil speech at the Civil Service Department endorses cuts to civil servant employment, particularly the DHSS.
- 16-20 February 1976: Air Chief Marshal Sir Andrew Humphrey visits Yugoslavia, inspecting radar systems.
- 17 February 1976: Protests at the British High Commission, Lagos, is attacked by student protesters at the failure of Britain to extradite decade-long militarist-in-chief Gen. Yakubu Gowon, in asylum in Britain studying as a foreign student at Warwick University. Gowon is believed to be linked to the coup attempt 13 Feb 1976 of Lieut-Colonel Buka Dimka that assassinates populist President Murtala Mohammed, who has introduced measures beginning the demobilization of over 100,000 soldiers guarding hostile internal areas.
- 18 February 1976: <u>Financial Times</u> notes in 'Comecon exports threaten Western motor producers' the British car production needs to cut production costs by at least a third to compete with USSR Togliatti plant-built vehicles exported on sale in Britain.
- 18 February 1976: Queen & Duke of Edinburgh attend the dinner of Inns of Court and the Bar, the elite judge and barrister-producing institutions of the country.
- 19 February 1976: Moses Garoeb, SWAPO secretary in exile, states in response to British criticisms of the role of Cuban troops in Angola, that Namibian people "reserve the right to invite Cuban troops" to assist their defence against South African depredation.
- 19 February 1976: 5th budget. White Paper (Cmnd. 6393) on public expenditure from 1976-7 to 1978-9, which envisions cuts of £4,600 million (in 1976 terms) (Joel Krieger, Social policy in the age of Reagan and Thatcher, Socialist Register, 1987). Alongside real cuts in housing, road-building, NHS and education,cuts are sought in civil service and local council employment, where many women are engaged in non-domestic labour.
- . It wants 'public expenditure' in 1980 to be at the level it was 1974-5. It plans cuts in food subsidies, housing subsidies, transport services and educational facilities. It announces the staged phase out of state compensation to nationalised NEB industries for policies of price restraint.
- 19 February 1976: Junior Foreign Minister Ennals offers hope for some sort of internal settlement in Rhodesia at the Royal

Commonwealth Society declaring: "there is a circumstance in which Britain could become involved in policing operations after a return to legality and while an agreed settlement was being out in place." He states, when questioned, that he envisions British armed forces in Rhodesia taking part in routine police operations whilst negotiations for a settlement continue. As a military-run state Rhodesia police operations can only mean "terrorist" hunting from bush to bush, house to house.

20 February 1976: In a commons announcement, government declares new weaponry brought into the service of the armed forces since 1974 includes Exocet, Ikara, Rapier and Martel missiles, Mark 24 and Mark 46 torpedoes, Gazelle helicopters and various tracked vehicles. For RAF, 2 squadrons of Victor K2 tankers, 2 Jaguar squadrons, laser ranger equipment for Jaguars, a Buccaneer squadron, new telecommunications equipment for Nimrod and radar receivers for combat aircraft. On naval duties Type 21 frigates HMS Antelope and HMS Ambuscade; patrol craft HMS Kingfisher. 105mm light gun mounted Land-rover towing vehicles, the Blowpipe manportable missile system, Scimitar armoured reconnaissance vehicles, Chieftain tank laser sights, various night vision aids, radio and refuelling equipment.

20 February 1976: Prince Charles writes to Mountbatten explaining how much fun it is to be in charge: "It really does seem quite extraordinary to be sitting here as Captain of this ship! You really were absolutely right (as usual) — you do feel frightfully grand and not a little confused. Fortunately a considerable proportion of the confusion has worn off since last week and I am now enjoying the whole experience of "being in command. There is nothing like being ultimately responsible for everything and therefore being kept in the picture all the time, making it easier to make decisions than one imagined."

20 February 1976: The press largely welcomes the Public Expenditure White Paper announcing cuts. The headline figure is "£2.4 billion a year of cuts... over the next four years". It predicts a jump in the expenditure for debt interest payments from £5 billion this year (10% of the total local and central government budgets) to £7.5 billion in 1977-8.

<u>Financial Times</u> describes it as "the final and most convincing sign of the demise of post-war Social Democratic orthodoxy. The triple pillars that have supported the Labour Party of Attlee, Gaitskell and Wilson – full employment, the Welfare State and the mixed economy – have crumbled under the blows of inflation."

Peter Jay in <u>The Times</u> states: "The central fact is that the Cabinet has had to struggle might and main, stretching their political tolerances to the absolute limit, in order not, as they thought, to

make room for more investment, exports and personal incentives through lower taxes, but to service the debt which the huge deficits built up since 1970 by Mr Barber and Mr Healey have caused. This year's £12 billion gap between government revenue and spending will recur next year, and maybe in future years as well. This opens the appalling prospect of the Cabinet having progressively, year after year, to cut back on direct spending programmes in order to accommodate the exploding cost of servicing debt. The political consequences of a world in which people pay taxes principally in order to meet the cost of interest on the national debt while the standard and quality of public services and national defence are eroded further and further, defy imagination."

20 February 1976: Israeli government announces the decision to expropriate around 12,000 acres of Palestinian-owned land centred on the Dir Hana, Sakhnin and Arabee villages in the Galilee, northern Israel, and hundreds of thousands of acres of Negev Bedouin peasant land. Israeli Agriculture Ministry's statement: "The main problem of the Galilee is the minority position of the Jewish population with respect to the majority non-Jewish population.... there is a need to change the present situation in the demographic field." (Oct 1975) sums up the mentality. Arabic National Committee for the Defence of the Lands calls a general strike for Mar 30 1976 to protest the government's expropriation policy. Ha'aretz reports (March 21 1976) "police reinforcements will be sent to Nazareth in order to respond to any action that will take place in the city". The Workers Council of Haifa, unified local council of the Histadrut federation, declares that if Arab building workers go on strike, the Histadrut will not support any of the dismissed or victimised and it will allow strikebreaking measures to proceed. Histadrut's efforts remain largely unchallenged in the ICFTU world confederation of trade unions.

20 February 1976: <u>Middle East Economic Digest</u> reports that Britain has won a contract to supply Kuwait armed forces with 150 Chieftain tanks.

21 February 1976: CND's Delegate Conference is held in London. Frank Blackaby, Deputy Director of National Institute of Economic and Social Research notes that in the first year of Labour Government there has been a 5% rise in defence spending in real terms — the first sharp rise for many years. Defence spending has reached £5,500mil, and the government has proposed a further real terms rise of 4% to be achieved by 1979-80. He states: "Once more defence spending has survived all the attempts to get at it"

- 22 February 1976: <u>Sunday Times</u> begins a major series reflecting on the miners' strike of 1974. It concludes "Ted Heath beat himself" noting that the showdown could have been chosen and executed more effectively and carefully.
- 23 February 1976: Tribalist collaborationist puppets again show their colours, with a statement by Senator Chief Chirau and Senator Chief Nkeweni, representing the Council of Chiefs: "We refer to the statement attributed to Mr. Ennals to the effect that Britain would not intervene if a 'race war' flared up in Rhodesia. We, as the representatives of the Council of Chiefs and on behalf of all tribesmen, condemn this statement as utterly irresponsible... The fight is between decent Rhodesians, black and white and terrorists who are being used and directed by the forces of Communism."
- 23 27 February 1976: Concerned Americans Abroad and VVAW hold a picket of the American embassy for unconditional amnesties for US Vietnam-era war resisters across the world.
- 24 February 1976: Goronwy-Roberts describes his visit to Brunei in terms of increasing Malaysia-Brunei reconciliation, necessary to ensure a smooth operation of neo-colonialist plans: "I had a recent opportunity to talk to the Sultan and, indeed, to Ministers in the Malaysian Government, when I put Her Majesty's Government's view that nothing can be solved or improved in this area except on the basis of peaceful agreement. I am bound to say that I was gratified by the response in both capitals to the suggestions I made."
- 25 February 1976: Salisbury announces it has killed at least 24 guerrillas in the Mozambique border area.
- 25 February 1976: Soviet Union resorts to ugly sexism in its cackhanded attempt to refute Thatcher's falsehoods (and keep silent about the accurate parts of her denunciations). A poster, drawn by Boris Efimov depicting her as an ugly, snout-nosed witch with a broomstick flying over Parliament Square, is hung up in central Moscow.
- 25 February 1976: AP reports "it is also emerging about 90% of the firms in this country have no strikes at all" It also accurately points out that other nations' strike-counting techniques mean their estimates of strike days lost are not directly comparable with Britain's. Department of Employment logs a stoppage as a 'strike' if lasts the best part of 24 hours, whilst other nations often miss out short strikes altogether.

- 26 February 1976: Metropolitan Police Chief Sir Robert Mark attacks the government's Police Bill on the grounds that it will reduce the effectiveness of police internal disciplinary procedures, and reduce effectiveness of police forces' action against "crime".
- 26 February 1976: New Scientist records "Salaries of professionally qualified chemists rose on average between 24 and 37 per cent during 1975, according to figures just released by the Royal Institute of Chemistry [but] average earnings of all employees in all industries and services in Britain rose by just over 20 per cent" [Employment Department figures Figures for the first 11 months of 1975]
- 26 February 1976: Lord Greenhill, former head of the Diplomatic Service again visits Rhodesian leader Ian Smith in Salisbury. He then visits ZANU head Joshua Nkomo.
- 27 February 1976: Police horses are brought out confront and split into several smaller chunks a Scottish NUS demonstration of 5,000 in Glasgow, from Glasgow University to Strathclyde University Union in protest at government cuts to higher education.\*\*
- 27 February 1976: In Moscow Enrico Berlinguer, chief secretary of PCI reiterates the "commitment of the Communist Party of Italy to the existing [NATO] alliance, as a contribution to détente, and as a defence of the sovereignty of the Italian people against any foreign intervention in their internal affairs" defending the position on the grounds that "it is extremely important in principle and in practice, in our opinion, to acknowledge and to respect the full independence of every country, every progressive movement, every Communist Party" He reiterates the PCI's commitment to a "national road to socialism which completely corresponds ponds to the peculiarities of historical, political, and civil development. The urgency of problems confronting socialism obliges us to say in an absolutely clear manner what kind of socialism we consider necessary, and the only possible one for Italian society."
- 27 February 1976: NUS demonstration of over 1000 in Princes Street is supported by a one-day sympathetic strike by building workers at Herriott Watt University's Riccarton site.
- 27 February 1976: Labour Left <u>Tribune</u>'s Africa specialist expresses its support for Kaunda whilst analysing southern Africa: "The presence of Cuban armed forces with Russian weapons in Angola could present a threat to President Kaunda's security in Zambia and Kaunda is trying to build a socialist society even if he does term

- it 'humanist'." Kaunda's 'humanist' Zambia sees its government order police to open fire on coffee plantation workers on strike, killing dead at least 10.
- 27 February 1976: Spanish education authorities fine several Basque region teachers 3,000 pesetas each for their part in the  $3^{rd}$  day of school strikes across the territory. More than 25,000 teachers take part in the strike on this day.

Madrid police arrest a shop steward at an international chemical plant in a predawn home raid, because 700 workers have been on strike for the past 10 days.

- 28 February 1976: Daily Express in 'Schoolgirls who lose their innocence too soon' provides an example of the needling, backlash anti-reproductive rights position: "Never have schoolchildren been so bombarded with sex instruction. It has a regular place In the curriculum of almost every school. Pamphlets, advertisements and advice centres provide readily available information on what was once a subject only whispered about in the school playground. Yet last year, 3,526 girls under the age of 16 had their pregnancies terminated by abortion. Even more startling this figure represent an increase of more than one-third in the pest three years. Why? What has gone wrong for this enlightened generation? The answer lies in the fact that, despite all the wellmeaning propaganda, the pressure of coming to terms with their new sexual liberty has proved too much for many young women who are still really children.... Teenage abortions are the product of a generation that has lost its innocence too early. As Mr Bowden told the Commons: "The very fact that it is happening proves something is wrong In our society""
- 28 February 1976: 17 guerrillas and 4 Rhodesian soldiers are killed in Rhodesia's north east near Mozambique.
- 28 February-20 March 1976: A Right to Work march makes its way from Manchester to London. Its banners and themes appear, in general, old and tired: 'No Return to the Thirties', Jarrow Crusades.
- 28 February 1976: <u>The Economist</u> approving of the *storico compromesso* notes "the Communists in Italy have moved forward to receive their new bourgeois supporters by adopting the moderate, technocratic, socially conscious approach of a social democratic party."

March 1976: From this month on government ceases to include students in unemployment totals, but it retains them in figures of employment and numbers employed regionally, according to condition of employment.

March 1976: Tony Leon, future chief of the Democratic Alliance, a military journalist produces an article full of lies about Detention Barracks (detention centre) in Voortrekkerhoogte in the month's issue of <u>Paratus</u>, which is then distributed to rightist journalists in Britain and elsewhere in the West.

March 1976: Government-appointed Footwear Study Group for the Department of Industry issues a bleak report on the footwear and leather industry. It states more productive and intensive machine systems must be used. This is in spite of "resistance among operatives to the introduction of new machines particularly amongst older ones... who have great difficulty in reaching a reasonable performance with a new type." It states "in some factories, the management have introduced labour-saving machinery without immediately re-costing the jobs involved. The result has been that the operatives' jobs have been made easier and they have received higher wages." The purpose of new investment is to reduce labour costs at once. Another report British Footwear, the Future: a Report Prepared for the Department of Industry [paid for by public funds] by the Economists' Advisory Group, published in 1976, states "the footwear industry will have to pay more attention to behavioural factors, rather than expecting to be able to solve problems through payment systems." It recommends following the example of "Clarks" and its "reorganization of a production unit into smaller autonomous work groups" via new plant.

March 1976: John Tyndall in 'The Jewish Question; out in the open or under the carpet' in NF's <u>Spearhead</u> urges that the Jewish problem be openly discussed. He states the open discussion of "Jew" or 'Jewish' leaves a 'weird guilt feeling' in those who "frankly and openly debate the virtues and vices of other races". He state "the Protocols may be a forgery but they prophesy so much of what is happening in the world today that they must be, to say the least, a damned good forgery."

March 1976: The month's <u>Defence Review</u> reports direct defence spending as proportion of GNP over 1975 as the highest in Europe at 5.7% compared with the next competitor France at 4.6%, followed by Federal Germany at 4.1%.

March 1976: 500 white householders in North Kensington sign a petition against the renewal of Notting Hill Carnival's license.

March 1976: Picket of BBC studios for allowing on NF spokespeople on <a href="#Open Door">Open Door</a>. \*\*

March 1976: Race Today examines moves to distribute funding to responsible ethnic minority projects. It quotes John Sturgeon,

principal of Brixton College, explaining the aims: "People who feel there is no purpose in typing won't fit into any kind of society ... You can't keep people down with the police forever. I wanted to create a middle class among the West Indians in order to pacify the district."

March 1976: British Transport Hotels are prosecuted for breaking the 1969 Asbetos Regulations by using 2 unprotected, exposed workers to strip asbestos from boilers at the Central Hotel, Glasgow. The firm saves £3,000 compared to compliance with the law. The fine given is £100. (Observer, 4 Apr 1976)

March 1976: Prince Charles' crew members have a lucky escape: "[HMS] Bronington returned to Loch Ryan to put the visitors ashore at a decrepit jetty on the edge of a deep but narrow channel. With the wind almost at gale force it was a hazardous operation, hovering head to wind while the cadets were offloaded in an inflatable dinghy, known by its trademark as a Gemini. The hazard became a drama when the Gemini's outboard engine broke down at the jetty as Bronington was driven remorselessly up the channel by the wind. When the Gemini eventually returned, the little craft came alongside Bronington in what had become a rough tideway. As soon as the two Gemini crewmen had made fast, the Prince gave the order to steam slowly forward towards the relative safety of open water, heading into a short, steep sea. At the same moment one of the two crewmen moved to make an adjustment at the bows of the Gemini just as the inflatable dipped into a wave. The dinghy was immediately swamped and capsized, flinging both sailors into the freezing water of the loch. A second Gemini was lowered into the water but its engine failed as well. By the time they had it started, the two men in the water were at the point of exhaustion. Although they had life jackets, they were wearing none of the protective clothing needed for survival in those temperatures. When they were at last hauled aboard, they were both very cold indeed; a little longer in the water and they would certainly have perished." (Dimbleby, Prince of Wales, p266)

\*March 1976: Britain recalls "High Commissioner at the request of the Nigerian Government. In our view our High Commissioner Sir Martin Le Quesne had behaved quite properly in seeking compensation for damage to the High Commission building by rioting students, but in the heightened emotions of that time the Federal Government professed to find his action offensive, so we withdrew him. In the circumstances we had no alternative." (Recollections)

1 March 1976: End of 'political status' in northern Ireland prisons. Rees confirms those convicted of an offence linked to political goals will no longer be entitled to special category status, but are to be treated as ordinary criminals.

- 1 March 1976: Responding to a question on the appointment of the new chairman of nationalised British Leyland at £58,000p.a. in addition to part-time directorships at £22,500 p.a. Industry Minister Varley states: "I hope that Sir Richard Dobson gains the confidence of the work force pretty quickly and that he works through and takes a personal hand in ensuring progress towards industrial democracy and participation in that company." Sir Richard Burton takes over on 1 Apr 1976.
- 1 March 1976: Clothing and menswear group Lincroft Kilgour's shareholder report sees its chairman Anthony Holland call for import controls on textiles from South Korea and Taiwan. Arguing retaliation is unimportant since there is a substantial trading deficit with both nations. The report sees no signs of recovery in textiles, but is optimistic about prospects in the Far East by the end of 1976.
- 1 March 1976: Recently-appointed Archbishop of Westminster, Basil Hume, is briefed by Pope Paul in the Vatican, presumably in order to strengthen the line against reproduction rights.
- 1 March 1976: Joel Barnett, Chief secretary to the Treasury, at a conference on fiscal studies in London, says the £5bn spending cuts are inevitable. He says that those who argue that state expenditure can increase without higher taxation upon all citizens are trying "to con... working people". He states "we cannot have our cake and cat it—and the sooner we politicians stop pretending we can, the better it will be for the country.... there is now a considerable collective commitment to make this plan work."
- 1 March 1976: Malcolm Rifkind, Conservative spokesman on Scotland states the Soviet Union will be the main beneficiary of Scottish independence. He states the SNP promise to require USA to withdraw their Polaris base from Holy Loch, and remove all American personnel from Scotland will aid the Soviet Union. He claims the SNP warning an independent Scotland would not necessarily recognise oil treaties and agreements signed by the British Government, would create dangerous rifts within the Western world. Moreover "if Britain could be immobilised by internal squabbling and strife the balance of power within Europe would be dramatically altered in Moscow's favour. Those who aspire to separatism should remember Belgium, Norway, and Finland when the aggressors marched" presumably suggesting Belgium ought to have remained attached to the chauvinistic Dutch monarchy, Norway to Sweden, and Finland to the Russian Empire to resist Nazi or Soviet aggression.

- 2 March 1976: The film Moses, spun off from TV series Moses the Lawgiver, both set up by Sir Lew Grade, chairman and chief executive of ATV and head of the film and serial production firm ITC, receives its premiers. Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh attend.
- 2 March 1976: Endorsed by the US, Callaghan describes Smith's hypocritical warmth towards dialogue with his opposition as a "victory for realism and common sense."
- 3 March 1976: Former civilian member of the Falangist forces' coup attempt in 1934, former Francoist mayor of Bilbao, appointed in 1938 after the Guernica bombings and invasion of Francoist forces; former Francoist Minister of Industry and Francoist ambassador in the Western hemisphere, José María de Areilza, re-christened 'democratic' Spanish Foreign Minister, visits Britain on an official visit. He has talks with Wilson and Foreign Secretary Callaghan.
- 3 March 1976: <u>The Times</u> records in its back pages the declarations of a British veteran of the Rhodesian army, now escaped living in London, who describes a execution of around 60 civilian rural blacks in a village surrounded by Rhodesian armed forces in Oct 1975.
- 3 March 1976: A. Ross Belch, president of the Shipbuilders and Repairers National Association and managing director of Scott Lithgow, tells the annual meeting of the Shipbuilders Council of America that he would prefer to see financial encouragement, rather than government fines to induce British shipowners to build at home, but something has to be done either way to boost orders. He states that British shipowners have ordered only 11% of tonnage from British shipyards in 1975, compared to an earlier 30% in 1975.
- 3 March 1976: A meeting of 700 trade unionists in Glasgow calls on the government to put legal pressure on shipowners to purchase from British yards and to impose selective import controls.
- 4 March 1976: Home Secretary Jenkins introduces the Race Discrimination Act: "Government policy is that there is a clear limit to the amount of immigration which this country can absorb, and that it is in the interests of the racial minorities themselves to maintain a strict control over immigration. Only two substantial sources of Commonwealth immigration remain the close dependants [children and spouses] of immigrants settled here, and United Kingdom passport holders from East Africa." He notes "certainly, as I believe we would all have expected, the British people with their traditions of tolerance and a stable society,

protected by sinews of tradition extending back over a long time, have had to confront many problems greater than that which they confront in this sector, but they have reacted to this with great tolerance." But shipping will still have legal dispensation for unequal wages: "the exception remains in the Bill for seamen recruited abroad."

- 4 March 1976: Whitelaw urges backlash resistance to the terms of the Race Relations Bill stating leisure, sports and other clubs should not come within the scope of the Bill. He also demands an enquiry on immigration to reduce its "effects".
- 4 March 1976: Wilson criticises Barnsley NUJ branch for calling on the Labour Left local council to give press information to NUJ members and not strikebreakers.
- 5 March 1976: Sterling falls below \$2.00 level.
- 5 March 1976: Labour MPs express concern that part of multi-role combat aircraft contract of GEC-Marconi-Elliott involves extra subcontracting work to Italy's Sellenia, thus Italian employment instead of British employment.
- 5 March 1976: Defence Secretary Mason concludes: "Progress on the project continues to be very encouraging. Six prototypes have now flown and the flight test programme is going well. Project definition studies of an interceptor version of the MRCA [multi-role combat aircraft] for the RAF have been completed and evaluated... Production arrangements, on the basis of a total British requirement for 385 aircraft, are expected to be agreed" The MRCA weapon system development programme is a joint venture between Britain, Federal Germany and Italy.
- 5 March 1976: Defence Secretary Mason's written answer "It would not be in the interests of security to disclose details of the small arms held" blocks the request for information on "how many small arms are held in Northern Ireland by the Army; and what is the number of each type" and "how many small arms are held by the Ulster Defence Regiment"
- 5 March 1976: Northern Ireland Secretary Rees brings to an end the 78-seat Northern Ireland Convention. Direct rule continues. 5 March 1976: General Emin Alpkaya, chief of Turkish Air Force, resigns to block off further investigation of the Turkish military corruption racket, which has involved US firm Lockheed Corporation, but is widely suspected to apply to all foreign firms, including British and Federal German ones.
- 6 March 1976: <u>Flight International</u> reports British Aircraft Corporation lobbying of Turkish armed forces: "Gen Emin Alpkaya, Commander-in-Chief of the Turkish Air Force, said last week that

his Service had decided to buy the Dassault-Breguet/Dornier Alpha Jet... The requirement for advanced combat aircraft is unlikely to be affected by this purchase. BAG is understood to have proposed that the Turkish Air Force should buy Jaguars rather than taking up its options on a further 20 F-4Es. The Anglo-French aircraft would cost marginally more than the Phantoms but would have substantially lower running costs."

- 7 March 1976: Congo-Brazzaville's harsh austerity budget is passed, balancing the books, wiping out social gains over the past decades.
- 7 March 1976: <u>The Observer</u> reports African nations reliance on a firm line from Britain with Nyerere stating African states that allow guerrillas to locate themselves "are building the pressure to deliver Smith to London".
- 9 March-3 April 1976: Daily Mail Ideal Home exhibition at Olympia Exhibition centre, London, sees over a million, mostly middle-class visitors. It features a number of foreign exhibits using the accepted sexism of product display. Malaysia's stand at the exhibition is staffed by 6 young Malaysian women wearing a revealing form of the signature national dress, the sarung kebaya. Various commentators bemoan a foreign invasion on the grounds that products are 'foreign' and not 'British'.
- 9 March 1976: Keith Harper reports in <u>The Guardian</u>: "The TUC is to be given the overall responsibility by both the Government and the CBI for drawing up the guidelines on the next stage of the pay policy." It is described as a "bold act of faith" and noted: "Failure by the TUC to come up with a formula which would be supported by the rank-and-file would mean that the Government would have to re-examine its tactics. But that is not the way it expects things will go."
- 9 March 1976: Founding members of NAFF Brian Crozier, Norris McWhirter, John Gouriet and Robert Moss meet with Margaret Thatcher at Viscount De L'Isle's house in Eaton Square, the most exclusive street in Britain. Brian Crozier: "Mrs Thatcher was listening and writing because I was telling her things nobody had yet mentioned to her, about Soviet subversion in the United Kingdom and worldwide, about the penetration of our trades unions and of the Labour Party" (Free Agent Brian Crozier, 1993) She approves of their efforts and begins a relationship to use Moss and Crozier as speech-writers on foreign affairs. In return she attends a Jan 1977 NAFF fundraising dinner. "We built up a membership of more than 40,000 and over eighty branches. We advised Mrs

Thatcher and her shadow cabinet...We achieved some spectacular victories" (John Gouriet, Hear Hear!, 2004)

10 March 1976: Southam News Service (Canada's largest English reporter agency) London covers problems telecommunications: "The British Post Office Is celebrating Alexander Graham Bell's first telephone call 100 years ago with a booze-up and four new commemorative postage stamps The comedy of the occasion arises from the juxtaposition of the British Post Office with the telephone — as anyone with experience of Mother Bell's efficiency in North America realizes. While the champagne is fizzing at today's celebrations, the total of misrouted telephone calls in Britain, calls which were originally correctly dialled, will be notching up towards its daily total of two million. That sort of thing gives Alexander Graham Bell a bad name.... What isn't flourished is the cost, now skyrocketed to above Canadian levels. These out-of-scale increases combined with a deteriorating telephone service have transformed grumbling about the post office into a national sport.... The Consumers Association last month made the most devastating assault on the telephone operations. Detailed records kept by members of more than 16.000 phone calls discovered that one out of 11 went wrong, although correctly dialled. This was the same faulty level as 1969 when the service was one of the world's cheapest. Now Its one of the most expensive. "Subscribers no longer seem to get as good value for money from the telephone service as in 1969." the association concluded. Further aggravating the telephone-using public is the sure knowledge that some are being regularly over-charged by the publicly-owned post office corporation. The post office gets away with this legalized robbery because the British subscriber pays for all calls - local and long-distance — on the basis of time. But the quarterly bill includes no itemized breakdown of calls, just a demand to pay for so many dialled "units." So a British subscriber can be charged for calls never made — one critic suggests the bill can mount even when the subscriber is away if lines become "crossed" - without any channel for redress except appeals to the kindness of the monopoly which overcharged him. This situation is condoned by a Labor Government which, needless to say, compels private firms to substantiate their bills.

The reason for the poor service and the unitemized bills, claims the post office, is a Kansas City undertaker named Almon Strowger who invented the type of mechanically automated exchange adopted here in 1912. It was in the forefront of telephone technology then. Now it's in the rear and despite spending \$1 6billion a year on modernization it will be the mid-80s before Britain catches up with North America and Europe. Other critics including a parliamentary

inquiry, say a history of bumbling management, gross overmanning and ham-handed government interference have as much to do with the telephone snarl-up as the dangers of being first." 10 March 1976: Sterling stands at \$1.91.

- 10 March 1976: Irish government refers Britain to ECHR, only after its direct consultations with Britain have failed to produce any result.
- 10 March 1976: Post Office Chairman Sir William Ryland says of its telephone services: "despite inflation, we can confidently look forward to seeing the service exceed its profit target of £80m in the current financial year" He says if Alexander Graham Bell were still alive "he would be proud of what we have done in this country."
- 10 March 1976: NFU Scotland welcomes government action allow food prices to increase once again and to distribute loans to farmers (large and small landowners alike, but not farmworkers). Its chief states "Some MPs seem to think 'John Citizen' in the UK should continue to be fed by increasing the overdrafts of livestock farmers... For two years we have carried them [consumers] and now we have reached the end of the road. I believe Fred Peart realises that by his decisions in this review." The deal is enough to "repair the overdraft position of livestock farmers" but it will not mean any increase in food production.
- 11 March 1976: Wilson defends the decision for cuts to public services: "the Conservative Government told us of their plans to cut subsidies. Of course, they did not do so, but we are."
- 12 March 1976: Uganda's exile group in Britain, Uganda Group for Human Rights, issues a statement on Idi Amin: "We, Ugandans exiled in the United Kingdom, have formed the Uganda Group for Human Rights to expose the inhumanity of the Amin regime, and to rebut... despicable falsehoods... those African governments most closely engaged in the front line of the struggle against white hegemony in southern Africa have also been the only African governments which have consistently condemned Nevertheless, the overwhelming majority of African countries have given the impression that black fascism can be tolerated, and the apologists for the white supremacists have been quick to use it effectively... [Uganda] continues to get active support from a motley assortment of mercenaries ... It is important to remember that Amin's coup was actively supported by the Israeli military mission in Uganda; that the British government recognized the Amin regime with indecent haste; that Idi Amin was the conduit for Israeli supplies to the Anya-nya querrillas; and that Idi Amin did not start his anti-Zionist speeches until Gaddafi provided the money which Israel and Britain refused to give him. Amin came to power avidly

supporting dialogue with South Africa, and as late as 1976 prevaricated over support for the MPLA in Angola. It is not possible to argue that Amin has changed his ideological stance. Far from it. Amin is as rabid a racist as he is an extreme anti-socialist. His socalled economic war of independence is nothing but a facade for fascism and booty capitalism. His nationalisation measures were forced on him by the economic chaos he has created."

16 March 1976: Wilson announces resignation as Prime Minister. John Tomlinson, his PPS is appointed Foreign Under-secretary Immediately Thatcher calls for a general election in order to "give the new Prime Minister the Authority required". Unsurprisingly the centre-right does not make the same call upon Thatcher's resignation in 1991. Norman Tebbit: "It is a thoroughly good thing that the man is going. I hope his successor will be more able to control the Marxist wing than Mr. Wilson was. He has resigned at a very difficult time. Uncertainty is always damaging" Joe Gormley, NUM President states "I cannot see any logical successor at a time when we need a leader to achieve the complete unity of the party. I will be sorry to see him go." and urges the TUC to close ranks. Jack Jones, states Wilson has been "a very able leader of the Labour Party and a good friend of the trade union movement"

Len Murray pays "tribute to the way he had led the present

Government and the nation through the difficulties of the past two years and to the particular part he has played in shaping and strengthening the basis of fruitful and positive cooperation between the TUC and the Government." Dutch Prime Minister Joon Den Uyi pays warm tribute declaring he knew a month previously Wilson would resign where he stated 'I have have many good successors'.

16 March 1976: British Leyland's acting chairman Sir Robert Clark states at the AGM the firm recorded a surplus in the first 5 months' trading under the new board. He states British Leyland would have been bankrupt in 1975 but for the government's injection of £200mil. "Ignoring windfall currency profits, the company have, for the first five months of the current year, broken even" Derek Whittaker, director of British Leyland car division says production has been rising weekly: output is "some 12% higher than at the beginning of the year."

16 March 1976: Sterling stands at \$1.91.

16 March 1976: <u>Yediot Aharonot</u> reports the gunpoint movement of workers into Israel: "In order not to let the curfew imposed on Ramallah and al-Bira cripple the Israeli economy, armed security units rounded up all workers who had official permits to work in Israel. They were forced into lorries and driven to work."

16 March 1976: US Ambassador Hill reports to Latin America Secretary of State Bill Rogers on conversation about a pending coup with the Argentine Navy Chief, Emilio Massera: "Accompanied by Pol Couns [political counsel] I had coffee today with Alexander Shaw, Pres of Banco Shaw. Admiral Massera, Commander in chief of the Navy... spoke with me and Pol Couns... He admitted that military were inexperienced in terms of public relations problems in Argentina, much less in the US, and he asked if I could indicate to him one or two reputable public relations firms in the US which might handle the problem for a future military govt. I said I could quite properly make available the list of public relations firms in the Embassy's Commercial Library... I had the distinct impression that Massera was talking about a coup which will probably come within the next few days.... I believe it is in the best interest of the USG that I proceed with my plans [to travel from Buenos Aires abroad] as though we had no forewarning." (Department of State Telegram [Received] 1702402, Buenos Aires)

17 March 1976: <u>Financial Times</u> predicts Labour "has reached the end of the road as a [cohesive] party and that Mr. Wilson has got out just in time before the tensions implicit in the economic situation pull it apart."

17 March 1976: <u>The Times</u>: "The Labour Cabinet is now visibly pointing in the right direction [away from nationalisation except to revive long-term interests]. Mr. Wilson's part in that recovery of direction has been crucial. He has seen what kinds of policy are required and has thrown his weight in Cabinet behind them. His recent resolution allied to his party managerial skills... The axis of himself, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and trade union magnates was powerful for so long as it was firm. Even those who have criticised him most harshly in the past may feel that he can be ill-spared at this time."

<u>Daily Telegraph</u> editorial also congratulates Wilson, the "great party leader" for his "healing" abilities: "So long as he was in No. 10. extremism in an\ form had a powerful enemy. If things go badly for Britain in the next few years, we may miss Harold Wilson."

But it also features an article on the attack: "We have grown accustomed to praise Mr. Wilson's easy mastery of the left, achieved by a judicious mixture of cajolery, concessions, Cabinet posts and contempt. Yet what more could the left desire than what he has delivered — nation near bankrupt, living on credit, sinking under a preponderant bureaucracy, almost defenceless, all effort, skill and achievement savagely penalised? With the utmost sincerity can we wish Mr. and Mrs. Wilson all happiness in retirement? For they are unlikely to get it unless the decline over which he has complacently presided is sharply and utterly reversed."

- 17 March 1976: Under royalist pressure Thailand's Senate approves the government request for an extension of martial law in 28 provinces.
- 17 March 1976: British Food Export Council trade mission begins its Indonesia visit in Jakarta, after a 5-day tour in Singapore.
- 18 March 1976: Tony Benn states with stunning logic: "My belief is that the party will rally round the new leader whoever he is... because when a man is elected leader he is endorsed by the whole party" (Times, 19 March 1976).
- 18 March 1976: Sir Richard Dobson, retiring chairman of BAT and Labour-appointed chairman of British Leyland states "the politics of envy still cast a shadow on our society but more recently is has been said clearly although neither loudly nor frequently enough that private enterprise in industry must flourish if our economy is to survive. Words are welcomed but action would be more welcome still. Industry badly needs a breathing space in which it can got on free nationwith its Job and a plan for the future." Referring to the idea of industrial democracy in company boards he states: "there is apprehension that changes in the top level structure of companies, however welcome to social theorists, may impede the objective decision making processes that are necessary to get the best return on capital investment...it would be a pity if the price of industrial peace should prove to be more than industry can afford to pay."
- 18 March 1976: BAT's AGM report notes its investments in Gimbels and Saks Fifth Avenue, continuing their improved performance in the US retail market, will boost dividends in the winter.
- 18 March 1976: IMG in its <u>Red Weekly</u> calls for support to Tony Benn: "If the only alternative to Healey, Callaghan and Jenkins is Benn then he should be voted for not because anyone can have any confidence in someone who is part of the Wilson Cabinet and who has already voted for the 16 limit and the public expenditure cuts, but because his victory would strengthen the confidence of militants and place him on the spot, forcing him to come out in his true colours."
- 19 March 1976: Russell Lewis in <u>The Free Nation</u> in a leading article on p2 urges 'Mrs Thatcher, Please Don't Sell Out to the Union Left' stressing a careful revocation of trade union rights and resistance to trade union efforts, urges a course away from Prior "[who] has been running up the white flag to see whether anyone, especially among

the voters, will salute it", sensing that confrontation can be won: "It is not confrontation, after all, which would be the ultimate tragedy: the ultimate tragedy would be to have a confrontation and lose."

- 19 March 1976: ANC activist Joseph Mdluli is killed in a Durban, after just under 24 hours' detention by South African police.
  19 March 1976: Police attack a Right to Work demonstration in Barnet, Staples Corner, set up to meet a march travelling from Manchester, that has left with 90 participants from Manchester in Feb 1976. Over 40 are arrested.
- 21 March 1976: Johannesburg's Sunday Express reports a study, Spare the Child published by South Africa's National Institute for Crime Prevention and the Rehabilitation of Offenders. "The report says corporal punishment has a "low deterrent potential". Leading sociologist and criminologist, Dr James Midgley - who looked into 898 cases in Cape Town - says 57 per cent of first offenders who were given cuts in 1968 were convicted again within five years. He proposes the total abolition of corporal punishment... He found that 87 per cent of the children who appeared were convicted, and that 57 per cent of these were whipped. "Whippings were imposed for all types of offences, for all age and ethnic categories, irrespective of whether the offender was legally represented, and irrespective of previous conviction.... "In excess of four cuts, a whipping will often cause bleeding and scarring. Although the Act permits the parent of the child to be present, this is not frequently done - and in view of the severity of the punishment, this is not surprising.... For some, the court appearance was a prelude to a far more serious criminal career. Each conviction brought an even more serious punishment, involving progressively lengthened periods of imprisonment. With the exception of removing the individual from the community, the prison sentence seemed to achieve little. Its rehabilitative effects were slight." The alternative to present procedure, Dr Midgley says, is to remove children from the criminal justice system. "The law must be altered so that it will no longer be possible for a child to commit a crime." He suggests the creation of welfare courts, with legal status, but operating outside the criminal law."
- 23 March 1976: Foreign Affiairs Committee, chaired by Coi. Sir Harwood Harrison, with Labour, Liberal and Conservative represented unanimously concludes in its report: "We consider the continued presence of British forces in Hong Kong vital to the continued existence and economic well-being of the colony. For the moment it is clear that the Chinese Government acquiescence in the status quo but withdrawal of British forces night well force a change

of attitude.... The major military role for which British forces in Hongkong, and indeed the only role, for which they will now be properly equipped is internal security where they provide essential backing for local police. The Chinese have a substantial interest in not disturbing arrangements as Hongkong provides a source of valuable foreign exchange, a good local export market and an entrepôt for Chinese exports elsewhere. For the United Kingdom, in addition to preserving the political stability, there are some important economic advantages to be gained from the continued presence of British forces. First, substantial benefits accrue to the United Kingdom balance of payments from the invisible earnings of banking, insurance, shipping and other commercial interests. Secondly Hongkong is regarded as a British airport and this is of considerable value to Britain in negotiating flying rights... since those can be traded off against landing rights elsewhere in the world."

- 23 March 1976: Wilson celebrates NUJ Executive's moves for other trade unionists to give access to IOJ strikebreakers: "I joined [Thatcher] in expressing disapproval at what had happened ... Secretary of State for Employment [Foot] has made an important statement about the serious implications involved and has asked the NUJ executive to reconsider its position in this matter. I understand that the general purposes committee of the NUJ has put a recommendation to that effect to the executive."
- 23 March 1976: Thomson Holidays announces a Siberian package tour, with special introductory rates for £135 for a week's holiday in Novosibirsk, a Thomson spokesperson announcing the offer "will be the biggest stopper in dinner party circles".
- 24 March 1976: Congo-Brazzaville's trade union confederation CSC (Confédération Syndicale Congolaise) launches a general strike against austerity measures.
- 24 March 1976: General Jorge Videla, Admiral Emilio Massera and Brig General Orlando Agosti, Commander-in-Chief of the Argentine armed forces, Navy and Air Force respectively launch the .
- 26 March 1976: Kissinger and company laugh about a Korean political prisoner on death row:

"Philip Habib: He's in prison under a life sentence, and they've just re-indicted him under another law which permits them to sentence him to death.

Kissinger: They don't take any chances, do they? (Laughter.)
MR. HABIB: They don't take any chances. The guy is very sick, besides. He won't make it for very long. (Laughter.)"

(Secretary's Staff Meeting, 26 March 1976)

Philip Habib explains the US desire to maintain intelligence operatives in its contingent of US service personnel remaining in Thailand: "Well, what we want to do is keep the ceiling so that later on, if we need to, it would-be intelligence people, not MAG people, and vary it with the MAG." (Secretary's Staff Meeting, 26 March 1976)

26 March 1976: Kissinger repeats the line on Angola Cubans out no matter what: "Well, I would generally think we're better off with no debate [in the UN over Angola] .... But I wouldn't spill blood over it. If there is, we should hit foreign intervention in Angola and ask for the withdrawal of Cuban troops."

26 March 1976: US Assistant Secretary for Latin America, Bill Rogers warns: "In Argentina, although the junta has had some pretty good success, we're trying to make whatever estimates we can about what's going to happen... This junta is testing the basic proposition that Argentina is not governable, so they're going to succeed where everybody else has failed. I think that's a distinctly odds-on choice. I think we're going to look for a considerable effort to involve the United States — particularly in the financial field. ... I think also we've got to expect a fair amount of repression, probably a good deal of blood, in Argentina before too long. I think they're going to have to come down very hard not only on the terrorists but on the dissidents of trade unions and their parties... we're going to recognize this morning a formal note in response to their request for recognition — as have virtually all the other countries of Latin America."

Kissinger explains: "Whatever chance they have, they will need a little encouragement"

"Rodgers: We think we know who's the Foreign Minister — which is the key appointment.

Kissinger: Who?

Rodgers: Probably a fellow named Vanele who we have worked with in the past. And if he is appointed, then I think we're in a position to work with him.

Kissinger: I do want to encourage them. I don't want to give the sense that they're harassed by the United States.

Bill Rodgers: No. What I was basically concerned about in the first instance was the public posture." (Secretary's Staff Meeting, 26 March 1976)

25 March 1976: Middle East News Agency reports PRC has provided Egypt with engines, spare parts and other technical equipment for

its air force of MiG fighters. It comes after Sadat has publicly attacked the Soviet Union and the ECP.

- 25 March 1976: Trade Union and Labour Relations (Amendment) Act is passed, after numerous changes imposed by backlash forces featuring a heavy clause 'Charter on freedom of the press' effectively licensing continued support of strikebreaking in the news and media sector.
- 25 March 1976: Tony Benn calls on Labour Party to vote for Michael Foot as leader as he withdraws from the leadership contest. Callaghan having been informed by Wilson of his decision to quit in advance in private has had the advantage of securing the necessary votes in private.
- 25 March 1976: Northern Ireland Secretary Rees announces policy of 'Ulsterisation' expansion of the RUC and UDR and withdrawal of some mainland army units.
- 25 March 1976: Parliament accepts a slightly modified renewal of Prevention of Terrorism Act, meaning the Prevention of Terrorism Act (1976) takes effect the following day.
- 25 March 1976: Brian Lenihan Snr, centre-right Fianna Fail Irish Senate leader urges Ireland to follow Labour's path from 1974-6: "At least in Britain, which has been rightly described as the lame duck economy of the European Economic Community, they have set about tackling inflation and Mr. Harold Wilson rightly said in one of his farewell comments that the thing of which he was proudest was the fact that he had achieved a national partnership... with Mr. Jack Jones in getting the British people to adopt £6 a week flat increase across the board.... Mr. Harold Wilson of Britain was rightly proud of the fact that he had, through the acceptance of the £6 a week formula, made a positive contribution towards rescuing the lame duck economy of the United Kingdom. ... The success of the steps that have been taken to rescue the lame duck economy of our neighbouring island have been highlighted by a recent survey which puts consumer prices now in Ireland at 6% ahead of Britain."
- 26 March 1976: <u>Investor's Chronicle's</u> main editorial calls on the House of Lords to wreck the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Bill: "It happens that the boards of the banks and insurance companies contain a large number of peers who should have a triple interest in the subject of nationalisation; they must be anxious to oppose a policy that could threaten their own companies one day; and they should be concerned to see fair compensation paid When nationalisation is inevitable, not only for the sake of the precedent that may one day be invoked against their own shareholders, but also for the sake of the owners of the investment portfolios which their companies manage; such portfolios are very likely to contain stocks such as GEC, Hawker-Siddeley and Vickers, which are

threatened by the current bill. The clearing banks number a formidable of peers among their directors, including Lords Armstrong, McFadzean, Pritchard, Aberconway, Caeca, Plowden, Caldecote, Netherthorpe Clydesmuir, and Watkinson. The insurance companies can add Lords Strathalmond, O'Brien, Astor, Aldington, Wakehurst, Rhyl, Earl Cadogan, Viscount Cobham and the Marguess of Lithgow, while other city institutions can put forward Lord Remnant, Lord Barber and the Earl of Airlie. If any of them choose not to fight for fair compensation for the aircraft and shipbuilding companies, they are likely to be failing the interests of savers whose money is entrusted to their companies. And they will also deserve little sympathy if their companies are ever faced with nationalisation. Of course, any amendments they propose have to be submitted to the Commons but there are is hope that reasonable amendments could succeed at that stage. If the opposition parties are united in their hostility to this Bill, it needs only a couple of defections or absences from the Government beaches for the Government's majority to disappear. So the efforts of the Lords need not be fruitless gestures of defiance they could well succeed. How about it?"

Lord Strathalmond is also chief of Govan Shipbuilders Ltd. Lord Watkinson, is CBI President, and holder over the years of several senior positions in the British Institute of Management and former chairman of Cadbury Schweppes Ltd. Old Etonian Viscount Cobham, advisor to the Queen Mother as 'Lord Steward of England', former Conservative general election candidate, former Governor General of New Zealand, an Eton parent for his sons, former president of MCC and host to many apartheid South Africa cricket tours, former director of East African Eastates Limited, which scored vast profits by dividing up Africans' land in Kenya into parcels for white landowners and firms, is also director in Cerebos, the food industry firm.

26 March 1976: Old Winchester, Sir Michael Swann, chairman of the governors of the BBC, warns the Headmasters' Association annual conference: "Only the next stages of the fight against inflation will tell. For so powerful their concern for order and stability that societies will go to almost any lengths in sacrificing freedom to achieve that end, even if they come later, and too late, to regret their decision. However unlikely we think these gloomy predictions may be, I am left with the feeling that it would be, wise for us educators and broadcasters to do what we can to preserve and justify the concept of freedom."

He refers to the recent television interview with Alexander Solzhenitsyn, and praises him, pointing out the question is not how the Soviet Union can escape 'totalitarianism' but how Britain can avoid it in the near future. He warns that since 1945 the volume of

legislation, the size of the Civil Service, the number of executive decisions and the extent of government control has grown. "As chairman of the BBC I cannot but be aware of the extent to which elements within politics, industry or society at large would like to curb and control this most mass of the mass media to their own advantage."

He urges headteachers to instruct a sense of history for everyone should to have some idea of how 'our' (presumably superior) society has progressed compared with 'totalitarian' society.

Old Swithunite Mary Warnock, Britain's premier female philosopher, senior Talbot Research Fellow at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, speaks strongly in favour of continuing to have separate schools for 'disabled', 'maladjusted' and 'subnormal' children in spite of much evidence to her inquiry in favour of integration in education.

- 26 March 1976: At Nottingham Crown Court Justice Melford Stevenson criticises a prosecution against an 18-year-old for having sexual intercourse with a 15-year old stating: "She was not only wiling but enthusiastic. You did what almost anybody would have expected you to do." The defendant is given an absolute discharge.
- 26 March 1976: National Book League announces Mary Wilson, wife of the prime minister, Old King Edward's Grammarian Walter Allen, New Statesman critic, and Old Salopian Francis King, chief theatre and book reviewer for the Sunday Telegraph, are judges for 1976's Booker Prize.
- 27 March 1976: Nicholas Ridley in <u>The Spectator</u> urges direct militarist assault on trade union efforts warning against "subconscious believers in the Corporate State advocates of a sort of sublimated fascism" with the government.
- 27 March 1976: IMF release a \$127 million credit for the Argentina militarist regime.
- 27 March 1976: South Africa's remaining armed forces are withdrawn from Angola, after British and Soviet pressure convince MPLA to respect and safeguard the South African managed Cunene River hydro-electric complex that supplies part of South Africa's power.
- 27 March 1976: BHS announces profits showing an increase of over 20% from £21mil to £25.4mil 1974-5 to 1975-6. Sir Mark Turner Chairman of BHS: "In previous statements, I have referred to the difficulty of measuring the real growth in sales in times of rapid inflation but our own rate, of price increase was substantially below that shown by the general index of retail prices, being in the region

of 18% across all departments. We benefited by about 3% from additional selling space and by about 2% from the 53rd week. The balance of 7% came through additional sales from existing space. Throughout the year, steady progress was made on the store development programme. Our large replacement Nottingham opened in February and extensions were completed at Middlesbrough, Bradford, Derby and Northampton. Our Hanley replacement store opened earlier this month and in the near future new stores will open at Stevenage, Wandsworth and Colchester.. Next year, major stores will open at Leeds and Dublin and then in the following year at Bromley, Barnsley and Dundee. Completion of the rebuilding and extension of our major store in Manchester is also scheduled for 1978. Other sites in new locations, are under consideration. Encouraging progress has been made in our joint venture with J. Sainsbury Limited in that Sava-Centre Limited, the company in which we each have a half interest, now has firm plans for the opening of its first hypermarket at Washington, near Sunderland. There are good prospects My term of office ends with quite a long run of pretty spectacular annual increases in turnover and profits. The company is indeed fortunate to have secured as my successor Sir Jack Callard, who has only recently retired from the chairmanship of that great company ICI"

- 28 March 1976: British Rail raises fares by 17.5% in South East and London area.
- 29 March 1976: US Ambassador to Argentina Robert Hall cables: "with Videla now named Pres and his new cabinet now named, it is perhaps a convenient moment to report several short-term conclusions:... The new govt has not yet presented its full economic program, but the approach evidenced so far is encouragingly pragmatic and deliberate... Once the govt begins to impose an austerity program, labor reaction may stiffen, but so far it has been almost nonexistent; indeed, absenteeism reportedly ceased to be a problem almost the day after the coup. The USG of course should not become overly identified with the Junta, but so long as the new govt can hew to a moderate line the USG should encourage it by examining sympathetically any requests for assistance." In response early in Apr 1976 Ford releases a speedy \$50mil stabilisation programme for the military regime.
- 29 March 1976: FLO (Front for the Liberation of Oman) guerrilla forces still active in southern Oman claim to struck a group including British and Iranian soldiers.
- 29 March 1976: A gift of champagne worth £3,304 is delivered to No. 10 Downing Street for a Wilson 'farewell party by property firm

Peachey, whose chairman, Eric Wilson, is guilty of "numerous misappropriations of company funds" (Department of Trade Report 1979).

- 30 March 1976: Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association officially calls off its 'rent and rates strike'. It concentrates on assisting those who are being penalised for arrears from social security payments.
- 31 March 1976: Britain completes its withdrawal of armed forces in Singapore, handing over its barracks and premises to Singaporean armed forces. Over 1975-6 it has ended the employment of 2,650 Singaporean civilian porters, cleaners and other rote workers, giving on average around S\$1000 to each as redundancy payment.
- 31 March 1976: Bahrain Monetary Agency announces 5 more foreign banks, including British firms, can set up offshore tax haven operations, this brings the total to 32 banks.

April 1976: City University's Stephen Haseler's 'The Death of British Democracy: A Study of Britain's Political Present and Future' is published. It states "a supreme act of political will" can prevent a growing tendency to "isolate Britain from the rest of the world and drive her into the Soviet orbit, silence dissenting views, force its will on the majority and abolish freedoms, in the classic totalitarian pattern".

April 1976: Large NF demonstration in Bradford, Manningham. \*\*

- 1 April 1976: Sterling closes at \$1.88.
- 1 April 1976: 'Near East RAF Command' (also known as NEAF-Near East Air Force), based in Oman, is ended. AHQ Cyprus is reformed in its place to take charge of all RAF operations in the Middle East and Mediterranean. AHQ Cyprus nonetheless reports directly to HQ Strike Command in Britain.
- 1 April 1976: The RAF and RN base on Gan, Addu Atoll, Maldives is finally vacated, under nationalist pressure, following the termination of the 1965 Anglo-Maldivian Agreement. Diego Garcia is its replacement.
- 1 April 1976: Government announces that most reports of police corruption in Hong Kong are simply not investigated, the prerogative of investigation being retained in ICAC, made of retired or serving senior British mainland police figures: "From February 1974 to date, the Independent Commission against Corruption has received 7,026 complaints of corruption, as a result of which 2,820 investigations were launched."

So much police corruption is eventually uncovered that Governor Sir Murray Maclehouse eventually grants an amnesty for any corruption before the beginning of 1977. Police are involved in drug trafficking, prostitution, gambling, protection rackets and assisting planned killings. Once the Commission begins its work, many police officers abandon Hong Kong for good with their families to Taiwan, Indonesia, Latin America and Canada. The dozens of absconders are never brought to justice. It is estimated an 'average' officer over a 20-year career will have made millions of HK\$ in bribes.

2 April 1976: Tribune reports on the government's refusal to extend the Race Relations Act to shipping crews: "Seamen put their case against 'economic apartheid": "About 500 foreign-going ships, out of 1,300, employ low-wage Third World crews. This represents some 40% of Britain's foreign-going merchant fleet. Altogether 37 employers are involved, including the major companies, P&O, British and Commonwealth and Ocean Transport. Four major tanker companies have Indian or other low-wage nationals on board their British flagships. Also employing labour crews are the Ministry of Defence and the Government-sponsored British Petroleum. In the latest issue of the National Union of Seamen's journal, The Seaman, the union's general secretary, Jim Slater, writes: "To its everlasting shame, the Labour Government proposes to perpetuate legally a term of economic discrimination against Indian and other seamen which has been practised on British ships for over 150 years. ... Even the universally detested Greeks found a way to outlaw wage discrimination on board flag ships. So why, one must ask, has our Labour Government, which has so much to its credit and which has taken such positive steps to revolutionise the legal status of our own seafarers, clinging to this particular form of economic apartheid. ... A peculiar feature of this debate is the interest shown administrations—particularly overseas Government. These governments wish to keep the low wages paid to their nationals because of domestic economic policies. According to Slater, such governments would virtually outlaw the supply of their seamen to British ships if [Britain's] wage-equality became law. He points out that this is an infringement of sovereignty and finds it noteworthy that this should happen only at the point of wages, despite the presence of many legal complexities governing the employment of seamen and ship operatives.

He might have also pointed out that, in shipping matters, India is one the most nationalist and now boasts that over 55% of its trade is carried in its own flagships. Much of this trade was originally carried by British steamers but now, thanks to Indian Government pressure, it is carried by Indian vessels. Not that there is much wrong with that, except that the loss of trade in this instance had nothing to do with wage rates. Drawing attention to the fact that the ship-owners welcome government help, domestic or foreign, for their low wage crusade, Jim Slater reminds us that these same shipowners are otherwise implacable enemies of state intervention,

particularly on matters such as safety and training. Asserting that the National Union of Seamen believes in race equality, he demands that this dubious privilege which shipowners have had since 1820 should end."

A follow-up letter: "Not only are the Asian ratings receiving less wages than their British counterparts but, in many cases, they are receiving less than the minimum set out in the International Labour Organisation Recommendation on the subject — that is, £48 per month. The solution to our problems in trying to obtain better conditions for our less fortunate brethren is unfortunately rather complex. British companies are not permitted to own foreign flag vessels but it is all too easy for them both to set up companies abroad and to manage foreign flag ships and then avoid any British legislation designed to protect seafarers — in fact the maritime equivalent of the Imperial Typewriter Company's "moonlight flit". The whole problem is mixed up with the finding of a means to stop the movement of capital across national boundaries while at the same time enabling it still to move for socially desirable purposes such as foreign aid programmes. Added to the evasion possibilities for British shipowners is the strange attitude of the Indian Government. If it permitted Indian seafarers on British ships to earn the same wages as British seafarers, there would be a flow of aid without strings. The Indian Government could then use its own tax arrangements for any internal socio-economic policy it wished. It is intolerable, however, that it should attempt to substandard conditions on our ships. It is amazing that our Government should allow it to succeed. We now have the best Ministers we have ever had on the shipping scene. The fact that they propose to permit wage discrimination to continue shows the size of the problem we in the seafarers' unions have to face." (9 Apr 1976, Tribune)

Even in the amended Race Relations Act 1977 it states "Nothing in section 4 shall render unlawful any act done by an employer in or in connection with employment by him on any ship in the case of a person who applied or was engaged for that employment outside Great Britain" so that discriminatory employment can be continued via gangers operating in India and Africa.

- 2 April 1976: National Executive Committee of EIS censure the Aberdeen section for sponsoring a delegate to Right to Work rally held in Albert Hall, and declare, contrary to established procedure, travel spending must be authorised from above.
- 2 April 1976: <u>To the Point</u> reports on Mary Whitehouse's month-long visit to South Africa: "Throughout her visit she cautioned South Africans against becoming complacent about the kind of moral

onslaught to which the British had been subjected for the past two decades... She was impressed by the general moral calibre of the Republic, but was concerned that South Africans tended to feel that 'it can't happen here'" Not any record is made in any publication of any comments against apartheid.

4 April 1976: Sadat announces Soviet ships can no longer call at Egyptian ports.

5 April 1976: Callaghan becomes Prime Minister. He calls on all factions of the Labour Party to unify behind efforts to rescue Britain from economic decline and states borrowing "cannot go on indefinitely" suggesting further cuts.

5 April 1976: Petrotech 76 described as the "premier oil and gas industry show in Western Europe and the Eastern hemisphere" features 38 British firms occupying a floor space of well over 1000m² Minister of State for Energy, John Smith gives an opening speech: "I will not pretend that we do not expect to make a profit out of that trade. It will obviously pay the United Kingdom to import cheaper, heavier crude to meet some of our own needs, and at the same time sell light, low-sulphur-content North Sea oil abroad at higher prices than this type of oil fetches in the European and world markets."

He states Britain intends to export at least, if not more, the level of its oil imports. He states rate of flow is currently well over 100,000 barrels a day. He hints that there might be British-Dutch joint ventures in international markets, exporting technology and expertise to South-East Asia, Indian Ocean, Latin America, particularly offshore from Brazil, Korea, Africa, and perhaps even the USSR and Japan.

Smith meets representatives of several countries including Soviet Union, Romania and PRC for deals. He then flies to Groningen gas field to hold talks with senior officials of Shell and Esso.

"As oilmen, politicians, engineers, and salesmen gathered in Amsterdam, there were rumours of a new joint arrangement between Britain and Norway to "carve up the best of the North Sea oil and gas" between them. In the past few weeks there has been a high level but largely unreported meeting of civil servants of the two countries.... there are active rumours that Britain and Norway have have decided on a new strategy to achieve the maximum benefits." (Glasgow Herald 6 Apr 1976)

6 April 1976: 6<sup>th</sup> Budget. White Paper on cash limits published (Cmnd. 6440). It offers tax relief if a 3% pay limit is agreed by TUC. Chancellor announces the restrictions on H.P. for motor caravans will be abolished to induce domestic demand but

restrictions will remain on motor cars in order not to "stimulate imports".

6 April 1976: <u>Daily Telegraph</u> reports that ten of the Great Train Robbery group have become company directors of a PLC to help secure funds in retelling their stories of the heist. One of the group, James Hussey, is already manager of an upmarket restaurant in Soho, London, with customers drawn to his past story.

6 April 1976: Sterling closes down slightly at \$1.86, reflecting general acceptance of the Budget but concern over insufficient means to restrict pay increases.

6 April 1976: Over 2,000 Cypriots demonstrate outside the Nicosia US Embassy. Cypriot police and US Marine guards open indiscriminate tear gas rounds. Banner include 'Henry Kissinger Murderer' and 'Collusion'.

6 April 1976: Defence Minister Mason introduces a British arms budget of £5,800 million for 1976-77. (This total is greater than the entirety of the cuts planned. However were the military budget to be transferred to other forms of government expenditure spending

6 April 1976: Celebrating the PLA's arrests and clearing of thousands of demonstrators in Tian-an-men Square, PRC's semi-official Renmin Ribao's large front-page editorial declares that "class enemies" should be tracked down and hammered with firm blows. PLA militias armed with sharpened wooden staves remained placed in back streets around the square to resist any arrests.

6 April 1976: 43 firms, including British Leyland are removed from the Arab League boycott office.

6 April 1976: Attempting to seek conciliation with militarist forces, Democrat Party leader Seni Pramoj says he is prepared to consider retaining some US military presence, the previous government of Kukrit Pramoj, had ordered all US forces out of Thailand by 20 Mar 1976, but was brought down in a constitutional coup.

7 April 1976: Tony Benn plans for the future in his diaries: "If I were Prime Minister... I would have a Chairman of the Cabinet to see that Government business was conducted in any orderly way. And I would have a leader of business whose job it was to turn the Manifesto into the statute book. It may be that after five years of Tory Government we come back in the Eighties. I am sure the right time for all this is the Eighties. It is not now." It later transpires that the 1980s is not a time for Labour government.

8 April 1976: Tony Benn is upset at not getting the Minister of Employment post: "on merit, seniority and capacity to pull the trade union movement together, I would do a better job at Employment. You [Deputy leader Foot] know I could, it would be difficult but I would pledge my support. I could do it" However goes onto wish for a Callaghan premiership until the end of the term: "I pledge you

[Callaghan] my support – I want you to succeed and be Prime Minister at the end of this parliament. You will need me." Jim said "I want to make use of your abilities, to harness them. There was an attempt to get you out of the Cabinet in the past, but I would like some way of using you."

- 9-12 April 1976: South African Prime Minister Vorster and Foreign Minister Muller visit Israel on an official visit. They conclude a joint Ministerial Committee that meets at least once a year to review financial, scientific and industrial cooperation. Israel secretly agrees to begin training South Africa's elite anti-guerrilla "Reconnaissance Commando" units, 1 Recce 5 Recce.
- 10 April 1976: King Hussein arrives in London for secret talks with Callaghan.
- 10 April 1976: Sir John Kerr and Lady Kerr arrive at a theatre with an enlarged police guard of uniformed and plain-clothes officers. Special security precautions, including the closure of several theatre entrances and exits and stricter parking restrictions, are imposed. Loud hissing breaks out as Sir John Kerr and Lady Kerr are ushered to their seats at a classical music concert. Much of the audience remain seated as the orchestra plays the Vice Regal salute the first six bars of God Save The Queen.
- 11 April 1976: Enoch Powell delivers in Cambridge another speech declaring "mugging ... a racial phenomenon" the first stage of a black-on-white wave of civil war.
- 11 April 1976: <u>Sunday Times</u> Insight Team authors an article using an Italian parliamentary inquiry's deposits of magistrate seized company documents proving major oil companies have paid at least \$7mil in secret political payoffs in one period of about 18 months in 1971-72. Shell's share is about \$800,000 and BP's about \$750,000. There is much feeling that the firms have continued their bribery beyond 1972. A documentary on ITV's <u>World in Action</u> 12 Apr 1976 examines the documents more fully.
- 12 April 1976: Australia's <u>The Age</u> offers its perspective on PIRA's mainland bombing campaign: "Again, you may arrive at a great London railway station concourse as it happened to me the other day. And the whole vast area of concrete dotted with kiosks is deserted except for a few policemen saying, "Hurry along there", or, "Yes, madam, we can't afford to take chances". And you do hurry along even though the overwhelming majority of these occasions are the result of telephone hoaxes. The IRA had a time when they thought they would concentrate on blowing up the haunts of the rich and the privileged. This, they thought, would gain them the sympathy of the oppressed working class in Britain. It has had no

such result. A dismembered aristocrat is every bit as distressing as an exploded road mender. But some of the smartest restaurants in London have either installed special glass in their windows or else erected elegant sand bag barricades which remind everyone of the good, old uncomplicated days. If there is going to be any backlash against the Irish in England, it is going to come from manual workers rather than from city fat-cats or ferocious patriots." Unsurprisingly it succeeds in ignoring the police backlash against Irish people, particularly those asserting republicanism of any form.

- 12 April 1976: Tony Benn pledges loyalty to Callaghan: "On the question of my loyalty to the parliamentary system for God's sake it couldn't be questioned. ... I am not sitting waiting for the revolution to march on London, I live in the naïve hope that one day you [Callaghan] will accept the policies that I advocate... I won't resign unless I think the Government is destroying the movement, and I can't see that happening" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 13 April 1976: Foreign Office's West European section analyses how to 'buffer' a PCI in government. Use of EC economic measures, a steady European economic boycott, pressure on Third World allies in business deals with Italy, depletion of Italian currency are all seriously discussed. Contacting loyalist groups in the military to help them provoke a military takeover or temporary suspension of Parliament is considered but dismissed as impractical. (La Reppublica, 2002)
- 13 April 1976: <u>Wall Street Journal</u> editorial surmises that economic success in Britain rests partly on the ability of organised labour to accept a wage increase limit not higher than 3%. But "even if agreement is given, the policy is bound to fail as long as the government continues an excess monetary expansion that is immediately reflected in a depreciating currency... We don't believe labour causes inflation, at best all labour can do is cause a temporary change in relative prices. Governments cause inflation through excessive monetary expansion" effectively urging massive cuts in subsidies, investments, purchases from the private sector, public expenditure, increases to the MLR.
- 13 April 1976: A one-day sympathy close-down by independently-owned restaurants cafés and bars takes place across southern Spain in support of striking hotel and catering workers in tourist sites. Tourists are severely affected by the strike in its seventh day. Some tour operators have begun diverting British tourists to repressive Morocco and largely non-unionised Majorca. British tourists are forced to shop in supermarkets at the Costa del Sol.

- 14 April 1976: Australian Foreign Minister Lance Peacock holds talks with Suharto and agrees "with his view that while there are disagreements, and there are, we nevertheless must put them in the broad perspective not only of the present but also of the future. There are many important issues on which we are close." In this spirit he announces a minimum of A\$86mil aid for 1976-78 and states it could be increased in 1977, but will not be reduced, an increase of over \$17mil over the previous amount. Part of the aid involves police training.
- 15 April 1976: Reuters reports: "Along the southern Costa Del Sol coast, many bars and restaurants in popular vacation resorts remained closed as a catering strike entered its second week. Tourists continued to buy food at supermarkets or help serve drinks and meals in hotels. Travel companies have transferred hundreds of British and Belgian vacationers to Morocco and diverted flights to the Canary and Balearic Islands."
- 18 April 1976: IDF assists and escorts a march by the well-organised rightist Gush Emunim movement through the towns and villages of the occupied West Bank, calling for new Jewish-only settlements. In response counter-protests are held and IDF forces open fire shooting dead a Palestinian boy.
- 21 April 1976: Chairman Mao Zedong meets Egyptian Vice-President Hosni Mubarak in Beijing. Mao expresses strong support for Egypt's foreign policy. He describes President Anwar Sadat as courageous" for strugaling and against "heaemonism". They officially sign a defence protocol, preparation for several months. British press analysis is either muted or even positive towards Egypt's shift. (Two former Third World 'threats' to British interests - Egyptian nationalism and PRC have been neutralised. The deal is not reported negatively unlike the Soviet-Egyptian deal of 1956, largely because Sadat has been long observed welcoming British capital and exports on softer terms, unlike the Nasser era's effort at Egyptianisation.)
- 21 April 1976: A lavish birthday party at Windsor Castle sees over 500 guests to celebrate the Queen's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday. A luxury dinner is followed by a ball that continues past 3 in the morning. At 2.40 am, time of her birth, the Queen dances with Prince Philip, with guests watching. Joe Loss and His orchestra, swing big band mega-group of the 1940s and 1950s, respond to the royal invitation by flying from USA especially for the event. Guests include former Prime Minister Wilson, who has flown back from holiday in the Scilly Isles to attend the party, and Margaret Thatcher. Callaghan's absence is

- another pinhole canard for the centre-right. Front page headlines include <u>Daily Express</u> "Mr Callaghan regrets", <u>Daily Mail</u> "A royal blunder by Jim", <u>The Sun</u> "Big Jim regrets".
- 21 April 1976: At the UN, with the prior agreed support of the Western bloc, Malaysia attacks FRETILIN and the Guinea Bissau resolution for unconditional Indonesian withdrawal and says the Indonesian government "enjoys the support and the confidence of the people" of Timor Leste. This begins to cause a rupture in the Third World and Non-Aligned position.
- 21 April 1976: Tony Benn receives a warm note from Callaghan: "I haven't had a letter like that from Harold Wilson the whole of my life and it really helps" (Tony Benn's diary)
- 19-22 April 1976: A series of fairly uniformly monarchist articles on the Queen's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday. <u>The Times</u>: "At a time when the country needs all the encouragement we can get, it is a strength and a reassurance that the central institution of the monarchy is so sound." <u>Daily Express</u>: "As a nation that grumbles and often has much to grumble about we should today bless our good fortune in having Queen Elizabeth II."
- 22 April 1976: Sydney Morning Herald "Elizabeth II is entitled... to take heart as a woman, because her own qualities are inseparable from the success of the Crown in her years. What are these qualities? First, in her public life, her patent, luminous devotion to tested, relevant traditional moral values — service, duty, discipline, industry, kindness in public life; and in private life, devotion to inherited religious precepts and to the traditional values of family and hearth. Second, for all her strength and dignity as a figure of tradition, the flexibility with which she has modernised the Crown. Under her it has become an institution accessible to and intimately commingled with the daily life of her people. Each quality has made impact here no less than in Britain. Australia, too, has chanced during her reign, finding a more positive and complex national identity, no longer looking to Britain as "home". Yet when Elizabeth II comes here next year, she will be received with an affection and feeling of kinship hardly able to he accorded to predecessors remote from us. A symbol she is; but she is also our noble friend. Long may she reign." The 'tributes' in 1977, 1982, 1992, 2002, 2012 remain largely the same.
- 23 April 1976: Wilson is appointed Knight of the Garter.
- 24 April 1976: Argentine Post Office as ordered by its militarist supervisors, makes an issue of 1 million stamps featuring the

- 'Malvinas/Falklands islands, showing a map of the islands in Argentina's sky-blue and white colours, bordered with the label 'Occupation and first raising of the national flag on the Malvinas, November 6, 1820'. It is the first ever stamp to feature the islands.
- 24 April 1976: Zairean armed forces raid on Mbamou/Mbamu in Congo-Brazzaville sees 2 killed and many buildings on the island virtually destroyed.\*
- 25 April 1976: Cooperation agreement between Tunisia and the EEC is signed in Tunis.
- 25 April 1976: New York Times reports a US leak confirming that Kissinger agreed in Dec 1975 to allow Britain to bypass COCOM (NATO excluding Iceland including Japan) to secure its arms sales to PRC. The article links Kissinger's decision to his reassurances to PRC to a US longer-term interest in maintaining the PRC forces at a high level. The leak itself is a gesture towards pro-US elements within the PRC leadership during the power struggle following the Tien-An Men disturbances of 5 Apr 1976. The successful sale in question is that of Rolls-Royce's Spey jet engines for various Phantom fighter-bomber versions and construction of the Spey factory, a deal which had been under discussion since 1972.
- 26 April 1976: David Bowie gives an interview to the Swedish music press in Stockholm where he describes how Britain could benefit from a "fascist" leader "not a Nazi one, but a socialist one". He also claims he is writing a play about Josef Goebbels. This play never emerges. He has earlier in 1975 declared "the best thing that can is happen for an extreme right-wing government to be elected."
- 26 April 1976: <u>Time</u> reports on more than 1,000 cooperation agreements between Hungary and Western, principally European including British, firms: "in their simplest form, such ventures involve little more than a thinly disguised exploitation of cheap Hungarian labor."
- 27 April 1976: "Caught the train back with Bernard Ingham and Bryan Emmett.... Gradually they are beginning to understand what it is all about. I like them both." (Tony Benn's diary) Bernard Ingham, later becomes press secretary for Margaret Thatcher and advertising and press consultant to the nuclear industry.
- 28 April 1976: Cabinet Energy Committee ENM decide against an inquiry into BP's corruption. It is "a classic Whitehall cover up" (Tony Benn's diary)

29 April 1976: <u>Tony Benn fails to support an NEC motion critical of the government's spending cuts</u>

29 April 1976: Labour government's cuts programme: "our decision to reduce public expenditure after 1976–77 has meant cuts in most programmes totalling £3 billion" "the Government must resist all pressures for increases in public expenditure where there are no compensating reductions", "allies in NATO did not conclude that their security or ours had been undermined by our actions [in withdrawal East of Suez under the Defence Review]... they know that Britain is pulling her full weight in the Alliance and that our fighting forces are professional, efficient and well-equipped with modern weapons... forces in NATO excel over, rather than merely compare favourably with, those of our colleagues in the Alliance."

30 April 1976: SWAPO issues a press statement condemning the government decision to allow the Marconi deal to South Africa to take effect.

30 April 1976: Britain abstains on a resolution critical of South Africa's invasion into Angola.

May 1976: Negotiations over the implementation of the Equal Pay Act break down at the Trico plant, Brent. A 24-hour picket as, on a number of occasions, blackleg convoys with massive police support charged through picket lines at the dead of night to try to keep supplies moving. Harriet Harman, chief lawyer at Brent Law Centre, and Jack Dromey, secretary of Brent Trades Council, support the strike – in favour of a continuous picket but 'peaceful' action.

May 1976: Home Secretary Jenkins gives supportive advice at the Police Federation: "Do not sneer at bail or the Bail Bill, or the parole system. If you do you will be extremely short sighted and damaging yourselves more than you think.... I therefore say to you - by all means emphasise the challenge of crime, and apply sceptical criticism to some approaches to it." But "if you want to push the prison population up towards 50,000 and beyond, the plain fact is that in a real world there will be less money to spend on the police, and none of my successors, of either party, will be able to preserve the full priority the police have recently enjoyed. Your job - and mine - is to uphold the law and not decry it. In your professional capacity you do this remarkably well. You command great public esteem. You are much needed. You have achieved great triumphs in the past year. If after five years as Home Secretary I had one message for the police it would be this: Be more self confident and less self pitying!"

May 1976: IEA publishes London University Emeritus Economics Prof. George Allen's British Disease: A Short Essay on the Nature and Causes of the Nation's Lagging Wealth. Its director Arthur Seldon writes the introduction: "Professor Allen argues that the fundamental questions are whether the British people have been ready to accept the exertions required in a changing economy, whether the economically progressive countries have not been those that have concentrated on growth, whether Britain's social economic institutions chime with industrialism, whether the low quality of investment, governmental and private (as distinct from its quantity), indicates weakness in the selection and training of civil servants and business managers, and why British industrial relations have become anachronistic to the point of attracting scorn from those who once regarded Britain as their exemplar."

The main problem is failing to accept domination: "The increasing reluctance to accept an hierarchical society means that attitudes and institutions must be changed — gradually to avoid disorder but not too slowly if the British economy is to regain its initiatives"

The terms of debate for backlash analysis are set, where there are "many fundamental issues on which economists and others will differ. Perhaps the most basic is whether the main fault lies with people and institutions that put continuity before innovation; or with government that by omission or commission failed to make the economy competitive so that people and institutions would have been impelled to adapt themselves to change; or even more fundamentally with the ideas and teachings of the critics of industrialism among historians and social observers who for a century or more have denigrated the role of risk-taking and investment in industry on the ground that the problems of production have been solved, to egalitarians who have fastened on redistribution as the means of raising the living standards of the "under-privileged""... The Institute wishes to thank Professors Margaret Gowing, Harold Rose and [hard-rightist LSE Professor Basil] Yamey for reading an early draft and offering comments that the author has borne in mind in his final revisions. Since the Paper touches the structure of industry and the attitude of industrialists, Sir Emmanuel Kay, Chairman of Lansing Bagnall, Mr. Kenneth Corfield, Managing Director of Standard Telephones and Cables, and Dr. John Murray, Chairman of Bedworth Holdings, were also asked to offer observations on the general theme based on their knowledge and experience."

1 May 1976: Kenneth Newman is appointed Chief Constable of RUC. 1 May 1976: May Day demonstrations and protests against Israeli land requisitions across Palestine are severely repressed. Nablus

- sees 1 shot dead, 3 are severely injured. IDF forces also storm protests in Jenin, Tulkarm and elsewhere.
- 1 May 1976: An ERP bomb outside a PCP office in Lisbon kills 1 and injures 6 just before a May Day procession is to begin.
- 1 May 1976: 150,000 trade union members, mostly CGT-aligned march in Paris and calling for an end to Giscard d'Estaing's austerity policies.
- 2 May 1976: <u>Sunday Times</u> interview with Callaghan sees him call for "a moral approach" to end social problems: "What is needed is more family responsibility and social cohesion. No Government can legislate for it. It can only be done by a moral approach."
- 2 May 1976: News of the World article: 'One slips in on every boat' repeats lies on immigration.
- 2 May 1976: Seamus Ludlow, a 47 year old forestry worker, is shot in Dundalk, County Louth. Press reports following the Gardai's assertions immediately point the finger at the IRA: "A low grade source has reported that [Seamus Ludlow] was murdered by the PIRA as they suspected him of passing information to Security Forces in the South. Ludlow's brother is also believed to be a member of the PIRA." (RUC, 19 October 1976) But later a report by D-Sgt Owen Corrigan, Dundalk states: "Subject has three brothers and none of them is a member of the PIRA." (31 Dec 1976)
- 2 May 1976: Tony Benn plans to restore the power of Parliament: "the time has come to launch a major battle on behalf of parliamentary democracy as it ought to be, that is to restore the power of Parliament over the Executive and of the PLP over the parliamentary leadership. It doesn't seem particularly radical but if it were done it would be revolutionary." (Tony Benn's diary) However Parliament has never held "power" over the Executive (not since the mass franchise, at least). Precisely as the franchise is extended, the government and its law-making powers are further 'permanent centralised and bureaucratised. Moreover, а government' structure is instituted to neuter successful action by an elected parliamentary government against the masters of society by. Parliament can conspire to bring down one Executive to let it be replaced with another, but that is all. The permanent government structure of the civil service and military on one hand, and the divorce of a Cabinet-government from its electorate under the Westminster system means a Parliament can do no more. Government by business interests will continue once one government falls and is replaced by another.
- 2-3 May 1976: President Ferdinand Marcos and wife Imelda arrive on a 'private visit' to Britain, nonetheless Marcos has a reception with the Queen and talks with Callaghan.

3 May 1976: Lord Elworthy, Governor of Windsor Castle organises from general royal expenditure a lavish reunion party at Runnymede and Windsor Castle for Bomber Harris and 463 and 467 RAAF Squadrons.

3 May 1976: Labour Left again argue for import controls.

Eric Heffer explains how the government's arguments over taxation have forced TUC on the defensive: "in the present situation the TUC could be on a hiding to nothing. If the TUC does not agree with the 3%, it may be said to be holding back the tax concessions which would have been given to other people who are not members of the TUC or the trade union movement in general. If, on the other hand, the TUC holds out and wants more than 3% — perhaps  $4\frac{1}{2}\%$  or 5% — it may be said, allied with the other argument, that the trade unions are being irresponsible and are not concerned with solving the country's problems."

He states "I spend most of my holidays in Italy going to places like Venice, Florence and Rome to see the great historical treasures" proving his anti-chauvinism and demands a fig-leaf wealth tax and import controls: "a wealth tax ... should be used as an indication of the seriousness of the Government in ensuring genuine equality of sacrifice. The money brought in from a wealth tax would not solve anything. It would be infinitesimal compared with what is required. I am not arguing that case. I am not saying that the wealth tax would provide all the capital that is required. The next step is the control of banks and financial institutions. The third step that is required is for the National Enterprise Board to be given real teeth. ... We cannot live for ever in the shadow of the problems of the City, which gets nervous whenever there is some discussion about a strike. It does not happen in other countries and it ought not to happen here. ... The time has come for Britain to stop being a depository for hot money. The Government must control the overseas portfolios.... We have to carry out the other side of the proposals of the TUC. We can begin by imposing import controls on a selective basis. We can begin by giving more money to the National Enterprise Board."

He wistfully calls for the government to take into account Labour Left concerns: "On economic policy and budgetary matters, the country and the House should have a series of options put before them, we should be able to consider those options and the Government should then be prepared to take our views into consideration."

3-5\* May 1976: Foreign Secretary Tony Crosland, alongside 17 officials, holds talks in PRC, having arrived on an RAF aircraft this afternoon and been driven to the former Imperial guest-house with

the route decked in red banners, portraits of Comrade Mao Zedong and posters depicting the Mao aphorism: 'We have friends from all parts of the world'. Crosland attempts to promote Anglo-PRC trade, where Britain has only a £20mil trade surplus, having sold 35 Trident aircraft in 1975. Neither side discusses Hong Kong. Qiao Guanhua, PRC Foreign Minister to be stripped of his post in Dec 1976, alongside the 'Gang of Four', makes an impassioned appeal for Crosland to let Britain and PRC close ranks to contain the expansion of a "superpower land and sea" Guanhua on praises the effort during the second world war and hints that similar efforts and mindsets will be required against the Soviet Union: "A deep impression was left on the Chinese people's minds of the British people's courage and determination in fighting for the preservation of their national independence at a critical juncture. We are pleased to note that personages of West European countries are giving serious thought to the current situation in Europe and that internationally more and more people have become soberly aware of the true colours of hegemonism and the direction of its main spearhead. There is an old Chinese saying: 'Preparedness' averts while appeasement abets peril.' It is precisely superpower which is zealous in preaching peace that is going all out both on land and sea, stirring up trouble everywhere and fishing in troubled waters. It is the dictate of history for West European people to unite in the face of hegemonic threats. We Chinese people have consistently supported the West European cause against' hegemonism. Our policy is to dig tunnels everywhere, store grain and never seek hegemony"

Addressing Guanhua, Crosland states: "We are often urged to be more vigilant, Mr Minister, you need have no anxiety over that score". Foreign reporters are invited to meet university staff and students, who stress the importance of sticking to Mao's path away from revisionists on a Moscow line like Deng Xiaoping, still under arrest. Officials report "We are investigating and there will be a solution. Deng Xiaoping remains unrepentant."

4 May 1976: The Sun begins its lead front full page-headline 'Scandal of £600-A-Week Migrants. Giant bill for two families who live in a 4-star hotel' It is followed up the following day by a host of letters which are highlighted prominently away from the usual letters page: 'I would like to express my anger and disgust after reading your front page headline. Scandal... How any ordinary British tax-paying citizen cannot be outraged at this is beyond my comprehension." Sharing the front page is meaningless PR for Thatcher in an article with smiling Thatcher photos headlined 'Maggie gets her hair cut!'

A group of Malawi Asians temporarily accommodated in a four-star hotel by West Sussex Council (largely because no private landlord or hostel owners would accept the Malawians) begins a highly distorted press campaign.

4 May 1976: Semi-official Algerian Press Service reports a British engineering expert, Anthony Clifford Ray and 2 French and 2 Tunisian citizens will face charges related to "economic espionage, corruption of officials and theft of confidential documents" whilst working for companies with contracts for the El Hadjar steel works in Annaba. A court later acquits him but sentences 2 French engineers to 10 and 3 years' imprionment.

4 May 1976: UPI, in an article 'Extra, extra: Hear all about it from a lady', apparently celebrating female achievement, succeeds in reflecting sexist assumptions about female bodies: "in Britain the English equivalents of Walter Cronkite. John Chancellor and Harry Reasoner were joined some weeks ago by a good-looking young lady named Angela Rippon... Naturally there were jeers from outraged male chauvinists, cheers from jubilant feminine militants and reaction from all the other fringe and splinter opponents and proponents of the status quo. But now that novelty has passed into commonplace, the average man and woman have weighed in with the only verdict that counts in a mass medium. They like Miss Rippon...Naturally there was some criticism and not the kind Cronkite, Chancellor and Reasoner ever get. Top dress designers complained her clothes weren't exciting enough or feminine enough and they were free with their advice. Women viewers wrote in asking Miss Rippon to do something about her startled eyebrows, described as looking like a butterfly's feelers. "I can't do anything about them" she said plaintively "that's the way they grow." Royal dress designer Hardy Amies thought she ought to try a low-cut sweater. Princess Anne's dressmaker, Maureen Baker, said Miss Nippon should look formal sometimes and casual others but always glamorous. Viewers switch on for the news not for me" said Miss Nippon, who is tall, 31, married and most attractive, though she claims she isn't. "I quite like my voice," she said "what I detest is my face. It's too fat and the jawline is too square." As her photographs prove, Miss Rippon Is also very modest."

4 May 1976: <u>El Pais</u> is launched as part of the PCE conciliationist strategy with chief board members including Francoist Information Minister Manuel Fraga then Interior Minister in the first post-Franco government, and PCE Central Committee member former political prisoner Ramon Tamames, economics professor and future MP for Madrid. The newspaper is subtitled an 'independent morning daily'.

4-7 May 1976: President Ernesto Geisel, militarist President of Brazil, has takes up the offer given by the last Labour government in 1968, when the Queen visited Brazil, for a state visit. In addition to meeting the royal family in Buckingham Palace and government figures, Geisel holds talks with leading British bankers and industrialists, since British exports to Brazil are valued at close to £180mil but are in danger of losing out to Federal German and Japanese efforts. Britain's net 'invisible' earnings are substantial are worth at least £174m in 1974. Brazilian programmes in armament technology, steel, railways and energy are of particular interest. He conducts his visit with Brazilian ministers for external relations, finance, and agriculture, as well as banking and industrial advisers. "To Buckingham Palace... to meet President Geisel of Brazil. At lunch I was between the President's wife and Senora Silviera, Minister for External Relations... she went shopping this morning" and her purchases are delivered to Buckingham Palace. (Tony Benn's Diary, 5 May 1976) Thousands remain imprisoned for basic crimes of expression and demonstration, the II Army covering Rio De Janeiro has murdered dozens in its detention centres.

5 May 1976: <u>Daily Telegraph</u> discloses details leaked from the secret Foreign Office report on the administration of immigration in India. Hawley's report is an attack on the views of Alex Lyon, former Home Office minister responsible for immigration, who was removed from his post in March. It sticks the knife into Lyon and supports Callaghan's new tougher stand. Hawley sees immigration arrangements in India as too generous to immigrants; Lyon had seen the opposite and was sacked as a result.

5 May 1976: TUC General Council agree with the government on a 5% pay limit. Sterling closes down at \$1.82 on news that the limit is above the original 3% target.

5 May 1976: <u>Daily Mail</u> misleads in another article over the Malawi Asian refugees (with British passports) "The two homeless Asian families who have cots the ratepayers £3,000 since arriving at Gatwick Airport are seeking larger cash handouts. Despite their 4-star life at the airport hotel, Crawley, they complained that they did not have enough money"

Aiming to delay their integration into Britain, West Sussex County Council have detained just 2 homeless Malawi Asian families in a hotel not a home or housing complex. Instead of the 'West Sussex County Council Affair', the event becomes the 'Malawi Asian Affair'. The headline cost becomes a means to attack and lie about the Malawi Asians, even though the have been forced into the accommodation and have not, in any degree, chosen hotels.

It fails to report that West Sussex County Council is Conservativecontrolled and Conservative councillors are responsible for the decision to house in a 4-star hotel. It fails also to examine the actual imbalances in the housing system where many hotels remain persistently empty through off-peak times, but are denied to homeless families immigrant and non-immigrant alike.

Also joining in are the <u>Daily Mirror</u> 'New flood of Asians' and the <u>Daily Telegraph</u> 'Invasion Of Asians Forces Borough To Call For Help' amongst others.

5 May 1976: <u>The Sun</u> headlines 'Asians off to the 'Workhouse'', 'Row grows over £600 hotel bills'

It attacks "bureaucrats" of West Sussex County Council for the "scandal", still with no mention of the fact that it is a Conservative council, featuring criticism from a Tory MP and a Liberal Councillor, hence leaving the unspoken conclusion that Labour is responsible for wilfully treating Asians to luxury.

On p5 'Another 4,000 are on the way' states 4,000 Asians are preparing to arrive to "take advantage of our welfare state" with zero evidence to back the claim.

- 5-9 May 1976: Deputy Foreign Office Under-Secretary, Alan Campbell, visits Yugoslavia.
- 6 May 1976: 8 heavily armed SAS members are arrested in the Republic of Ireland. The official British Army explanation is of a map-reading error.
- 6 May 1976: A potentially dangerous episode in the Cod War confrontation. Icelandic ship Vis Týr tries to cut the large fishing nets of British trawler Carlisle. In response, the HMS Falmouth at a speed of 22+ knots rams the Týr, almost capsizing it. The Týr is heavily damaged and pursued by the quicker RN Statesman with HMS Falmouth behind. The Captain of the Týr gives orders to man guns to prevent further ramming. A slip of any sort could have resulted in casualties on both sides.

6 May 1976: Local elections.

6 May 1976: The Sun headlines for the day include 'Another 20,000 Asians on the way': "Another 20,000 Asians will be coming to live in Britain this year despite demands for a cutback in the flow..." and 'A storm over the two-wife migrants'. Both articles are based on distortion. It also features 3 pages attacking Labour over its economic policy, particularly nationalisation plans, suggesting that job losses in shipbuilding are as a result of fears that yards will be nationalised.

6 May 1976: Planning staff in the Foreign Office circulate a memorandum "Italy and the communists: Options for the West" listing ways and means to strangle any transfer of power to ordinary people that a PCI victory in Jun 1976 general elections might cause to develop. A boycott of investment and international financial pressure on the Italian lire are assumed.

6 May 1976: 6: U.N. conference on trade and development in Kenya sees Britain support Kissinger's approach to allowing multinational investment and UNCTAD support for 'free trade zones'.

7 May 1976: It is reported an International Red Cross conference in Geneva has rejected an Iraqi Kurdish KDP request to be given observer status as a national guerrilla force.

7 May 1976: <u>The Sun</u> headline 'Asians in Awayday Smuggle Racket' 7 May 1976: Chancellor claims pay restraint agreement "means more jobs and more in the shopping basket"

7 May 1976: Catholic Herald gives editorial space to biblical scholar John Richards bemoaning the subjection of the human spirit to the state: "Alexander Solzhenitsyn, Malcolm Muggeridge and Bernard Levin have together provided a diversity of valid criteria for judging the sick and regressive trend of our society... I was reading the daily paper and this time my eye was caught by an article on the dismissal of British Rail employees for declining to join a union. ... But what is to be said of a society — or a large part of a society which has such a myopic or partial view of individual freedom? Just as I can think of nothing more certain to alienate me from my Church and the practice of religion than Mass attendance made compulsory through legislative provisions, so I can think of nothing more certain to alienate me from the State and the practice of my profession than union or association membership made compulsory under the law.... the success of the double-thinking "reactionary progressives" lies not only in the actual, growing subjection of the human spirit to the State but also in the extraordinary fact that, for upwards of ten or fifteen years, the whole dialogue of sociology, religion and politics has been conducted in their own crazy, semiliterate and lop-sided terms. ... The rational question, largely propped by the culture and philosophy of 2,500 years, "Why should I?" has, almost overnight, been superseded by the irrational question, "Why shouldn't I?"... I have never met Mrs Whitehouse, nor do I agree with all she has said and written but the most superficial knowledge of her expressed views is sufficient to establish that she deserves to be taken seriously. ... Contrariwise, I notice that the technically accomplished playwright, Dennis Potter, secures a full page of a recent issue of the New Statesman, not to

tell us something of his craft or to review the work of others, but to discharge a torrent of plaintive bile on the BBC for not screening his latest play because of the "nausea" it produced in the official who had a preview.

Now, clearly I know nothing of Mr Potter's unseen play though, from observation of one or two of his earlier works, the word "nausea" strikes a chord. My present purpose [is] to marvel that any writer should find it cause for indignation that he receives one rejectionslip, so to speak, and should conclude an egocentric article by imploring his readers to swamp the BBC with demands to be "allowed" to see the matchless piece. This from one who clearly recognises that he is trying to push forward the bounds of "acceptability" on a continuous basis."

8 May 1976: <u>The Sun</u> headline 'Aid Plea From Asians with £1,000. We want council house, says dad.'

- 10 May 1976: The Sun headline '4-Star Asians run up £4,000 bill' 10 May 1976: Rand Daily Mail reports mass student opposition to the Qwa-zulu bantustan from inside the university of Zululand. When over 200 students demonstrate against bantustanisation at its graduation ceremony where an honorary law doctorate is conferred on Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, soon to be first minister. 10 May 1976: Chancellor claims "we are going to get unemployment down faster than any other country"
- 12 May 1976: HMS Broadsword the lead ship and first unit of the Type 22 (combined dual gas turbine) frigates of the Royal Navy, is launched for extensive sea trials. It is eventually commissioned on May 4, 1979.
- 12 May 1976: Sydney Morning Herald reports on British 'illegal immigrants': "The present position is shrouded in secrecy because of an embargo by the Department of Immigration on detailed statistics relating to illegal immigrants. We have learned, however, that the British ran as the third greatest source of visitors to Australia after the United States and Japan. Between October 1, 1973, and September 30, last year, there were 31,131 British visitors to Australia. At the end of that period the latest for which figures are available 1,070 of these British visitors appeared to have stayed longer than the period allowed on their visa. A major problem facing the Immigration Department is the ease with which British visitors assimilate here. This makes the task of finding such illegal immigrants considerably harder than in the case of people from readily identifiable ethnic groups. We understand that last year several such British "visitors" were deported from Australia. The

investigation section of the Immigration Department has largely been inactive during the recent amnesty for illegal immigrants which ended last month. Now they are attacking the problem again."

- 12 May 1976: Tony Benn is supportive of Callaghan's new orientation apparently in favour of the PLP: "I sent him [Callaghan] a note saying 'Jim, what you are doing is rebuilding confidence between the party and the Government" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 13 May 1976: Ted Rowlands, Minister of State, Foreign Office delivers Callaghan's reply to the Nigerian letter asking for General Gowon's return, in Lagos to Col Garba, Commissioner for External Affairs. The original letter has expressed the wish, that Gowon should return home to face an investigation into allegations that he was involved in some way in the recent failed coup attempt. It states Britain cannot extradite, someone to whom asylum has been given without sufficient criminal evidence.
- 13 May 1976: Prince Charles, as chairman of the King George Jubilee Trust, administering a charitable appeal to coincide with the Queen's Silver Jubilee writes to John Betjeman: "I am determined that it should be as much of a success as possible... It would be marvellous if you could find the time to construct one of your masterpieces of scansion for the Queen's Jubilee... I would be enormously grateful, personally, if you felt able to conjure up your muse! ... I am sure you will agree that a Silver Jubilee is something to be remembered with suitable splendour." (RA/POW/Royal Jubilee Trusts)

Betjeman produces: "In days of disillusion/ However low we've been/ To fire us and inspire us/ God gave to us our Queen./

She acceded, young and dutiful/ To her much-loved father's throne; Serene and kind and beautiful,/ She holds us as her own./

Now, twenty-five years later,/ So sure her reign has been/

That great events are greater/ With the presence of the Queen.

That look of dedication/ In her trusting eyes of blue/

Make accession, Coronation,/ Both mysterious and true.

For our Monarch and Her People United and yet free./

Let bells from every steeple Ring out the Jubilee."

The Queen gives her approval for a short version to be put to music by Australian monarchist Malcolm Williamson, the Master of the Queen's Music. Williamson later produces in 1977 The Valley and the Hill; Symphony No. 4-Jubilee in 3 parts The Birth of the World, Eagle, The Prayer of the Waters; Jubilee Hymn for the Jubilee.

14 May 1976: Healey welcomes, even as unemployment rises and real incomes slide "the rate of inflation has been more than halved in the last year and it will be further halved in the coming year. I

think that the British people would find it not amiss if Her Majesty's loyal Opposition were prepared to welcome this achievement, because this is an achievement by the British people as a whole and not just by the Labour Government." Berating the Conservative Party for failing to celebrate a fall in inflation (regardless of the social costs extracted), allows Thatcher to repeat the trick in kind in the early 1980s.

- 14 May 1976: <u>Times Higher Education Supplement</u> reports Professor Caroline Cox's claims that Open University sociology course on Patterns of Inequality displays improper Marxist bias.
- 14 May 1976: US officials announce Northrop Corp. has delivered 8 F-5E jet fighter bombers to Addis Ababa in Apr 1976 as part of the continuing State Department-assisted military programme.
- 15 May 1976: Police charge onto an antifascist protest of 1000 in Birmingham, Winson Green, in opposition to a NF presence, increased for the day to 500, in the area. NF display their support for privatised racial exclusion in opposition to the Race Relations Act (1975). 28 antifascists are arrested.

Robert Relf is a former long-term member of Colin Jordan's National Socialist Movement, and former member of the vigorously Unionist and anti-Catholic British Ku Klux Klan group. Later, in 1981, he sets up the White Nationalist Crusade, an unsuccessful attempt to unify the right into a broad popular front, and in 1982 the White Power Movement to unify disillusioned members of the National Front.

- 15 May 1976: <u>General Practitioner</u> describes absenteeism as the real British disease, noting unskilled workers have an average of 18 sick days "whereas the professional man is off for only 3.9 days" declaring "boring, routine work precipitates absenteeism."
- 16 May 1976: NF Robert Relf, on hunger strike in Stafford Prison complains to prison officers over being treated as a result of his hunger-strike by a Nigerian immigrant doctor. Prison service medicine is one of the least popular of fields for British doctors, many immigrant doctors fill posts there.
- 16 May 1976: Rhodesia's 'liberal' <u>Sunday Mail</u> reports an interview with 5 former British Army soldiers, active alongside Rhodesian forces, declaring they have signed on with Rhodesian Commandos after reading recruitment leaflets and newspaper advertisements circulating in British Army barracks.

17 May 1976: A British army soldier lodged in an observation post in Fort George base, Strand Road, Derry, shoots at a passenger bus driving past. A 20-year-old Jim Gallagher is killed, 2 are severely injured.

17 May 1976: People magazine interviews John McVie & Christine McVie, half of Fleetwood Mac. They are tax exiles from Britain and later settle in Los Angeles. She states in oblique reference to the tax status: "I like to spend it as it comes in as long as I can pay taxes and live comfortably." On being a female rock star: "I don't see why a girl couldn't sit down and learn lead guitar, I dare say to a guy it'd be rather sexy. I guess it is a bit butch. I like to retain my femininity, even in jeans. I don't want to come off the least bit lezzo"

17 May 1976: Mannie Shinwell proposes the 'Malaya' solution for the six counties: "when we had considerable difficulty of a similar character in Malaysia, it was resolved only by political methods. We sent General, now Field Marshal, Templer to Malaysia and he was able, almost solely by political means, to effect a solution".

Fenner Brockway agrees but also suggests more proscription of republican organisations: "I should like to associate myself with what [Mannie] Shinwell said and to say that we are all outraged by these abhorrent murders in Northern Ireland—the attacks on the RUC ... What worries me is this. Interviews with leaders of the IRA and with leaders of the paramilitary organisations on the Loyalist side are published in the Press. I should like to ask whether it is not possible to make illegal membership of the organisations which carry out these barbarities, so that procedures can be taken without the kind of evidence for which the Minister asked"

- 17 May 1976: Bank of England makes a standby credit facility available to cover the deposits of the British merchant bank, Edward Bates, in danger of collapse.
- 17 May 1976: 61 Malawi Asian refugees arrive at Gatwick airport to a protest held by the NF calling for their expulsion.
- 17 May 1976: US Attorney's Office announces El Salvador armed forces chief Manuel Alfonso Rodriguez has been arrested over a plot to sell 10,000 machine guns for \$2.8mil to US organised crime groups.
- 18 May 1976: <u>Washington Post</u> reports Israel is arming and equipping an infantry unit for Ethiopia called the 'Flame Brigade' for duty in Eritrea.
- 18 May 1976: In a joint operation as part of Operation Condor, Argentine and Uruguayan police seize 2 important Uruguyan fugitive Frente AMPLIO figures Senator Zelmar Michelini, and Hector Gutierrez Ruiz, president of the Uruguayan Chamber of Deputies,

raiding their homes and capturing documents. Their mutilated corpses are discovered in an abandoned car on 22 May, 1976.

19 May 1976: SWAPO calls for British government to reconsider its refusal to cancel the contract for United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority to purchase on a long-term basis uranium yellowcake from the Rossing Uranium Ltd. mine, a venture controlled by British firm RTZ Rio Tinto Zinc. The facilities are in apartheid-controlled Namibia and will involve a complex 'divide and rule' workforce brought in from South West Africa's tribal reserves. The deal involves a four-to-six year tax exemption status for the operation in exchange for priority long-term, low-price contracts to governments in South Africa, Britain and France. Rossing Uranium Ltd's other shareholders include the Industrial Development Corporation, the apartheid government's main and the General Mining, an important mining firm in South Africa. Later the success of the venture for shareholders becomes apparent: "Rossing has absolutely no taxes to the government and will pay none until 1984. Yet it paid more than \$115 million in shareholder's dividends [from 1977] to 1982." (American Committee on Africa: Namibia's stolen wealth. North American investment and South African occupation) "Uranium from Namibia is cheaper than that mined in other countries because of the racial discrimination in wages, the low taxation rate and the freedom from social, political, ecological, or any other legal restraints in Namibia. The illegal occupation of Namibia, is therefore, a boon to the sellers and buyers of Namibian uranium." (Report by United Nations Council on Namibia, 1980).

19 May 1976: <u>New York Times</u> reports \$1mil of ammunition from Turkey and small arms from Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia for Ethiopia.

19 May 1976: South Africa announces the activation of a half-mile width, partially fenced, guarded military buffer zone along the 1000km border between South West Africa and Angola in an effort to hem in Namibian peasants and cast out guerrillas.

19 May 1976: Portugal formally terminates diplomatic relations with Angola over disagreements over its nationalisation of Portuguese colonial assets.

20 May 1976: Britain ratifies the 'International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights' signed by Britain comes into force. It explicitly recognises "responsibility for the administration of Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories, shall promote the realization of the right of self-determination" It urges the social rights in the Covenant to be applied "without discrimination of any kind as to race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status."

First above all else it states "the right to work, which includes the right of everyone to the opportunity to gain his living by work which he freely chooses or accepts, and will take appropriate steps to safeguard this right... to achieve the full realization... technical and vocational guidance and training programmes, policies and techniques to achieve steady economic, social and cultural development and full and productive employment"

It underlines "the right of everyone to the enjoyment of just and favourable conditions of work which ensure, in particular: (a) Remuneration which provides all workers, as a minimum, with:(i) fair wages and equal remuneration for work of equal value without distinction of any kind... A decent living for themselves and their families... (b) Safe and healthy working conditions; (c) Equal opportunity for everyone to be promoted in his employment to an appropriate higher level, subject to no considerations other than those of seniority and competence... (d) Rest, leisure and reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay, as well as remuneration for public holidays

...the right of everyone to social security, including social insurance. ...Special protection should be accorded to mothers during a reasonable period before and after childbirth. During such period working mothers should be accorded paid leave or leave with adequate social security benefits.

...Special measures of protection and assistance should be taken on behalf of all children and young persons without any discrimination for reasons of parentage or other conditions ...young persons should be protected from economic and social exploitation. Their employment in work harmful to their morals or health or dangerous to life or likely to hamper their normal development should be punishable by law."

"the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living for himself and his family, including adequate food, clothing and housing, and to the continuous improvement of living conditions"

"fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger, shall take, individually and through international co-operation, the measures, including specific programmes... by developing or reforming agrarian systems in such a way as to achieve the most efficient development and utilization of natural resources... taking into account the problems of both food-importing and food-exporting countries, to ensure an equitable distribution of world food supplies in relation to need"

"Higher education shall be made equally accessible to all, on the basis of capacity, by every appropriate means, and in particular by the progressive introduction of free education... Fundamental education shall be encouraged or intensified as far as possible for those persons who have not received or completed the whole period of their primary education... The development of a system of

schools at all levels shall be actively pursued, an adequate fellowship system shall be established, and the material conditions of teaching staff shall be continuously improved."

It also stresses "the right of everyone (a) to take part in cultural life; (b) to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications....[where] steps ... to achieve the full realization of this right shall include those necessary for the conservation, the development and the diffusion of science and culture [and] respect the freedom indispensable for scientific research and creative activity."

It states Third World nations may discriminate in certain rights against non-nationals ie expatriate owners and managers at the crown of their neo-colonial economies: "Developing countries, with due regard to human rights and their national economy, may determine to what extent they would guarantee the economic rights recognized in the present Covenant to non-nationals." Needless to say, Britain persistently violates many aspects of the treaty in its openly declared colonial territories such as St. Lucia and Hong Kong as well as the 6 counties of northern Ireland and the mainland.

- 20 May 1976: E. C. Judd, deputy chairman and managing director of UAC International, the vast conglomerate operating in Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Gambia, Senegal, Ghana, gives a talk at the titled 'The Changing Face of Foreign Business in Africa: Participation and Integration' noting how indigenisation can be made to work for British firms.
- 20 May 1976: US State Department supports General Electric's request to sell nuclear reactors to apartheid South Africa.
- 21 May 1976: Over 1,500 Right to Work supporters lobby Hendon Magistrates' Court in support of the arrestees Staples Corner.
- 21 May 1976: Sterling falls sharply reaching a record low of \$1.78. 21 May 1976: Time Out publishes Mark Hosenball and Duncan Campbell's article 'The Eavesdroppers' about CGHQ. It immediately marks out Hosenball, a US citizen for deportation, and Campbell to be kept on close watch in order to be arrested and tried as soon as the opportunity presents itself with a national security pretext. It publicises GCHQ for the first time in the post-war era: "Britain's largest spy network organisation is not MI5 or MI6 but an electronic intelligence network controlled from a country town in the Cotswolds. With the huge US National Security Agency as partner, it intercepts and decodes communications throughout the world.... the rise to power of the electronic eavesdroppers."
- 22 May 1976: 2 Asian students are stabbed to death outside a hostel by a large group of attackers in Woodford Green, London.

- 23 May 1976: National Party and NF hold race demonstrations at Gatwick Airport last Sunday when 40 Malawian Asians, expelled from their homes arrive. NF receives information from an immigration officer source, giving them access to know their arrival flight which is not passed on elsewhere, meaning no counter-protest is organised.
- 23 May 1976: First official confirmation is made of the concluded export of Rolls Royce aircraft engine systems for the PRC Air Forces. PRC officials say they have tested and trialled Rolls Royce equipment before the deal and have founded them sufficient. Foreign reporters had been noticing warplane MiGs, protected by machine gun nests, in several airports in the PRC.
- 24 May-1 June 1976: Queen & Duke of Edinburgh perform a royal visit to Finland.
- 24 May 1976: Concorde's first commercial trip to the Western Hemisphere, granted permission by US Transportation Secretary, Bill Coleman, a BA Concorde lands at Dulles airport, Washington DC. Concorde remains blocked from New York in a legal conflict over noise pollution.
- 24 May 1976: "Callaghan told [Junior Ministers] he didn't want to talk about elections, economic policy or anything that involved money. He wanted them to go round mentioning the things that don't cost money social values, vandalism, why the comprehensives schools are not meeting needs, crime in the street, etc. Old Father Jim giving a right-wing law-and-order lecture" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 24 May 1976: TUC statement, backing Phase 2 of pay restraint is issued: "Throughout the coming year the General Council will continue to make the strongest possible representations to the Government on the issues involved in the wider social contract. They are confident that the Government will continue its broad programme of legislative, economic and social advance, and that a decisive vote in favour of this report at the special Congress will give a major impetus to this programme. The alternative would be to weaken probably irrevocably— the basis of the social contract, jeopardise the agreed programme, and indeed threaten the existence of the Government"
- 24 May 1976: Commons passes a motion moved by Jonathan Aitken "this House notes with concern the changing demographic character of Great Britain, particularly the outflow of young people

emigrating overseas and the continuing inflow of immigrants from the new Commonwealth... "

24 May 1976: Labour Whip Bob Mellish argues against any further immigration taking place, and urges the government not to accept British passport-holding Malawi Asians but to pay for their air fares to Goa [under Ghandi's Emergency] out of Malawi's development funds: "I do not think that anyone can guarrel with [Jonathan Aitken] either on the subject [immigration] he has chosen for debate or on the way in which he has raised it.... Towards the end of [Jonathan Aitken's] speech he said one thing with which I wholeheartedly agree. For a long time, the subject has been taboo in this House. It has been something which must not be spoken about, and anyone who has done so has risked being called all sorts of things—racialist among them—for even having the temerity to say something. One of the reasons I was upset last week was that I had seen that this country once again was the victim of outrageous behaviour by people abroad. ... The problem which we face has been created by other people. The burden falls upon our backs because we gave British passports to those being expelled. ... It occurs to me that some of that money [in development loans to Malawi] could well be spent in providing the people whom he now wishes to expel with homes in their own country back in India and Goa. I want to get one thing clear. This is not the first time that I have intervened on this subject. I did it in 1965 and I was called everything that one could think of. Arising from that intervention, however, came the voucher system .... the voucher system was introduced. Everyone agrees with that system and agrees that there should be control. Home Secretary has endorsed that system, and I am glad that he has done so. He has said firmly and frankly that immigration should be controlled. ... We cannot go on like this. I do not care what those on this side of the House, or the Opposition side or anywhere else, say. Problems at local level will become worse and worse for our own people unless something is done. All Hon. members know that people come to their surgeries describing the most distressing conditions—terrifying conditions. People born and bred in their own constituencies have been on the housing waiting list for as long as six years. But, on the points system, one must give immigrants preference. How is the problem to be tackled unless we get the figures right and the dispersal right? We must try to let the British people see that we are alerted to the problem. Unless we do that, our own people will take action which all of us here will regret [referring to violence against Asian immigrants]. ... I am not talking about black, white or yellow. With 53 million of us, we cannot go on without strict control of immigration. People cannot come here just because they have a British passport — full stop. ... I certainly believe that the Southern Irish should be barred now. With a

population of over 50 million this country cannot go on admitting everyone. It is as straight as that. ... We should know the figures on illegal immigration. In my area, certainly, it is known that there are a considerable number of people who are illegal immigrants. Why do not the police take action? Is there any check on the people who come here with work permits? What happens when those permits come to an end? Are Greeks and Italians—I do not care who they are—allowed to stay on? Does anybody care what happens? We must convey to people outside... that we shall have controls that are not broken, that we do have discussion... whether it is possible to pay with the money we are giving to Dr. Banda the fares of people from Malawi so that they can be rehabilitated in India."

24 May 1976: Enoch Powell, takes his cue from Mellish: "The thing goes forward, acting and reacting until a position is reached in which — I shall dare to say it — compared to those areas, Belfast today will seem an enviable place... First, we should... say with [Bob Mellish] 'Enough is enough'... it would be cowardice to say no more than that net immigration must be brought to an end. It must be the resolve of all — of Government, Parliament and public authorities — in the interests of the future of all concerned, to ensure that, by every possible means, the emergence of these projections which everyone can see, which are not secret, is prevented. I do not believe that if Her Majesty's Government, with Parliament and overwhelming public opinion behind them, were convinced, and publicly convinced, that it was in the interest of all the people resident in this country—as it is—that the numbers of new Commonwealth population in this country should cease to increase, we should be unable to limit that element if only to approximately its present size. I do not believe that such a resolve or such a policy would be found impracticable."

24 May 1976: Alex Lyon notes how limited immigration in defending government policy: "is it [New Commonwealth immigration] finite?... it must be, because the man settled in this country with a right to bring in their wives and children—and very few new male heads of households are allowed in from India, Pakistan and Bangladesh — will, in the usual circumstances, have one wife and family... we are talking about one woman and one set of children for each of the people who have come in... In Delhi the increase in the queue is already drying up. In Pakistan and Bangladesh, where the wave of immigrants was later than that from India and from where husbands began to bring in their wives and children later, the flow has not yet begun to show signs of drying up. But no wonder: each year since 1968, until I went out to the subcontinent last year, the number of applications has dropped. But the number of cases that were processed dropped even more. As a result, the queue grew

longer and longer even though fewer people were applying to come.... in 1975, there were 16,000 applications, representing about 32,000 dependants. Half of those have now been dealt with but, as a result of the publicity given to my visit, applications have increased both in Pakistan and Bangladesh because people now expect that they may get to their husbands rather more quickly than they thought they could before. By bringing down the delay time from seven years in Dacca to something like 18 months to two years, it is possible to give greater help to those who want to be reunited with their husbands.... if one takes the figure as about 100,000, and compares it with the statistics, one finds that, even if the applications have increased as much as they have, they are still coming from a pool which is still no greater than about 100,000.... If we have 100,000 wives and children under the age of 18 from India, Pakistan and Bangladesh there is no immediate increase in our unemployment queues although there may be a charge upon our schools. I should emphasise that there is not so much a charge upon our housing because, on the whole, Asians tend not to go on the local authority housing list... The number of people accepted last year, within the overall figure of about 35,000 admitted for settlement on arrival, was about 15,000 wives and children from the sub-continent. If we continue at that kind of rate it will be about eight or nine years before they have come in. If this debate is to be repeated every year for eight or nine years, who can doubt that the consequences for race relations in this country will be bad? It is better that we face up to the task now. If there is doubt about the pool, or the size or finiteness of it, let us end the doubt by opening a register for the sponsors. We should say to those who want to bring in their wives and children from the sub-continent that they should put their names on that register if they have been admitted for settlement into this country before 1st January 1973. We should tell them they will be allowed to bring over their wives and children in due course. When that register has been assembled, and if the House thought the figure was too high, we could issue a quota, as we have with the United Kingdom passport holders, and allow them to bring their wives and children over according to that quota... in the presence of the entry certificate officers, turned out to be genuine wives who had been turned down by the High Commission and who were still marooned out there while their husbands were working in this country. In one case we actually arrived at a time when a man who had returned from England on a short holiday was building a house for his wife and children whom the British High Commission alleged not to be his wife and family. On another occasion I met a wife in a village who took me back to her home and showed me, printed in mosaic over the fireplace, the name of her husband, whom the British High Commission alleged not to be her husband.... Just imagine the row there would have been if over

100,000 people waiting to come here had been the wives and children of husbands who were white! We know that there is the possibility in the near future that 150,000 white Rhodesians might want to come back to the United Kingdom. ...

If we make the same kind of deductions as [Enoch Powell] makes, in the last three years there would have been 150,000 overstayers from the new Commonwealth in this country. That is the size of a town like Bolton. We know, because the right hon. Gentleman is always telling us, that there are only a few areas of this country where these people settle. That is true—fewer than about 20 areas. If 150,000 people had suddenly, in three years, been distributed around 20 areas, our services would soon have known it. The net migration figures are unreliable for any calculations of this kind. They could become reliable if we changed the system, as we have done, so that all non-patrials filled in a card when they came in and a card when they went out and we related the landing card to the embarkation card of the same person.... The number of people who come here illegally, not through immigration control, is extremely small. No one doubts that there are some."

- 25 May 1976: Meeting of the TUC-Labour Party Liaison Committee, issuing a new document entitled 'The Next Three Years and the Problem of Priorities'.
- 25 May 1976: Callaghan claims: "I believe it is the judgement of central bankers generally that sterling at present is under-valued" in an attempt to suggest sterling will rise again. Sterling stands at \$1.79.
- 25 May 1976: Queen Mother visits new facilities at Queen's College, Oxford.
- 26 May 1976: <u>The Times</u> explains 'Pound dives to a record low level against the dollar' noting that worse will likely come.
- 26 May 1976: OECD agrees on a code of conduct for multinational firms after more than a year of negotiations among its 24 member states. It is voluntary and reflects Western concerns.
- 26 May 1976: Wilson's resignation honours list is published. James Goldsmith, chairman of food firm Cavenham, and prominent contributor to Conservative Party funds, receives a knighthood. Freddie Warren, located in 12 Downing Street, civil servant Private Secretary to government Chief Whips since 1958 (including Conservative Francis Pym and Labour Bob Mellish and Michael Cocks) is also knighted. Warren with his secretary Mabel Dodd ("Freddie and Doddy") are glorified government bruisers.

Sir Joseph Kagan, owner of the Gannex raincoat firm favoured by Wilson, 2 former MPs, Terry Boston and Albert Murray, Sir George

Weidenfield, chief of publishing firm Weidenfeld & Nicolson, Sir Joseph Stone, Wilson's private doctor, Sir Bernard Delmont, chairman and chief executive of EMI and Sir Lew Grade, chairman and chief executive of ATV (Associated Television Corporation) all receive life peerages. Len Murray is made Privy Counsellor. Ted Short, and Lord Chancellor Lord Elwyn-Jones become Companions of Honour.

Mike Yarwood, pseudo-satirist, who popularises austere Healey's sound advice with a "silly billy" catchphrase, is given an OBE.

26 May 1976: "I said that we owned 80 per cent of the company and we wouldn't do anything that would cause damage ... They had shifted with every other Government in the world and they had to shift for us. I was not prepared to be frustrated by BP" (Tony Benn's Diary)

26 May 1976: Queen Mother at Buckingham Palace gives a reception for a delegation of US Congressmen.

26 May 1976: Sterling falls to a new low at \$1.77.

27 May 1976: "To Locket's for lunch with Roy Hattersley" discussion about "the IRA having their own TV programme so they could make their case publicly [Hattersley said] "No there would be absolute bloodshed if we did that because it would look as if the terrorists were being given recognition." (Tony Benn's diary)

28 May 1976: Russell Lewis in 'Incomes Whitewash' gives advice to Conservative Party: "Nothing that Jim Prior is in a position to offer [TUC], e.g. in guaranteeing the closed shop, compares with what they can receive in both power and preferment under a Labour Government .... once the Conservatives accept that incomes policy is the lynch-pin of their economic policy generally they are likely to be in perpetual opposition." (The Free Nation, 28 May, 1976)

28 May 1976: Labour's Programme for Britain 1976 is published. It opposes EEC idea on common use of north Sea oil resources on national grounds. It rejects "any common policy on oil which could lead to the loss of Britain's right to control depletion of its oil or natural gas" It is very timid on cuts to British militarism suggesting only £100mil from defence. It proposes £600m cut from tax relief for company vehicles and £160mil cut from having to supply mortgage tax relief.

It later is accepted 5,833,000-122,000. Nonetheless since it proposes to pool and end competition in advertising revenues in the press, it becomes a target for bitter attacks in the media.

- 28 May 1976: Sterling falls to a new low at \$ 1.76.
- 28 May 1976: Senior TGWU officials meet shopstewards representing Central Region bus workers today to dissuade them from taking unofficial industrial action. Phil Jenkins, TGWU chief of buses, warns that action will put bus jobs in danger.
- 28-29 May 1976: At a Socialist International bureau meeting in London the Dutch DvAP calls for the suspension of the PAP. Labour Party tables an article at the meeting "Lee Kuan Yew & the Singapore Media" pointing out the PAP's restrictions on press freedom. It then hypocritically works behind the scenes to pensure the DvAP will withdraw its proposal for the discuss of suspension at the full Socialist International Congress in Sep 1976. The situation is further complicated by the British Labour Party's acquiescence in 1964 on coming to power with the continued imprisonment of dissident Dr. Poh Soo Kai (arrested in 1963 under Operation Cold Store). DvAP calls for his release from detention this time imposed by PAP. PAP hypocritically but conveniently points out the Labour Party would also need expulsion.
- 29 May 1976: CPGB's <u>Morning Star</u> gives space to an article by the Archbishop of Canterbury effectively defending, in as nonpartisan a manner as possible, the Labour government: "The people of Britain today are far better provided for than they were 40 years ago: they have opportunities for a fuller life, in education, in provision for the elderly, in the care of the sick and in the realm of the arts, of which their parents knew all too little."
- 30 May 1976: Another group of 50 Malawi Asian refugees dodge a NF demonstration at Gatwick Airport. About 250 refugees, all of them carrying British passports, have arrived in Britain in total. The quota of East African immigration of 5,000 is not troubled.
- 31 May 1976: The Who play a large concert at Charlton football ground.
- 31 May 1976: David Frost, whose firm is part-producing the series, announces Sir Harold Wilson narrate from his own script a 13-part television series 'A Prime Minister on Prime Ministers' to be funded by Yorkshire Television at a cost of £500,000.
- 31 May 1976: Charles Risk, president of Glasgow Chamber of Commerce states government's good faith towards business will be judged by their review of the Price Code. "For some sectors of industry the code is a complete irrelevance because market forces are now the limiting factor. For others, the code cripples investment and therefore the creation of jobs. If the cost of acceptance of the

new pay-limits is to be an irrational and still damaging Price Code then that cost is too high."

June 1976: NUPE Executive Council in its monthly official journal <u>Public Employee</u> urges its membership to endorse Stage 2 of the incomes policy before the Jun 1976 Special TUC Conference: "The Executive Council recognise that the agreement on pay guidelines reached by the TUC General Council and the Government has the support of the majority of TUC affiliated unions and we therefore instruct the Union's delegation to the special TUC to support that aspect of the General Council's report."

June 1976: White vigilante groups are organised across southern London as anti-mugging patrols. Some black groups also organise evening self-defence units.

June 1976: The Hammer, Singapore Workers' Party's monthly newsletter reports on the PAP's exit from the Socialist International: "The much vaunted knight errant [Devan Nair] was after all only a messenger boy carrying the letter of resignation of the PAP from the international organisation. ... there was no other alternative for the PAP. The Dutch Labour Party having refused to withdraw the resolution, the PAP could not risk an open debate. Singaporeans might get to read the debate (not of course in our papers - the Government would look after that) and they might begin to form their own ideas. They had to be saved from the wicked men in the Socialist International who were preaching the liberty of the human individual... Incidentally it will be interesting to learn whether Mr. Devan Nair's trip to London was paid out of party funds or whether it was financed from public funds. He is a director of the board of SIA. We'll perhaps never be told whether he travelled as a fare paying passenger.... The Secretary-General of the PAP has made it appear that the report deals mainly, if not only, with the detention of political prisoners and sees in the move a communist plot to get the political detainees released. Detention without trial is just one, albeit the most severe, of the repressions practised by this Government and the Dutch Labour Party's report was concerned with repression generally."

June 1976: NAFF-funded Tameside Parents' Education Group take the council to court to block its plans for a comprehensive-school system: "I believe in competition, initiative and ability, and comprehensive education to me destroys competition, initiative and ability... If we can put back socialism twenty years in the next two years, that's what we'll do." \*\*

1 June 1976: Duke of Edinburgh opens the new pilot station at the Royal Terrace pier, Gravesend, Essex.

- 1 June 1976: The Duke of Kent takes up his appointment as vice-chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board. It means he will g on on BOTB-funded expenses paid trips aboard for export promotions. 1-4 June 1976: King Juan Carlos holds talks with US State Department officials on an official visit to USA.
- 2 June 1976: Queen & Queen Mother attend Epsom races.
- 2 June 1976: Sterling falls to \$1.72.
- 2 June 1976: Juan José 'J.J.' Torres González, former left-nationalist leader of Bolivia (its only leader to legalise the activities of COB and allow the return of Juan Lechin) in exile in Argentina, is murdered by Argentinian militarists in Buenos Aires as part of Operation Condor with the support of General Hugo Banzer.
- 3 June 1976: Pakistan Embassy in London issues a statement declaring that attacks on migrants and their workplaces have become "routine".
- 3 June 1976: Queen Mother visits Bath and West and Southern Counties Society Show at Shepton Mallet.
- 4 June 1976: 18-year-old Gurdip Singh Chaggar is stabbed to death at a Southall bus-stop. Sir Robert Mark, Head at Scotland Yard, says the motives are not necessarily racial.
- John Brynmor, a Home Office Minister describes the incident as "just a hiccup" and not at all indicative of any wider problem.
- 4 June 1976: US planners consider Britain the best option for intelligence(?) facilities in south east Asia after the populist government in Thailand has demanded the closure of key US military bases: "a different issue that is Thailand. [Undeclassified text] is concerned about where he moves his physical assets. Time is cranking us up. Should they be moved to Taiwan or the Philippines?

Philip Habib: We have been meeting about this and there is a third alternative which is Hong Kong. Of these three the most favorable one is Hong Kong. Since there are technical problems in the Philippines, it really comes down to two alternatives: Hong Kong or Taiwan. The British are sympathetic regarding Hong Kong" (Senior Review Group Meeting, Washington, June 4, 1976)

4 June 1976: Vice-Admiral Sir Anthony Troop, Flag Officer for Scotland and Northern Ireland urges resistance to armed forces cuts at the opening of the British Legion (Scotland) annual conference: "We are thin on the ground. We want to be absolutely clear — there comes a time when we must not cut back any further, or our credibility within NATO collapses and if that happens NATO collapses." He also states RN measures for North Sea oil

Installations with special patrol vessels, currently under construction in Aberdeen, due to come into service by the end of 1975, are on course.

6 June 1976: Delegates at the RCN Conference in Harrogate heckle speaker Minister Ennals. District nursing officer Hope Trenchard states there is a developing "crisis of manpower, finance, and morale" where "the future looks no better, unless we can have something better than false optimism and soothing words, there will be a crisis of confidence in you".

6 June 1976: 200 hard right demonstrators including members of the English National Party present a petition at 10 Downing Street calling for a complete halt to immigration and no further Malawi Asians.

6 June 1976: 400 Asian youths in Southall demonstrate against the murders.

"A meeting was held and the elders went about it in the time-honoured way, passing resolutions, making statements. The youth took over marched to the police station ... police arrested two of them. They sat down before the police station and refused to move—until their fellows were released. They were released. The following day the Southall Youth Movement (SYM) was born." (Sivanandan 1986 p142)

CPGB-allied Southall IWA request extra police to control rioting by Asian youth who express their bitterness at police denials of any racist motives in Chaggar's stabbing.

Senior Catholic priest, former Coldstream Guard member, Michael Hollings, a front-runner for the vacant post of Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, describes attempts to pacify action against police:

"I spent the whole of a very hot Sunday afternoon with a crowd which was sitting outside the local police station asking .for the release of two young Asians. The mood was warm. Coke and crisps were brought from nearby shops at intervals. On the release, everyone moved out. But, there were still intense feelings, with many police about and individual scuffles and name-callings. And it was determined that a demonstration should be held on a large scale last Saturday. At a stormy meeting at the Gurdwara (Sikh temple), International Socialists and Marxist groups from outside tried to lead everyone towards a stormy and violent march.

... After the hectic meeting at the Gurdwara, it was clear that a march would take place. As we had been asked by the Sikh presidency to attend, we, as Church people, were afterwards "semicommitted" to what looked as though it might become a bloody affray....

Meeting hastily over a period of some seven hours on the Thursday we decided that as we could not stop the march, we would have to

transform it. With great co-operation from the main organiser, the local Communist Party secretary, and in conjunction with the local Community Relations Council, the Indian Workers Association and especially the presidency and secretariat of the Gurdwara, we devised a route, with marshals from within Southall.

We also agreed on the slogans, cutting out all violence and trying to be positive for justice, peace, co-operation and so on. The main theme of the march became "One Race — The Human Race"... with subsidiary ones of "No to Racialism" and "Together for Peace and Justice." The young Asians subsequently added three more of their own like "Youth Harmony in Southall".... The march itself was a highly organised success in which the violent and disruptive elements from outside were firmly held to the back of the procession. As it moved through the streets there was no worry, a constant reiteration of the peaceful nature of the march, no unfortunate incidents, and a continued call to future work together for peace and racial harmony.

... In Southall, we know the tensions which can be about in different ways of living, thinking, speaking. But many of the problems are common to us. For instance, the young Asian is alienated in part from his religion, his political leaders and his parents. So are our own, of all religions and nationalities." (Catholic Herald, 18 Jun 1976)

IN the evening whites in cars yell at a crowd of Asians 'black bastards' in an area nearly 85% Asian. When Asians confront his car, the white driver lashes out with a pickaxe and drives into the crowd. In an attempt to assert a ring where racialist abuse cannot occur, Asian youth

6 June 1976: 40 Malawi Asians arrive in Gatwick to face protests by NF demonstrators calling for their return to Malawi.

6 June 1976: Government announces it will send a further 200 soldiers to the six counties from mainland regiments.

7 June 1976: Government secures a standby loan of \$3.3bn from 10 major and 3 minor Western creditor nations, USA supplying over \$2bn.

7 June 1976: Singapore confirms the re-arrest of Dr Poh Soo Kai, detained for over 11 years in prison since 1963 and under effective house arrest since 1974.

7 June 1976: Sterling closes at \$1.75.

7 June 1976: "Ron Hayward [said] that we might be drifting towards a tacit coalition"

7 June 1976: Around 100 Pakistani community leaders meet with Pakistan Commissioner in London.

7 June 1976: Aims for Freedom and Enterprise's Main Award for For Free Entreprise is announced as Ralph Harris, director of the IEA. The Scottish Free Entreprise award is for Adam Thomson, chair and chief executive of British Caldeonian Airways. Sir Frank Taylor, managing director of Taylor Woodrow and Patrick de Laszlo, chairman of the Association of Independent Businesses, are to begin 2 special awards for services to free entreprise.

7 June 1976: Several smaller demonstrations in Southall during the day, in spite of a huge police presence. Detective Superintendent Jim Sewell reiterates the police line on the killing of Chaggar: "This attack was not racial. The racialism only came afterwards" in the Asian protests. Racialism is Asian self-organisation and self-defence to halt racist murders.

7 June 1976: BBC Home Affairs correspondent, David Tindall, reports on the aftermath of Southall: "During the day Asian community leaders had appealed repeatedly for their people to keep calm and avoid further clashes. Britain appears to have entered a new period of racial tension. Historians might trace its origins back hundreds of years to the founding of the British Empire, but the immediate causes stem from a series of almost coincidental racerelated events over the past month. These climaxed in a demonstration by 400 Asian youths in the largely Asian London suburb of Southall on Sunday, following the murder of 18-year-old Sikh Gurdip Chaggar. Asian leaders demanded to meet Prime Minister James Callaghan to ask for protection for their people. Extra police moved into Southall to make sure that calls by the 'West Indian Standing Conference' for vigilante groups to protect black lives were not answered."

Racial tension is only "tension" when minorities assert themselves and resist police and white racist encroachment. Tension felt within minority communities - fearing looking at let alone answering the police, wary of being dismissed from work and losing work permits, tension from constant abuse from white groups i.e. tension that is absent on the 'indigenous' side but present on the immigrant side s from is simply unrecorded as tension, instead it is refered to as racial peace. Hence 1972 to 1976 can be recorded as limited racial tension, punctuated by tension at either side over Ugandan Asians and Malawi Asians.

7 June 1976: BBC Correspondent Alan Towers reports on the Robert Relf trial: "Colin Jordan, the campaigner against immigration, was arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct after a disturbance inside the court building. Two other men were also taken into custody on similar charges, after they'd tried to halt the taxi taking Relf back to jail. The jailed man's wife, Mrs. Sadie Relf, was led away in tears by National Front sympathisers."

7 June 1976: Results of NUM ballot over whether to give approval to the 4.5% package at the TUC Special Congress are 53%-46% (103,500-90,400) in favour.

COSA, the NUM's pit staff and officials group votes heavily in favour 12,950-1,990, coal face workers have an overall majority against endorsing Phase 2 pay restraint. NUM Areas with majorities against are Kent, South Wales, Yorkshire and North Derbyshire.

NUM President Lawrence Daly concedes the vote is so close because the 4.5% pay limit is only half the value of the current £6 limit that has run from Aug 1975-Aug 1976.

- 8 June 1976: Case against the Kensington Spaghetti House hostage-takers begins with Judge Mervyn Jones. The 3 hostage-takers Franklyn Peter Davies, Dick and Munroe by reading a statement against racialist trials and decisions are immediately further marked as beyond the British pale, for refusing to accept 'British justice'. As soon as they begin explaining the systematic denial of equality for immigrants in the legal system. The judge orders the 3 back to prison to silence them in front of the press.
- 8 June 1976: Home Secretary Merlyn Rees and Mark Bonham Carter visit Southall to meet with community leaders urging 'peace' etc.
- 8 June 1976: Princess Anne visits another private school, Dame Alice Owen, Potters Bar, to declare its new buildings open.
- 8 June 1976: <u>The Times</u> notes a report by the Building Research Establishment 'Three million homes either unfit or lack standard amenities'.
- 8 June 1976: Callaghan meets Bahamas leader in Downing Street.
- 8 June 1976: Callaghan defends oil policy: "The oil policy is working out broadly as we had hoped and intended.... the Secretary of State for Energy has made a full statement on the matter. I am sure that even among the faint-hearts on the Opposition Benches it will be a cause for rejoicing that the import of our own oil from the North Sea this year is likely to save us about £1 billion on the balance of payments. That is another source of strength in which the whole nation can rejoice."

8 June 1976: Callaghan is eager to support the police and leaders of the 'minority communities' over its actions: "the whole House will deplore the events that took place in [Southall] at the weekend. It would be wrong for me to comment in detail on the murder, or on the demonstration, as criminal charges will come before the courts, but perhaps the House will allow me to say that race relations in this country have been good over the years... I think that the House will deeply regret the murder that took place at Southall but will want to pay tribute to the stand against violence taken by the leaders of the Asian and other minority communities in that area. I think that the House will also want to thank the police for the work

that they did. I urge everyone not to allow passion to destroy our reputation as a tolerant, cohesive and unified society."

The Times reports the speech in highly 'national' terms, applauding Callaghan for his efforts to defend "Britain's reputation as a tolerant, cohesive and unified society" (The Times, 9 Jun 1976) Above all, the reputation must not be damaged, that the reputation is the reality is simply accepted, without comment or analysis.

9 June 1976: An Irish court sentences sentences to death Marie and Noel Murray for the death of a Gardai officer on 11 Sep 1975.

9 June-19 July 1976: In response to the regime's attempts at replacing the FSTMB, Bolivian miners' strike. Banzer orders troops to occupy all Mining Corporation of Bolivia (COMIBOL) facilities. General Hugo Banzer imprisons the union activists, cuts all food and water supplies to the miners' facilities, requisitions radio stations authorising total censorship. Kataristas support the miners' strike, helping to organize supplies for the mining centres under siege by the army. In response Banzer applies severe repression against the Katarista Andino movement, its leaders were prosecuted, imprisoned, tortured and exiled.

49 miners are exiled under threat of imprisonment for treason to militarist Chile. In Sep 1976, Catholic Institute for International Relations (CIIR) reports "the conditions under which these exiles are forced to live in Chile are dramatic and inhuman... it is clear that if they are not soon permitted medical attention, many of them will, succumb, either to silicosis or to other diseases aggravated by the hostile climate" Militarist Chile uses the 49 as slave labour, where the mostly Indian miners are forced to work on public works projects without pay in wet clothes all day, after signing on as registration (for some twice or three times a day) at a police station in southern Chile.

9 June 1976: Callaghan announces again the fight against inflation is the primary aim, the one against 'unacceptable' unemployment being the other. It means in practice that the government will not win against unemployment (unacceptable or acceptable), since the Labour Party's constitutional measures inevitably mean an in increase in inflation. The only way to end unemployment is to raise inflation on certain goods for certain people to infinity.

"The government's economic objective is to reduce inflation... Our second objective is to make inroads into the unacceptably high level of unemployment"

9 June 1976: Hong Kong government gives British armed forces, the Royal Hong King Regiment and others the right to arrest

suspects entering the colony without permits. The escape route from CPC persecution via Hong Kong is being further tightened.

9 June 1976: Junior Foreign Office Minister Evan Luard, invites Indian and Pakistan High Commissioners to the Foreign Office to discuss how the states can cooperate to diffuse the anti-Asian racism in the international arena. Many Indian activists later believe a deal is struck between Britain and India over the reporting of the conditions in India by BBC services on and on police racism in Britain by Indian media.

9 June 1976: Queen's representative in Australia, Governor-General, Sir John Kerr, making a trip to Melbourne is met by over 500 protesters. His British-produced Rolls Royce vehicle is dented and has a window smashed.

10 June 1976: Healey explains why West European nations have assisted sterling: "The standby credit had been made available partly from a degree of self-interest on the part of the other central banks - particularly the Swiss whose exchange rate was going uncomfortably high - and partly from their confidence in the Government's economic policies. In particular, the central banks had been impressed by the Government's relations with the trade unions. The support which he confidently expected the Trades Union Congress (TUC) on 16 June to give to the latest pay agreement would push up the rate further."

He warns: "Ministers would need to consider the level of expenditure in future years when the report of the Public Expenditure Survey was available In July. (Cabinet Conclusions 10 Jun 1976 CM(76) 8<sup>th</sup> CAB/128/59/8)

Cabinet discussion:

sterling's decline's "importance had been grossly over-emphasised by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) in a way which helped to induce an unjustifiably nervous state in the foreign exchange market. If possible, it would be desirable to remind the BBC of its obligation to the country in these matters"

"those operating in the foreign exchange market already appreciated correctly the importance of the public sector borrowing requirement. They wanted to know that the Government were concerned about its size and recognised the need to reduce it. There could be political advantages in early action on next year's borrowing requirement"

Callaghan "underlined how important it was that all Ministers should comply with the Chancellor Of the Exchequer's request to clear with the Treasury in advance any speeches they might make touching on the economy."

- 10 June 1976: Queen Mother attends the Westminster Abbey service of thanksgiving to mark the centenary of the Mothers' Union.
- 13 June 1976: Israel President Ephraim Katzir and his wife are treated to lunch with Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh at Windsor Castle.
- 13 June 1976: Gen. Saiyud Kherdpol, chief of the counter-insurgency operations reports CPT guerrillas have shot down a Usbuilt Thai air force F5 jet fighter on a napalm-dropping mission over guerrilla centres in the Khao Kor mountains, Petchabun, northern Thailand. He states: "it was a major loss for us, but we'll continue to fight against the Communist guerrillas around the country" 28 out of 71 provinces remain under a state of emergency under military rule.
- 13 June 1976: Alberto Demicheli, Vice-President is installed as the President by the Uruguayan military.
- 14 June 1976: India issues a declaration in favour of the withdrawal of foreign troops from South-East Asia and the prohibition of all foreign military bases in the Indian Ocean and its coastline.
- 14 June 1976: Queen's ceremony turning Wilson into a Sir at the Throne Room of Windsor Castle with the "insignia of Knights Companions of the Most Noble Order of the Garter"
- 14 June 1976: Callaghan and Foreign Secretary Crosland meet Israeli President Ephraim Katzir at 10 Downing St with a luncheon including cabinet members, Labour Party officials and Anglo-Jewish community leaders. Callaghan expresses support U.S. efforts to allow a Begin-Sadat modus vivendi in the Middle East and reaffirms Labour's readiness to assist in such efforts if called.
- 15 June 1976: President Katzir gives a speech at the Royal Society. 15-17 June 1976: Queen and various royals attend all three days of the Ascot races.
- 15 June 1976: PCI chief Enrico Berlinguer states in a landmark <u>Corriere della Sera</u> interview that Italy would be "more secure" in the NATO pact rather than the Communist bloc.

mid-June 1976: Sir Robert Mark, Met Police Commissioner, warns that black youths in the British capital are becoming more violent, and that white policemen are their main targets. Scotland Yard issues a reported that young blacks commit 80 percent of crimes and that 85 percent of their victims are white. The Met Police report

becomes a staple of NF organisational tactics, leaflets, rallies and placards. \*\*

15 June 1976: Archbishop of Canterbury makes the point that racial scapegoating can be dangerous.

16 June 1976: TUC Special Conference. All major trade unions except ASTMS and EPEA (Electrical Power Engineers Association) vote in favour of Phase II pay restraint to start from Aug 1976. EPEA General Secretary John Lyons is opposed to flat increases, which have some effect in marginally reducing gaps within different workforces, he states it is time to start rewarding skilled workers with greater "differentials." TUC General Council's report entitled *The Social Contract 1976-77* is approved 9,262,000-531,000. It states "the pay guidelines reflect the view of the General Council that the package agreed with the Government is at a level and of a form which will be acceptable to the trade union movement".

16 June 1976: TUC President Norman Willis explains: "Why do we dig the system out? We did not invent the system; a lot of us do not like it. So why the hell do we dig it out? We dig it out, brothers and sisters, because our members are in it and working in it everyday." David Basnett, GMWU General Secretary explains first "you beat inflation. Then you build your economic and industrial strategy."

16 June 1976: The Telegraph attacks calls for bedrock racial tolerance "Dr Coggan seems wholly to have missed the point. If we're looking for scapegoats, then they are to be found among failed urban programmes, immigrant schools without English teachers, inefficient housing programmes, as well as among National Front demonstrators. ... It would have benefited Dr Coggan's vocation to show at least some sympathy for those who feel their own national way of life is menaced by this sudden and massive infusion of alien culture."

16 June 1976: Tanzanian High Commissioner addresses the Foreign Affairs Group of the PLP. He states: "Should Smith renounce UDI and accept the principle of majority rule, we would then expect and urge the setting up of a transitional government, as was the case in Mozambique, with a British Commissioner and a Zimbabwe Prime Minister assisted by Ministers chosen to represent various interests in accordance with a prior agreement. The task of such a government would be to disarm Smith's forces and to hand over the role of a national defence force to the existing Zimbabwean Liberation Army."

16 June 1976: Archbishop of Canterbury launches a backlash assault to defend 'the family' in the House of Lords: "To lower the age of consent, as some would have us do, would not be kindness

to the young but an act of the greatest possible cruelty... To hint that it is a small thing to start a human life, or a small thing to snuff it out by abortion; to teach that abortion does little to the woman who undergoes it and that it can be done with little more effect on her than a tonsillectomy or a tooth extraction; to suggest that a one-parent family is much the same as a two-parent family when all the evidence goes to show that a child needs the support of both mother and father... to suggest that acts of homosexuality can be engaged in with impunity by the young whose patterns of sexual activity are as yet undetermined and unformed ... these things, and like things that often go with them, are the lies which damn, the fifth column that betrays our national well-being and undermines the stability of our homes ... I think we ought very seriously to bear in mind that courses of lessons on comparative religion can never take the place of the teaching of the facts of the Christian religion and of their ethical relevance. ...

is it not time that thought were given to the appointment of a Minister for the Family? We have a Minister for Sport and we have Ministers for this, that and the other, but we have no Minister for the Family.... Such a Minister would cast a highly critical eye on the abortion laws as they now obtain, and on the laws governing the sale of pornographic literature or of the showing of films, the advertisements for which degrade our London streets and those of other cities. Such a Minister would watch the legislation which affects the teaching of religion in schools, and he would do so fully aware of the inadequacies of much that has passed for this in recent years, and also of the fact that I have already touched on, that lessons in comparative religion can never take the place of systematic and intelligent teaching of Christianity and of its ethical relevance to life. "

Labour Lord Elwyn responds restating the government will not promote human equality but retain the privileges of the family (over and above the homosexual non-family relationship, the small commune, the socialised nursery or any other social arrangement): "We are most greatly indebted for this splendid, all-embracing, wide-ranging survey... as the most reverend Primate has said, the family remains the bulwark of our society. In his masterly survey he has identified the factors which endanger the stability of the family today. ... he has made it clear that the Church will be heard on social matters. We thank him for it... There is, apparently, a fairly widespread impression that the Government are planning to introduce legislation which would... reduce the age of consent for sexual intercourse and amend the law on homosexual offences. I must make it plain that this is not so."

- 16 June 1976: Backlash forces stab to death Soviet-aligned Peru's ambassador to Jamaica, Fernando Rodriguez Oliva, in a speedy single attack.
- 16 June 24 June 1976: A series of youth and later adult protests break out across South Africa, starting from Soweto. South African police use British Leyland grilled Land Rovers in Soweto to drive through protesting people. The apparent first victim is a 10-year old attacked first by a police dog then shot dead by police hopping out of a Land Rover.

"The number of dead exceeded some 1,200" one of the organizers of the Soweto demonstrations, Tobello Motapanyane, general secretary of the SASM (Southern African Students Movement) one of the youth organizations later states. Total war is declared against black population across black populations who refuse to accept the curfews: Land Rovers, helicopters, rifles, sjamboks, anti-riot gas, dogs.

Soweto also begins the movement of black youth to the guerrilla camps in Angola and Zambia. This process is monitored by BOSS, which are connected to MI6, who make weekly and monthly intelligence reports for senior Foreign Office civil servants, who sense the danger of Western interests being burnt away in a fireball of 'people's war' unless pressure is applied to South Africa.

- 17 June 1976: Trinidad & Tobago's opposition Tapia House Movement urges the ending of immigration controls, freedom of movement and the right to work throughout the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) region. Its statement coinciding with a CARICOM meeting in Trinidad rests on the reality of strikes on one island being broken by increase production and supplies from another island.
- 17 June 1976: British firm Univac's primary collaborators US firm Sperry Rand announces 4 foreign subsidiaries have made corrupt payments worth over \$1.3mil over the past 4 years.
- 17 June 1976: Syed Alav Rasul, General secretary of the Standing Conference of Asian organizations, pleads: "We may not be able to keep the lid on in Asian communities indefinitely in the face of violent racialist attacks."
- 17 June 1976: Arab League boycott on dealings with British Leyland is rescinded after many Arab businesses have secretly done deals with the firm. British Leyland Special Products had sent a special Middle East sales team earlier in the year before the boycott was rescinded. New Land Rover deals are expected. Graham Whitehead, chief of BLMI [British Leyland Motors Inc] US subsidiary, declares:

- "We will continue our present policy of dealing with Israel although our company has been dropped from the Arab boycott list."
- 17 June 1976: Tanzanian budget, its version of an 'alternative economic strategy' announces stricter limits on types and makes of vehicles that can be imported. From Dec 1976, passenger vehicles from Britain will be effectively banned. Only Volkswagen, Peugeot and Datsun passenger vehicles and Isuzu, Land-Rover, Range Rover and Ford Transit vans will be licensed.
- 19 June 1976: In response to growing backlash violence, discovery of arms caches Jamaica orders a state of emergency.
- 20 June 1976: Christie's act as auctioneers on behalf of the Lafayette family selling a painting by James Peale 'Washington and His Generals at Yorktown 1781' for \$315,000.
- 20 June 1976: John Turner in <u>Sunday Express</u> continues the press attack on Archbishop of Canterbury Coggan. He states it is "sanctimonious spiel" and "there was not a single word of compassion for working-class white people, who have seen areas in which they were born and brought up turn before their eyes into coloured ghettos... People in this country are not and never have been racialists, but have been driven to desperation because of idiots of politicians who even now put a smokescreen round the truth about the continuing flood of immigration." (Sunday Express, 20 Jun 1976)
- 21 June 1976: Black Parents' Movement issues a leaflet and call to Merlyn Rees: 'Mr Home Secretary, Call Your Police Off Our Backs' demanding the routine, intimidatory police presence in schools, in London and elsewhere, be ended.
- 21 June 1976: Queen and Duke of Edinburgh attend an England-West Indies international at Lord's, invited by MCC
- 21 June 1976: Robert Relf is released from prison with NF demonstrations in support of him.
- 21 June 1976: Answer to a written question "I am informed by the Electricity Council that between January 1974 and June 1976 the average price of electricity paid by all consumers in England and Wales increased by about 97 per cent." (Alex Eadie)
- 21 June 1976: Shah announces Iran has agreed the purchase of a \$25mil share in Occidental Petroleum as part of a joint deal to develop Caspian Sea oil.
- 21-25 June 1976: The first coalescence of the British Army Equipment Exhibition (today DSEI), Pegasus village, Aldershot. Just 2 months after diplomatic (but not consular) relations have been frozen with militarist Argentina, 2 senior generals head the

Argentinian visiting team. Chile sends its effective representative via militarist Brazil. With over 120 exhibitors it features a whole panoply of Western and Third World militarists, with around 90 visiting nations represented including 20 official Chiefs of Staff. Highlights include fighting vehicles such as the Vickers Valiant Main Battle Tank, helicopters and missile and weapons systems. A number of major items are being ...

Trislander M, first displayed at the in June.

- 23 June 1976: It is announced that the Queen has bought the Gatcombe Park estate, Stroud, Gloucestershire, from Lord Butler, former Conservative Home Secretary, as a home for Princess Anne and her husband Captain Phillips. The price is not revealed, but on the basis of comparison within surrounding areas it is reckoned at over £750,000. It has five principal bedrooms, four reception rooms and five secondary bedrooms for staff accommodation. The couple will move from their home in Oak Grove House, within the grounds of the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, where Captain Phillips is an instructor. He has recently been promoted to a sinecure from September 1976 at a "senior command and staff course" at the School of Infantry, Warminster. Estate agent Martin Argles comments "It was sold privately. The whole operation was very amicable."
- 23 June 1976: Hugh Scanlon, AUEW Gen Sec, calls for government help to reduce youth unemployment, on the basis of NF growth: "There are people in the wings who will without any scruples be ready to cash in on that [unemployment]. Anyone who thinks it might be a move to the Left had better look at what is happening in our midst at the moment. I believe there is an ethical and moral question in this as well as an industrial one."
- 23 June 1976: Fred Mulley, in the evening, announces significant cuts in teacher training places across the country. A NATFHE spokesman says "this makes a mockery of the consultative process undertaken as recently as June 8. A reduction of 3000 in the non-graduate intake threatens the jobs of a further 300 college lecturers and could lead to more college and education closures".
- 23 June 1976: Labour Strathclyde Regional Council has renegotiated several fuel deals, leading to council savings of £600,000 (meaning at the same time reductions in the receipts of nationalised firms such as the CEGB and NCB). Councillor James Burns, chairman of Strathclyde Council's general purposes Committee says: "This is an example of negotiating through the strength of Strathclyde."

- 23 June 1976: President Giscard d'Estaing addresses MPs in Westminster.
- 23 June 1976: Future, combat aircraft for Europe was due to be the subject of an international meeting in London yesterday, June 23. The discussion, to be chaired by a UK representative, takes place under the auspices of the Independent European Project Group, which comprises members from the Nato Euro-group countries and France. The London meeting is the first of four which sub-groups set up earlier this year to examine in more detail the possibilities for future collaboration in European defence projects.

Of primary interest to Britain during the discussions will be the prospects of co-operation on Air Staff Target 403, the so-called Jaguar/ Harrier replacement for the late 1980s. It has been officially stated that the aim is to make this a collaborative project if possible, but it is being left up to the individual companies to find partners.

- 24 June 1976: <u>Glasgow Herald</u> reports 'Tesco Increase Earnings Despite Paying Higher Wages': "Like Sainsbury, the supermarket group finds that although Government price control legislation caused extraneous cost in inconvenience, it now has no bearing on their gross margins"
- 24 June 1976: US firm Bechtel wins out against Balfour Beatty, announcing it is to spearhead construction of a population 200,000 new city in Saudi Arabia, part of its \$9billion development project along the Persian Gulf.
- 24-29 June 1976: OAU Conference agrees on a resolution to urge the suspension of New Zealand pro-apartheid sports bodies from the Olympics. IOC's failure results in 28 OAU nations boycotting the Olympics (plus Iraq and Guyana for support).
- 25 June 1976: Spontaneous strikes occur in Poland against food price increases. Ursus is the site of significant British tractor production investment deal. It sees the main east-west and north-south rail lines leaving Warsaw smashed up by the workforce. Mass arrests and dismissals follow.

"The employees of the Ursus tractor factory near Warsaw tore up railway track and stopped traffic. The workers of the petrochemical complex at Plock held a public meeting which was dispersed by the police. In the city of Radom there were large-scale street demonstrations, many shops were looted and the Party's provincial office was set on fire.... the authorities, or some hard-line elements among them, reacted with fury against the violent protesters. They were bitterly condemned at specially summoned meetings and rallies all over Poland. The police rounded up the rioters of Ursus

and Radom by the hundred. They were maltreated under arrest and afterwards prosecuted and sentenced to imprisonment in a summary fashion. Dozens were dismissed from their jobs." (History of Poland Since 1863, R. F. Leslie, 435)

Euro-Communist PCI <u>Unita</u>'s later response: "The Ursus workers' letter states this clearly; the trials of "hooligans" continue and the sacking or re-employment of workers on a lower salary is demoralizing people, ruining their trust." (Silvio Trevisani, Massive USSB Aid to Poland, Nov 20 1976)

"there was hardly a town in Poland or a factory at which the fateful day of 25 June 1976 passed without any disturbance of normality. The extent of the commotion will probably never be known, but at least two facts should be stressed: 1) KOR communiqués (issued at least once a month) refer to several industrial centers at which riots and/or strikes had taken place and where the KOR had been helping the victims of reprisals; 2) in addition to KOR activities, Catholic parochial offices organized their own help insmaller towns, the number of which is not known, but must be significant (the Church acted with utmost discretion). The events in the city of Grudziadz (north of Poland, on the lower course of the Vistula) were described in KOR communiqué No. 7 dated 16 Feb 1977. A day-long strike occurred on 25 June 1976 at the Pomeranian Casting and Enameling Factory (POiE) in Grudziadz, while at the factory's branch in Mniszek it was shorter; factory management there succeeded in persuading the workers to return to work a few hours before the announcement about the withdrawal of price increases. There was also a few hours' work stoppage at Stomil (rubber and tire factory) in Grudziadz." (The Grudziadz Letter, Earlier Reprisals 30 Aug 1977)

25 June 1976: President Giscard d'Estaing and Queen visit the Royal Scottish Academy driving from RAF Tarnhouse in a motorcade along Princes Street, Edinburgh's main street. They inspect a guard of honour formed by the Royal Highland Fusiliers in the forecourt of Holyrood House and have a state dinner there. Scottish republican and anti-apartheid protests in Edinburgh are blocked by a large police presence.

25 June 1976: NF gains a 6% vote share in a by-election in Rotherham, Andrew Brons, Yorkshire head of NF, says "We consider this result a vindication of our policies particularly on immigration." 25 June 1976: Wimbledon committee rejects demands of women players for equality in prizes with male players. Sir Brian Burnett, chairman of the All England Lawn Tennis Club, says that women players do not work as hard as men players, and that their matches are weaker: "On no account will we give into their threats" An Egyptian diplomat who groped а female player the at championships is released without charge or caution after his diplomatic status is confirmed.

- 25 June 1976: Scottish Bus Group and solid Labour Strathclyde Regional Council's Highways and Transportation committee agree, in talks, that proposals for the rationalisation, meaning cuts and reduced operation, of bus services will be brought forward.
- 25 June 1976: At a meeting of the Offshore Industry Liaison Committee companies who might be contemplating platform orders are urged to bring them forward "even by a quarter of a year" to stave off unemployment in the platform-building industry. Dickson Mabon, Labour Left, says "Labour forces are intact, highly skilled, and have gone through what is described as the learning curve. The yards should be trying to bid for foreign orders."
- 26 June 1976: <u>Flight International</u> reports "The British aircraft industry's direct man-hours appear on an overall head-count to be higher than "mainland-Europe" levels; but a BAC analysis on a value-added basis, taking into account all factors including lower British labour costs, does not substantiate criticisms of partners that British industry may be cheaper but is less efficient. A major ideological difference between the partners is that the British want a commercial return while the French are more ready to accept the principle that an aircraft industry may have to be subsidised."
- 26 June-11 July 1976: Federation of British Hand Tool Manufacturers, National Federation of Engineers' Tool Manufacturers and Department of Trade and Industry host a 3 week study visit by a group of Malaysian and Singaporean machine tool and hand tool dealers.
- 28\* June 1976: Michael Dixon's 'The argument over fees for foreign and British students' in Financial Times "In total, they make up roughly one in every ten of the full-time student population, and In return for their tuition they pev fees averaging about £330 a year, compared with a charge of £140 for British students. Whereas the taxpaver meets the feet of all but about 13 per cent of British fulltime students, there is no United Kingdom financial aid for 85 per cent of those from overseas.... Regardless of a £70 fee increase for all students for the academic year just ending, and in spite of a further increase to averages of £182 for the British and £416 for foreigners for the new year starting n October, in recent years the demand from overseas has been increasing quickly. Of the estimated present total of about 60,000, roughly half are in the 44 U.K. campus universities, which have a large measure of control over their own affairs although they are subject to financial 'persuasion' by government by way of the University Grants Committee... It is at the postgraduate, runner-degree level [29% of all foreign students] that the increase has been most marked. The number of foreigners taking the expensive postaraduate

programmes in the 1975-76 academic year is estimated at 16,539 in universities, with about 500 more in other institutions such as polytechnics... In the university sector, there has already been a 13 per cent increase in the number of postgraduate students from overseas over the two years since 1973-74.... The only declines in their share between 1972 and 1974 were in preclinical medicine and dentistry, and clinical medicine, for which home demand has of late been increasing strongly. Indeed, given the further increase in numbers from overseas in the past two years, it seems likely that British university postgraduate programmes in engineering, and other technologies including agriculture are all now producing more manpower for the economies of overseas countries than they are for Britain... In the circumstances it is surely only right for government to start asking whether such a bountiful supply of education to foreigners at fees which represent only a small fraction of the cost, is something that Britain can any longer afford. But the obvious answer — a firm and resounding "no"— is not necessarily the right one. For one thing, the overseas students... bring large sums of foreign exchange to pay for their living coats. [due to requirements for university entrance for home students] in practice, the actual extra coat of accommodating many of the overseas contingent is small. Even before the recent decline in sterling, the trend of overseas demand for student places seemed strong enough to beau a material increase in fees. True, fees in competitive Western and other countries would then be lower, but... others mostly do not have the advantage of the English language — which is now undeniably the "business language" of the world at large, and seems now to be over taking French as the medium of international diplomacy.... It is not surprising that the Treasury has called on the universities and other post-school institutions for steep increases in fees for foreigners... to levels of up to £2,000 a year. But the extra foreign exchange gained by the relatively modest rise proposed in the fees would surely be far less than could be obtained by netting the two uniform fees at considerably higher levels — so as to avoid the needs for a quota, and provide compensatingly higher relief for British families through the parental Income scales, and for poorly-off aspiring students from foreign countribuents. The vice-chancellors are against the higher fee levels because these would increase the proportion of the universities' income dependent on the number of students they have, and so make the income liable to fluctuate from year to year. Given Britain's need for extra earnings from abroad, it would certainly not be hard-hearted of the Cabinet — before it finally announces its decision on the fees issue — to ask the educational institutions to accept a bit more uncertainty in their financial planning for the sake of making a considerably bigger contribution to Britain's balance of payments."

28 June 1976: Iranian armed forces shoot dead 10 opposition guerrillas in a raid on a house in Tehran.

28 June 1976: Seychelles completes its neo-colonial independence, Britain handing over rule to a representative of the settler-landowner class James Mancham, who occupies the Presidency as well as the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Internal Security cabinet posts.

28 June 1976: AP reports the gift of an unidentified Philippines business figure sending Prince Charles a \$30,000 cruiser with twin beds and an automatic indoor marine toilet.

28 June 1978: Allan Stewart Scotland CBI chief after examining CBI records states: "It is a basic British problem that we get much less from a similar machine than most countries in the world. This is due to poor performance, over-manning, longer hours where machines are not in use, restrictive practices, strikes, and lack of flexibility, which I suppose boil down to bad labour practices."

He describes a vicious circle in Britain where people manning new machines consider their jobs threatened so they produce more slowly: "Productivity in Scotland has been low by international standards for about a decade. The remedy must be more flexible attitudes by trade unions. Incentives and differentials have an important part because the rewarding of skill and effort, particularly for key workers, foremen, and managers, can be vital in the long run, and this is not allowed now."

29 June 1978: <u>Glasgow Herald</u> in Who's to blame for industrial crisis?' reports on the rise of US multinationals in Britain:

"Hewlett-Packard, the American-owned electronics firm in Edinburgh were so delighted with their 670 workers' performance that they wanted to reward them with a month's extra pay. They fell foul of the pay code and ' tied for switching pay dates from the end to the start of the month which let them go a month earlier to the bank. IBM at Greenock have probably the best industrial relations record in Scotland — no redundancies or strikes since they started 27 years ago — and recently they took on 300 workers making the payroll 2,300. Their rates of pay put them in the top 10 employers in Britain, "The Greenock plant has met all its major objectives in production in the past 12 months" an official said. And there are many, many similar examples.

"The problem [in Singer's plants] here is to do with making the workforce cost-effective" explaining that job protection, so valued by the unions in Scotland (for good historical reasons) had made it

almost impossible for many big employers to be properly manned. "We make everything we need, and we nave no flexibility to deal with the peaks and valleys of demand. We must always be manned for the peaks. If that policy follows course in a valley of demand we cannot get rid of people because of the policy of employment protection. Therefore, we are less efficient." Singer's are now looking to the IBM policy of having a smallish workforce and, in the American phrase, a "multi-vendor" system, which means a larger volume of subcontract work. This, argues Mr Neely, removes the need for laying off workers in such large numbers. Instead, the problems fall to a series of vendors, - or subcontractors. "There is no doubt this is where British industry will be going in future," said Mr Neely. "There is no infrastructure of this kind in some areas of industry such as heavy and light engineering, but when" it was introduced in Japan, for example, it made a tremendous impact." By offering surplus equipment and expertise to (provide a restructuring of their operation at Clydebank. Singers hope this type of philosophy can be accepted by the unions. It won't be easy, of course. Years of bad news and lay-offs have made Clydesiders cynical of any management philosophising, and the unions have already told Singer their plan is not on. Mr Jimmy Milne, general secretary of the STUC, admits there are shortcomings on the union side, but insists that lack of investment and unimaginative management over the years have produced an uncompetitive aspect in Scottish industry of which productivity is simply part. "Singers even agreed with the union convener when be said it was like Victoriana in there" he said. "There is ample evidence from objective sources pointing to lack of investment as the major problem for British industry."

29 June 1976: Tunku Abdul Rahman, former British-appointed ruler of Malaya and Malaysia in his weekly column in Malaysian newspaper The Star commends the arrest of Abdul Samad Ismail, editor of the New Straits Times, Samam bin Mohamed Amin, editor of Berita Harian (Kuala Lumpur), and Hussein Jahidin, editor of the Berita Harian (Singapore) and Azml Mahmud, deputy editor of the Berita Harian (Singapore). He writes of tendencies towards 'communism' throughout the press: "It is expected therefore, that a few more heads will fall. I have no doubt that the Special Branch Investigation will bring to light more useful information. We must take firm action... because the country means so much to us and it must come first. Now that they have gone too far, we can ill afford to leave them alone. The government action against them Is timely and the loyal citizens have every reason to feel pleased... an honest to goodness follow-up operation to root out the Reds must be launched on a nationwide basis"

29 June 1976: Britain abstains, alongside France, Italy and Sweden, to help ease pressure on the US, that uses its veto to kill a Security Council resolution calling for UN-brokered Israeli withdrawal from occupied territories and an immediate halt to the establishment of new Israeli settlements in occupied Arab land. The vote is 10-4-1.

30 June 1976: White Paper, The Attack on Inflation: the Second Year, (Cmnd. 6507) is published demanding more pay restraint.

July 1976: A Low Pay Unit report 'Nine Into Two Equals Progress' reveals many shopworkers are existing on wages below the poverty line. It examines the merging of 9 retail wages councils and the setting up of 2 wages councils for the retail and distributive trades in their place. In 1975 almost 40% of male workers in the distributive industry earn less than £40 a week, the poverty line for a family of 4 after tax and national insurance deductions. At the start of 1976, the lowest minimum wage rate for adults agreed by the retail councils is £26.50 for retail furnishings, £26.00 for retail, bookselling and stationery, £26.50 for drapery, outfitting, and footwear. In the retail food industry the minimum weekly rate is £25.25 for Scotland and £25.70 for England. Other rates include £23.60 for the Scottish retail bread, flour, and confectionery industry, and £21.65 for the retail newsagency, tobacco, and confectionery trade. Over 2 years ago, in 1974 the TUC has accepted a minimum wage target of £30 for a 40-hour week. On a par with RPI the report records the Jan 1976 wage figure ought to have been at least £40.

July 1976: Private school Gordonstoun, completes a £500+ cost summer holiday 3-week course teaching 23 boys from the Middle East and Europe 'self-reliance'.

July 1976: The month's official <u>Public Employee</u> explains NUPE the leadership's opposition to strike action: "On industrial action the EC have told branches that extensive or prolonged all-out strikes could be counter productive by reducing wage costs and thus giving employers the savings in expenditure they are seeking."

July 1976: Dr Coggan, Archbishop of Canterbury, says there must be definite limits to immigration. \*\*

July 1976: A British firm based on Jersey, having bought British tank parts earlier in 1976, resells them to Pretoria. SIPRI notes South Africa has allocated a record \$1.7bn defence budget for the year, an increase of more than a third from the previous year. Pretoria has spent as much, in dollar financial terms, on arms, since 1960, as all the rest of sub-Saharan Africa put together. South

Africa has been able to augment its fleet of 200 British Centurion tanks despite the embargo.

July 1976: Jimmy Hill visits Saudi Arabian officials and signs a  $\pounds 2.5m$  deal to help build a national football team and restructure the sport in the country.

July 1976: Police Federation withdraws its representatives from the Police Council, declaring it has lost faith in the institution and demands direct negotiations with Home Secretary.

1 July 1976: Desperate to retain the acceptance of South Africa as a sporting nation, Britain alongside France and US, walks out of the International Tennis Federation meeting where its resolution to ban countries that withdraw for political reasons is defeated. As a result Britain, France, USA and Australia boycott the tournament for allowing political boycotts. Britain has been at the forefront of efforts at retaining South Africa within the ITF.

1 July 1976: Alastair Morton, managing director of BNOC states its headquarters will be on the top 3 floors of the new £5mil high-tech office block in St Vincent Street, Glasgow, with a lease beyond 2000 having been signed. BNOC is to employ 200 in Glasgow by 1980. At one tame in 1975 several Labour Ministers spoke of 800 jobs at BNOC's HQ. Morton asserts BNOC executives do not regard it as their business to create new jobs but to run an efficient state oil Margo MacDonald, SNP vice-chairman company. seizes the opportunity to mount an effective attack: "The very small number of people to be employed suggests that the government's participation in the oil business is correspondingly small and the real decision-making will not be in Glasgow or even London but with the multinational oil giants. I am sure the 200 jobs is only half the story and next week they will announce the purchase of computers to do the 600 other jobs that Glaswegians were told were Shears. It is another episode in the 'Great Oil Riddle'."

1 July 1976: In a speech honouring the work of retiring head of the CIA station in London, Cord Meyer, Sir Maurice Oldfield, Chief of SIS, speaks on the subject of Anglo–American intelligence relations. Oldfield praises the CIA and Meyer's extreme forbearance under "continuous and continuing press bombardment", whilst the ugly behaviour of CIA activities pours out. (Oldfield (C/SIS) speech, 'Cord Meyer, Farewell 1 July 1976', Box 2, File 6, Meyer papers, LC.)

1 July 1976: David Gray, Chief Inspector of Police in Scotland, publishes his annual report arguing for more resources: "We have too many liberal thinkers — too many people who think that education is allowing a child to do as he pleases. We need not

blame the Children's Panels but we can blame parents who dot not care where their children are at nights, and we can blame educationalists who think that education is letting children do as they wish. Children respect a certain amount of authority and are not averse to a little discipline. You usually find they prefer to be given guidance and a lead. More discipline and authority on the part of parents and schools is one of the answers to juvenile crime." The report collates figures showing recruitment to police forces in Scotland has increased by 45% in 1975, more than compensating for retirements.

- 1 July 1976: CBI announces councillor in Bromley Borough, Conservative candidate in 1970, Allan Stewart, former president of SRC in St Andrew's, lecturer in political economy at St Andrew's, will be new CBI chief of Scotland.
- 1 July 1976: Government awards £720,000 in aid to Bangldesh's military rulers to fund the strengthening of the police communication network, almost certain to come from a British firm.
- 2 July 1976: <u>Glasgow Herald</u> reports on stock market reaction to easing of the Price Code 'Shares respond quietly to relaxation in the Price Code': "Market men were reasonably satisfied with the proposals, the feeling being that the Government had done as much as possible under the circumstances. There was also hope that the Chancellor would soon announce substantial spending cuts for next year, and this factor provided the main boost to sentiment. Press reference to the implications of the proposals on building material earnings, strengthened the snares concerned. Associated Cements, for example, rose 6p to 158p. Tunnel rose 8p to 156p and Rugby Portland 2.5p to 55p. ... Among the leaders GEC added 4p to 158p on further consideration of the results. Granada TV put on 3p to 76p after disclosing first half profits up 23%. The announcement that a Saudi Arabian company had acquired a 27% stake stimulated Beyer Peacock at 22p up 5p."
- 2 July 1976: Granada's results show 6-months pretax profits up from £7mil to £8.66mil. Its UK rental business Robinson Rentals, wholly owned since November last year, produced a profit for the period up from £4.5mil to £4.8mil. In common with other television firms advertising revenue is up, its contribution to profits increasing from £1.6m to £2.72mil. Granada's overseas television rental business also continues to progress.
- 2 July 1976: Merlyn Rees issues the final report of the 'Gardiner review', which recommends: increasing manpower in the RUC, establishing specialised teams in the RUC, making greater use of

the RUC reserve; and trying to encourage support and recruit from culturally Irish community.

- 2 July 1976: British tourists are amongst those robbed during a 'steaming' of a Parisian metro train by 17 youths. A female teenager holds a flick-knife against the tourists extracting jewellery and money from wallets. It is reported in late Jul 1976 becoming a media sensation, provoking backlash calls for greater 'law and order' severity.
- 3 July 1976: Operation Thunderbolt sees IDF commandos storm a hijacked plane in Entebbe, Kampala, Uganda. Around 50 Ugandan soldiers, over a dozen guerrillas, and four original passengers are killed in the raid. The demands for the release of 40 Palestinians in Israeli prisons and 13 guerrillas in Federal Germany are never answered. None of the deaths makes much impact apart from Yoni/Jonathan Netanyahu, the sole IDF casualty, who becomes a noble figure in centrist Western newspaper reporting. Entebbe becomes a word
- 4 July 1976: <u>Sunday Times</u> features a large advert from the industry body the Asbestos Information Council. An article a quarter of the size explains in small text the advertising campaigns' mystifications and inaccuracies.

Full-page adverts titled '20 Sensible Questions You Asked About Asbestos and Health The Answers' and 'Where would I find Asbestos in My Home' seeming to come from an official source begin to appear in all national newspapers in Jul 1976. They are part of a £500,000 AIC asbestos industry effort to re-normalise the product to weaken any greater enforcement of safety regulations.

- 4 July 1976: IDF aircraft have, as agreed in advance, a fuel-stop at Nairobi Airport, Kenya before reaching Israel again.
- 5 July 1976: <u>U.S. News and World Report</u> examines inter-Western relations titled: 'World statesmen look to United States leadership in the times ahead': "Callaghan, Schmidt, Giscard, Miki of Japan all say America must play a more active, leading role in international arenas. Pierre Trudeau sums up the various positions: "I do not see any substitute for American leadership."
- 5 July 1976: In response to SNP Gordon Wilson seeking government action to institute price controls for Scotland since the inflation on essential goods is on average 10% higher in Scotland compared to elsewhere, Labour Left Eric Heffer, implicitly comparing SNP with the Rhodesian Front declares: "Areas like Merseyside have as bad

conditions as anywhere else in the country, but we don't raise these nonsensical cries of UDI for Merseyside."

5 July 1976: Whitelaw demands a register of dependants for immigrants so that if figures on the register are deemed high, some form of quota system can be instituted. Whitelaw states of immigration "Britain has been an absorbent society, welcoming all corners, and in due course assimilating them into our way of life. We have never made any distinctions of colour or culture.... We have guarded these freedoms jealously for centuries, and we are justly proud of them.... All acts of racial discrimination... are wholly abhorrent to our British way of life and must be unequivocally condemned. However, we all know today that these principles of the fair and tolerant society which we seek to uphold will be undermined if individual fears and resentments are allowed to grow... Our objective must surely be to ensure that our immigration control procedures are strict and effective while at the same time administered with humanity and fairness. If they are to allay many unjustified fears, they have to introduce some certainty into a situation which, alas, today is shrouded in far too much mystery. There is no doubt that the British people want to know that there is in prospect an end to those entitled to come here. Indeed, many of them have to be convinced that we cannot simply say "No more now from anywhere". ... I have no doubt that in the interests of good race relations, certainly in the interests of the ethnic minority groups already in our country, we should seek to provide finality and certainty. ... there are still far too many stories of illegal immigration and overstaying which are widely believed. I do not accept all of them, but the old saying 'No smoke without fire' is usually true... too many people are coming in as visitors or on limited permits and then simply disappearing. It cannot be stated too often that illegal entry is very unfair on those in the same ethnic groups who have come in legally... there is need for ruthless police action...

If [Jenkins] can confirm a total of about 40,000 as definite and final, of course he has a strong case and I admit it. But if it is much higher or indefinite, I must tell him that I hold to my view that, in the current situation, we should substantially reduce the number of vouchers below the 5,000... I believe that it would help to have a register of dependants compiled in this country. Heads of households who came here before 1st January 1973 should have the right to register their dependants. A date would be set for the closing of the register. Those who came in on work permits in the future — I trust in small numbers—or those accepted for settlement — also, I hope, a sharply diminishing number — would have to understand that they came in without any automatic right for their dependants. I realise that there may be snags in such a register,

but it offers a means of obtaining a clear guide as to the exact size of the commitment. ...Some people think that the figures on the register would be low. If they were as low as is occasionally suggested, we should have comparatively easy decisions to take. But if, as many fear, the figures were very high, we might have to institute a quota system of entry for those who were accepted to enable us to absorb them satisfactorily.

I must state my firm conviction that we in [the House of Commons] should discuss problems in the closely-related subjects of immigration and race relations frequently and objectively. I pray that we shall be able to do so calmly and without emotion, bitterness or party bickering, since we owe that to many anxious and troubled people in all the communities in this country. ... Many genuine people, entirely free from any racial prejudice, want reassurance. At a time when they see over-crowding, stress and strain in their own areas, they are upset by rumours and statements from those who play on fears for their own ends. They need to have their confidence restored. ... We shall succeed only if we can give to all our people the prospect of an end to immigration and a clear sense of finality and certainty in our plans."

5 July 1976: In response to Whitelaw, Home Secretary Jenkins announces that measures to control the entry of dependants of holders of UK passports will be decided by a cross-bench 'consensus' Parliamentary Committee.

5 July 1976: NUM Conference endorses, 145-128, Gormley's ruling that resolutions on wages including a claim for £100 a week for face workers will be dropped from discussion.

Gormley warns opponents within NUM, urging tougher organised action over pay: "You are trying to cause embarrassment to the TUC and the Government. The individual member is my paymaster" In his presidential address Gormley argues that large pay rises do not always mean better living standards, because of price inflation. He states NUM has won 3 big rises between 1972 and 1975 and some are asking for another big increase: "We seem to be on a treadmill running like hell to stand still." He says pay awards are eroded whilst deals as part of the social contract - concessionary coal, free work clothing and subsidised transport has retained its value. He again calls for a "real incentive scheme" delcaring that if the one turned down in 1975 in a nationwide ballot had been accepted "our lads would by today be pounds better off and not too much affected by the restraints of the past year."

5 July 1976: Tesco chairman Leslie Porter statement with the annual accounts of Tesco Stores explains superstore development is

steadily increasing. During 12 months of 1975-6 store area has increased by 60,000m<sup>2</sup> to 465,000m<sup>2</sup> with many new store openings. Profits have risen 8% to £25.1mil.

6 July 1976: Queen gives a speech in Philadelphia praising US Founding Fathers. She tanks "the founder fathers of this great Republic for having taught Britain a very valuable lesson. .... We lost the American colonies because we lacked the statesmanship to know the right time, and the manner of yielding, what is impossible to keep... in the next century and a half we have kept more closely to the principles of Magna Carta which have been the common heritage of both our countries. We learned to respect the right of others to govern themselves in their own ways. This was the outcome of the experience learned the hard way in 1776. Without that great act in the cause of liberty performed in Independence Hall 200 years ago, we could never have transformed an empire into a Commonwealth."

6 July 1976: Colonial Bermuda sentences Erskine Burrows for the political assassinations of Police Commissioner Duckett, Governor Sir Richard Sharples and ADC Captain Sawyers.

7 July 1976: An elderly pensioner burns herself to death in a park in Elmwood Avenue, Jordanhill, Glasgow.

7 July 1976: Sir Derek Ezra, head of the NCB addresses the annual conference of the NUM: "We are not yet achieving the improvement in productivity that our massive investment programme would lead us to expect. Putting this right must be priority number one." He also speaks of the importance of export opportunities, noting that every ton sold abroad assists Britain's balance of payments.

Bill McLean, NUM Scottish area secretary, warns jobs are at threat from non-coal electricity generation. He called on the Government to instruct the South of Scotland CEGB to continue taking at least nine million tons a year from Scottish pits. A reduction to seven million tons would mean the loss of up to 8000 jobs, he claimed. McLean notes the threat results from the government's construction of new power stations which did not use coal.

7 July 1976: Callaghan holds an 8-hour session with CBI and TUC leaders securing their united backing for his industrial strategy. Callaghan restates publicly his commitment to make British firms more profitable and ready to take advantage of the expected trade boom. Afterwards CBI President Lord Watkinson approves: "I feel there is a change — and the leadership to make our country get up and succeed — we would be quite disgraceful if we were unwilling to play our full part. You can rely on our full co-operation to make

industry a success." Callaghan states: "We all accept the need for profitability provided it is to be put into new plant and machinery"

7 July 1976: Even though Barnabans' revenue form mining has been withheld by the Courts, Ted Rowlands states of the affair: "I recognise the legitimate interests, feelings and wishes of the Banabans... I do not think that their rights and wishes have been overruled."

8 July 1976: The Queen and Prince Philip hold a dinner for President Ford at the British Embassy, Washington DC. Ford later takes them, with William Creighton, Bishop of Washington DC, to Washington National Cathedral and the Churchill Porch.

10-11 July 1976: Secret meetings are held between Argentine and British representatives in Paris.

10 July 1976: Prince Charles suggests a way to limit news of the ship he commands losing its anchor: "we very nearly lost two divers... For your information — and that of the press office, if necessary — I have just had to slip my starboard anchor, having spent 24 miserable hours trying to free it from an underwater telephone cable... If the press happen to find out, it is something that can occasionally happen and I got rid of the anchor to avoid damage to telephone cable." (Memo Charles to Checketts, 10 July 1976, RA/POW).

Bonnington's crew "lowered the anchor for perhaps the twentieth time without noticing that they had chosen a spot on the chart that was bisected by a fine magenta line, marking an underwater cable. When the order was given to weigh anchor, they discovered that it was stuck fast to the bottom of the sea — or rather, as they soon realised, to a main GPO telecommunications cable linking the British mainland to the Irish coast. After a hurried conference between the senior officers, the Prince agreed that two divers should be sent down to investigate. While they were underwater, the line which attached them to the ship parted, and, with darkness falling, they drifted away into the gloom in the four-knot current — tidal conditions which the Prince reported as dreadful even at slack water. A Gemini was lowered and, mercifully, both men were recovered. Twenty-four hours later, after repeated but fruitless attempts extricate his vessel from her embarrassing predicament, the Prince gave the order to slip the anchor." (Dimbleby, The Prince of Wales p276)

11 July 1976: RAF's surviving Lancaster 'Dambusters' bomber, based at RAF Conningsby, Lincolnshire, flies south to London directly over Buckingham Palace and Parliament as part of the run-

up publicity to the Royal Tournament, the annual armed services' display that begins on 14 Jul 1976.

11 July 1976: Sunday Telegraph reports ICI has paid out £150,000 in compensation to patients who used the drug Brandin, which was withdrawn in June 1975 after serious side effects of extreme stomach bleeding and cramps and pain in the eyes from a sizeable minority. At least 400 others have not received any compensation. 11 July 1976: Republican protesters in Boston hold a demonstration against the Queen as she arrives aboard the royal yacht Britannia and is met by the USS Constitution, the oldest commissioned US warship. Accompanied by a massive entourage, she addresses Bostonians from the balcony of its Old Slate House, in front of the site of the Boston Massacre. Continuing her 'non-political' role she states:"We have been very moved by the welcome we have received In this city, particularly since it was here — in Boston that 'it all began' and it was not many miles from here, at Lexington and Concord, that the first shots were fired in the war between Britain and America 201 years ago.... If Paul Revere, Samuel Adams and other patriots could have known that one day a British monarch would stand beneath the balcony of the Old State House, from which the Declaration of Independence was first read to the people of Boston and be greeted by the mayor and others in such kind and generous words, well - I think they would have been extremely surprised. But perhaps they would also have been pleased. Pleased to know that eventually we came together again as free peoples and friends and defended together the very ideals for which the American Revolution was fought", "We lost the American Colonies because we lacked the statesmanship to know the right time and the manner of yielding...but the lesson was learnt. We learnt to respect the rights of others to govern themselves in their own ways."

11 July 1976: South African armed forces cross the border and attack a SWAPO refugee and guerrilla camp in Oshatotwa, southwestern Zambia, killing more than 100.

12 July 1976: Australia's <u>The Age</u>: "deplorably, the Olympic Games are being progressively transformed from an athletic to a political spectacular. Racial sparring here, political fencing there, boycotts, threatened boycotts, counter protests... whatever happened to that old tradition we used to call sportsmanship? That political turmoil should have brought so much disruption to the Montreal Games, mocking the spirit of keen but friendly contest even before foot is set to track, is nothing short of outrage to all who uphold and draw inspiration from the noble principles of sporting competition. The introduction of racist politics into the Olympics, of course, is far from new... But the politicising is getting worse. We are nearing the stage where political discrimination will win the gold medal of

legitimacy It is at this point that the whole future of the Games as an institution is called into question... Black African censure of New Zealand for allowing an All Black rugby tour of South Africa, culminating (so far) in Tanzania's decision to withdraw unless NZ is banned from the Games. ... The questionable wisdom of the All Black tour of South Africa should not be pervertedly seized upon by Black nations who see it as support for white racism.... The Olympic Games should be rescued from their political sickness before it is too late. We urgently need universal reaffirmation of their apolitical character — something that once was taken for granted. Nothing less will suffice."

- 12 July 1976: A demonstration called by the Association of Self Employed People and the National Federation of the Self Employed outside the Customs and Excise Office sees 200 middle-class businessmen gather in protest at excessive taxation. The protest is against tax inspectors having called on an elderly small businessman, and asked to see his business records and accounts. After a long search they leave taking a number of files. After this visit the elderly businessman commit suicide.
- 12 July 1976: Police shoot a 30 year old agricultural worker picket on Geest Industries Ltd's Roseau Estates in Britain's remaining St. Lucia colony. 1,500 workers on 3 banana estates have been on strike for 5 weeks as Farmers and Farm Workers Onion sought an increase in the basic male wage standing at \$2-3 a day and female wage at \$1.70.
- 12 July 1976: IMF Articles of Agreement are amended confirming that, officially, the Fund can place explicit conditions on requests for funds.
- 12 July 1976: An agreement is signed for British engineering firms to provide technical support for the Indo-British Ground Water Exploration Project in Betwa River Basin, Madhya and Uttar Pradesh, India.
- 12 July 1976: Kissinger reports to U.S. Congress on the overall support for various endeavours within the EEC: "Europe's interest in the Far East, in the Middle East, and in Africa is growing and welcome to us. Prime Minister Callaghan's initiatives for a negotiated settlement in Rhodesia based on majority rule, President Giscard d'Estaing's proposal for a Western fund for coordinated assistance to African economic development, and Chancellor Schmidt's initiatives in the economic field are examples of creative European statesmanship which the United States welcomes"
- 13 July 1976: Joe Hooper, Cabinet Office Intelligence Coordinator, briefs Chiefs of Staff over maintaining intelligence acquisition in the future. He states Britain should use Cyprus as fully as possible,

capitalising on US weakness vis-a-vis Turkey. Chiefs of Staff agree and Chief of Defence Staff Michael Carver, asserts Britain "above all should preserve its special intelligence relationship with the US" ('The Intelligence Coordinator's Annual Review of Intelligence 1976', 13 Jul 1976, DEFE 32/23)

14 July 1976: Première of Weapons of Happiness, the first commissioned play to be performed at the reopened National Theatre. Written by left-wing playwright Howard Brenton it features a strike in a London crisp factory alongside the dramatic device of a revived Josef Frank speaking about life in 1950s Communist Czechoslovakia. It is directed by David Hare.

14 July 1976: <u>Jerusalem Post</u> reports on the effectiveness of Israel's renewed efforts in Africa since 1975. Nigeria's delegate to the UN Economic and Social Council conference in Abidjan in Jul 1976 states anti-Israel efforts are hampering the attempts to induce the support of Western countries to take action against apartheid South Africa and Rhodesia. Nigeria announces it seeks the deletion of references to 'Zionism as a form of racism' from all international resolutions because this accusation is prone to "destabilize the UN system and to immobilize our efforts". Accordingly Nigeria leads a significant section of Third World states, particularly African ones under its economic power to block other Third World efforts to introduce resolutions critical of Israel at the conference.

In general Israel has been very successful in hiding its relations with South Africa.

14 July 1976: Ministry of Defence oppose maintaining Masirah when other facilities in the Indian Ocean are available. "if the RAF were to remain at Masirah... their presence would amount to an unnecessary commitment of resources" where "we could expect strong opposition". (DEFE 13/1249no31 APS (MoD) To Secretary of State. Interest in Masirah. 14 July 1976)

14 July 1976: Carmelo Soria, UN diplomat, opponent to the junta, granter of diplomatic immunity status to other oppositionists by granting them political asylum in various embassies, is abducted. He is first detained in the Via Naranja house, shared by DINA agent Michael Townley and DINA biochemist, bomb and gas expert Eugenio Berrios. He is tortured and subjected to sarin gas, then tortured to death in Villa Grimaldi, his corpse found on 16 Jul 1976 in a car sunk in the Canal del Carmen in Santiago, Chile.

16 July 1976: World Bank approves assistance to Indonesia 's compulsory resettlement programme to move the dangerous urban poor in the cities of Java to other islands.

16 July 1976: Evan Luard explains "hours and languages of the BBC's external broadcasting are determined by those responsible in accordance with political, economic and other priorities. The criteria used reflect Britain's interests in different areas of the world in the political, economic, commercial and other fields."

16 July 1976: TUC Special congress accepts pay restraint, but passes not-committal resolutions deploring cuts etc.

16 July 1976: Queen Elizabeth opens Montreal Olympics, to several protests along the route of the motorcade and outside the stadium blocked by police. She attends several events alongside Duke of Edinburgh, Prince of Wales, Prince Andrew and Prince Edward. Princess Anne competes in the equestrianism trials for the British team.

17 July 1976: NME features tax exiles The Who as front cover material with long interviews, it fails to make reference to Roger Daltrey's earlier comments: "We're just not strong enough on leaders. You need someone who's gonna make people jump. You need a Hitler figure just to say 'this is what it is' And Hitler was right for Germany at the time, they were really being shat on. He turned out mad at the end, but when he started, he was there, he just did marvellous things for the German people. You need a Hitler figure, internationally, for kids."

20 July 1976: Shackleton Report is released. It emphasizes the weakness of the Falklands' single-crop wool economy and the urgent need for cooperation with Argentina over fishing and oil extraction. But considers it "improbable that exploration programs [for oil or gas] can be launched in the maritime region of the Falklands without the agreement and the cooperation of Argentina. In fact, it is extremely doubtful that an oil company would be disposed to accept a unilateral offer of licenses for exploration or production by the government of the Falkland Islands without the firm assurance that this is also acceptable to Argentina. This is not solely a matter of the fact that costs of exploration and production are too high to assume the political risks, but also because the logistical aspect of an operation which would bypass Argentina probably would have little attraction from the economic standpoint" (pp 118-119).

21 July 1976: William Whitelaw, speaking at Leicester and referring to immigration, says "the British Empire has now paid its debts"

22 July 1976: 7<sup>th</sup> Budget. Chancellor announces plans to cut public expenditure by £1,012mil.

22 July 1976: Reg Freeson Minister of Labour and Construction writes to all GLC councils and local authorities across the country demanding an immediate standstill on any new council building projects. Government claim is that "available resources will be concentrated much more selectively than before on meeting the needs of stress areas." (4 August 1976 vol 916 c874W) The government succeeds in redistributing poverty with the badge of progressive zeal.

23 July 1976: Centre-right 'wet' Shadow Spokesman for Education Norman St John-Stevas: "The archbishop's views on the whole matter of race are very similar to my own. Of course, there could not be and never has been any doubt of his condemnation of racialism. Racialism, by which I mean judgements based on a person's race or origin, is incompatible with Christianity. The essence of the Christian message of redemption is its universal character. Jesus came to save individuals but also to redeem the entire human race. ...

Starting from such a premise one would expect Christians to give positive witness on the question of race and to be animated by both morality and love in their attitude to those of a different colour from themselves. That however cannot be the end of the matter. We do not live in a world of abstract principles but among actual men and women of flesh and blood with fears, desires and prejudices. The immigration problem cannot be resolved by reference to first principles alone. I write this as one who made his maiden speech in the Commons on the subject and who' voted against the various dubious measures such as those designed to deprive British passport holders in East Africa of their legal rights.

The only hope of a successful resolution of racial tensions in Britain is to be clear about one's principles but at the same time to recognise that they have to be applied in a concrete situation of great difficulty and complexity. You cannot have unlimited immigration into any country, whether it be Britain or any other. The capacity of a host country to absorb immigrants is always limited, although in some countries it may be more limited than others. The fact is that in Britain the racial tolerance is rather lower than the average. If one looks at the history of the former British colonies the fruits of our rule in this respect are not very encouraging. The southern states of the United States are after all the most English part of America. We have now reached a situation Britain where any further substantial black or coloured immigration would jeopardise the whole future for peaceful race relations in this country. The overall percentage of immigrants is low but they are of course concentrated in certain areas of big cities and this creates a social problem of daunting proportions.

In areas contiguous to those of high immigration there is great fear of a loss of status and identity and this makes matters worse. The alarming rise in the votes cast for the National Front, which is an avowedly racialist party, is clear evidence of the way in which public opinion is moving. If we are to have public goodwill and cooperation then there must be a limitation on numbers. This in fact is what the archbishop was saying and it is little more than common sense.

He has been criticised for basing part of his argument on the practical basis that the immigrants are here to stay, that many of them have been born in this country and therefore to talk of sending them "home" is quite misleading.... The new factor in the race situation is that citizens have lost confidence in the immigration statistics. In view of the leaking of the secret Foreign Office report on the matter, and the conflict of evidence and opinions, this is hardly surprising. A register of dependants has been suggested both as a guide to the exact numbers who can be expected to have a claim to come to Britain and to avoid fraud and illegal immigration. This is a sensible idea provided that its operation is made reasonably flexible....

Racialism is a horrible perversion with which we can make no compromise, but we have to recognise realistically the limitations both of human beings and the delicacy of the social fabric which can be rent under strain."

- 23 July 1976: "The general reception to the cuts package is not bad, though the City seems a bit disappointed the pound was weak this morning and the Bank actually spent a few millions in support. The problem is that the more clever it is politically, so that the left do not complain, then the City thinks the cuts are not real which in some cases is true. ... I sat next to beautiful Elizabeth Harrison, Rex Harrison's separated wife ... She was there with Jonathan Aitken. The Tories always do better with women." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)
- 23 July 1976: <u>The Times</u> editorialises that Prince Charles should be next Australian Governor-General to assuage complications over the Whitlam dismissal. "Australian feelings ... naturally cannot be measured in Britain Britain can only agree to spare the Prince." but urges Fraser, to discuss it with the Queen.
- 24 July 1976: Royal Yacht Britannia hosts a reception for various Commonwealth political figures, Olympics officials and athletes.
- 24 July 1976: Fraser and the Queen discuss arrangements for the royal visit to Australia in Mar 1977.

25 July 1976: British Leyland's exports total reaches £589mil for the first 9 months of Oct 1975-Jun 1976 in excess of the entire 12 months prior. Much of the increase reflects higher prices, but there is also a rise of over 10% in vehicles exported at 282,000. Increases for Jaguar, Triumph and MG sports cars in North America are noted.

25 July 1976: Portugal's new minority PS government holds its first Cabinet meeting today under Scares featuring a total of 17 Socialists, independents and high-ranking military officers. Out of 262 seats PS has 107, and will be assisted by centrist PDP 73, rightist CDS 42. PCP has withdrawn support only after Soares has rejected a popular front coalition.

26 July 1976: A unanimous decision by 3 Appeal Court judges including Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice Conservative-controlled Scarman, against the government. Manchester, Tameside council, Greater can educational apartheid in its schools system. 240 selected 'superior' children for grammar schools against over 3,000 others who are for lower-stream education. Government is ordered to pay Tameside's legal costs, transferring public taxation into the pockets of middleclass rightist lawyers, led by expert lawyer Conservative MP Leon Brittan. These lawyers have initially been financed by NAFF, who secure their backlash effort with no cost to themselves.

NAFF on John Gouriet's principle to "use the law wherever the law could be used" has funded Tameside Council and Tameside Parents' Education Group to backlash against the government's orders. One member of TPEG explains "I believe in competition, initiative and ability, and comprehensive education destroys competition, initiative and ability... If we can put back socialism twenty years in the next two years, that's what we'll do." The costs of the appeal at £90,857 are raised within weeks of a request to its 30,000 members.

Buoyed by the ruling, whilst summer holidays continue, the Conservative councillors change the choices of schools that parents have made for their children to attend in the autumn term and institute 2 grammar schools - Ashton and Hyde - on a selective basis. They employ 20 rightist "volunteer teachers" to predict 'academic merit' of 11-year-olds on the basis of scores of various teachers' comments written on their primary school record cards and specially conduct interviews. Tameside LEA also buys at a cost of £4,000, subsidising royalist painters, portraits of the Queen to be hung in every school. It also threatens instant dismissal for any teacher who "laid a finger" on any of these royal portraits, and declare they expect pupils who do so to also be severely disciplined.

Most headteachers resolve the dispute by placing these portraits high up in school halls etc.

The rhetoric of choice is much used, even though of all Tameside pupils, already under previous plans conforming to the 1944 Education Act and circular 10/65, around 90% of go to their parents' 1<sup>st</sup> and 96% to their parents' 2nd choice school. Conservative spokesperson welcomes the decision on the grounds that the autonomy of local authorities has been protected. Unsurprisingly, that the Appeal Court is headed by the same Lord Justice who has fined and expelled the Left Labour Clay Cross Council is ignored.

26 July 1976: At Labour Party-TUC liaison committee, Len Murray and senior TUC colleagues stood firm to defend the social contract against any rewriting. Murray states trades unions will not exceed the £4 wage limit deal in spite of the massive cuts. He says "Members of the general council of the TUC are not going to be tickled pink to be told they must jump through flaming hoops for anyone once more." Jack Jones states it is "essential for the social contract to go through." Callaghan states of proposals for higher pay as part of the 5 amendments suggested: "This is a mass of dialectics and semantics and I'm not interested." All amendments are rejected.

26 July 1976: President of the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce, representative of relatively weaker business interests in a depressed region states, in mild opposition to cuts: "We shall have to do with fewer roads, houses, and schools, and the nationalised industries will have to postpone schemes which, so we are assured, were designed to improve their efficiency and productivity, sadly in need of improvement for most of them."

26 July 1976: President of Provisional Sinn Fein, Ruairi O'Brady, is served with an exclusion order preventing him from entering the Britain, whilst he remains detained at Castlereagh police station, Belfast after his arrest 4 days ago by armed forces patrol.

26 July 1976: Deputy Chief Judge Robin in the High Court rules that the decision by Yorkshire National Union of Mineworkers to suspend 2 men for supporting the slander of the Sheffield Star against the NUM is contempt of court. (Scargill has earlier won a libel action against the newspaper publisher for its lies). Protecting the rightist wing of the NUM, he grants an injunction preventing William O'Brien, secretary of the Glasshoughton branch and Mr Tom Roebuck, secretary of the Manvers Main branch from suspension from their posts for 2 years as agreed unanimously by Yorkshire NUM. Judge Robin states: "Witnesses should be free to go into a

witness box and give their evidence without any fear of being punished by anybody afterwards. The whole system of justice in this country requires that persons who have relevant evidence shall be free to come before every Court without fear of victimisation." Significantly this principle is never applied to ACAS-endorsed employment tribunals, where victimisation after cases means very few manual workers in private-sector ever mount cases.

26 July 1976: Alan Williams Industry Minister of State, Industry announces £4.9mil financial assistance loan is being made to Lonrho subsidiary Brentford Nylons in an effort to halt the disappearance of the firm.

26 July 1976: Vauxhall Motors, subsidiary of the US firm, records a profit of £1.74mil for the first 6 months in 1976. The reduction of the workforce by 12% and collapse in sterling slide assist Vauxhall's exports considerably covering up prior losses. Car exports are up by 40%, truck exports to Europe are up 35%. The firm's total unit sales in Britain are 105,000 compared to 100,000 the previous reversing 1975's downward trend. Sales in its Bedford commercial division rise by 6% despite an overall decline in other firms' sales. Bob Price chief executive says that the continuation of profitable results depends on meeting increased production schedules, constant control over costs, and continued workforce co-operation.

27 July 1976: Government announces it its intention to introduce comprehensive education into the 6 counties but torpedoes itself adding "in this period of financial stringencies and uncertainties the government may not be able to make available the additional public funds as rapidly as would be needed and that this may affect the pace of reorganisation"

27 July 1976: EEC begins negotiations with Greece over full entry.

30 July 1976: "Cabinet committee on the Franks Report on Official Secrets. The P.M. was quite open that he wants reform in order to tighten the law and make it more effective. Jenkins wanted something more liberal than Franks, and quoted my (original) phrase about replacing the blunderbuss with the Armalite rifle.... went to lunch at Grieveson Grant. They were as friendly as ever but all a hit sheepish about the City having given our public expenditure cuts such a sour reaction." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)
30 July 1976: David Lane, Conservative MP for Cambridge, is appointed by the government to head the new anti-racist Community Relations Commission. A measure of his commitments, can be gauged by his attitudes less than a month ago: "So, as I see it, the first essential now is for the Government to restore

confidence in the immigration control. I believe that we in Britain can set an example to the world in race relations, but this will depend more than anything else on reassuring the white majority that immigration is being strictly controlled at a manageably low level by a determined Government. My criticism of the Government is that they are failing to give this reassurance and are not paying sufficient attention to the real worries of the white majority, whose tolerance and good will cannot be taken for granted. I hope that there are signs today that the Home Secretary is beginning to get this message. It is surely time for stronger leadership by the Government. By this I mean frank talk and firm action—frank talk, for example, about immigration numbers and about the strains in race relations, and firm, determined action to control immigration ... there should be a more intensive follow-up of the landing card system introduced last year, coupled with computerisation of the Home Office records. The second is that the Government should consider requiring anyone who wants to prolong his stay in Britain for a different reason to return overseas and make a fresh application from there.... My ninth and tenth points have to do with illegal immigration. It is time for the Government to strengthen further the special intelligence unit which was set up a few years ago. It is time also for them to develop still closer co-operation with the authorities in the Continental countries used as jumping-off points and in the countries of origin in the Indian subcontinent" (9 Jul 1976)

3 months ago: "in their laudable wish to safequard racial minorities they seem to be ignoring some of the anxieties of the white majority. Last September's White Paper contained hardly a word about the importance of relaxed attitudes among the majority if coloured Britons are to be welcomed as integral members of our society and regarded not just with tolerance but with respect. In this context there are real worries over the trend of immigration, again, and doubts about this Government's determination to maintain strict, effective control." (4 Mar 1976) 6 months ago: "it is lamentable that there is a small minority of Labour Members who find it easier to snipe at the police than to support them. The vast majority of us should take every opportunity—as today—to express our support. I feel all the more admiration for the police when so many other groups are pursuing their own interests with too little regard to the rest of the nation; meanwhile, the dedication of the police to the service of the community remains total." (9 Dec 1975)

30 July 1976: High Court rules that Sir Freddie Laker must be allowed access to enrich himself from the London-New York route alongside British Airways. Broadly declared in the press as a victory for British rights and the British consumer.

30 July 1976: Norman St Stevas in Catholic Herald "There is something both cosy and rarefied about the Court of Appeal with its lack of witnesses (evidence is given by affidavit), its high legal detachment and its courtesy — all mellowed by the rich Devon accent of Lord Denning. The judges gave no indication of how their minds were moving and their decision when it came hit the court like a minor atomic explosion. They held that Mr Mulley had "misdirected himself' and that there were no grounds on which he Tameside could have found that the Council was unreasonably.... What will the effects of the decision be? It may, of course, be reversed in the Lords, but the Court of Appeal has refused leave to appeal to the Lords, and although Mr Mulley has applied for leave to appeal the odds are against his getting it. Even if he does - and wins - no future Secretary of State is going to resort to Section 68 [of 1944 Education Act] except in the most extreme of cases. The Upper House will be encouraged to amend the Bill now going through Parliament... those battling for variety of school will be encouraged to increase' their efforts; and the Bill, if it does reach the Statute Book, will now almost certainly be challenged in the courts."

August 1976: UAE's Dubai awards contracts worth £440mil to 13 foreign firms for port construction near Dubai City. Successful British firms include Anglo-Dutch group Costain-Blankevoort, Balfour Beatty, Wimpey and Sir Willam Halcrow & Partners.

August 1976: For the first time ever, car imports exceed 40% of sales within Britain, over the month.

August 1976: Non-aligned Movement in Colombo meets, NAM countries agree to come together at the UN force a General Assembly of the to hold a Special Session on Disarmament in the spring of next year.

August 1976: Labour-run Glasgow District Council commissions a £15,000 poll to discover feelings over selling council houses to individuals. Strathclyde Area Survey under the leadership of Dr Jack Brand, take a sample of 4,000 Glaswegians.

August 1976: Luxury office furniture firms report healthy sales. A report reveals close to £100m has spent on office furniture by British private sector businesses in under a year. There is sustained "expenditure on an office style and décor which can stimulate or help reduce the pressures — particularly for top management". The restrictions on pay increases has meant the siphoning of capital into luxuries that makes life sweeter for management.

August 1976: <u>National Westminster Bank Quarterly Review</u> features Stephen Witt and Gerald Newbould examining food subsidies during the 1974-75 fiscal year. They find subsidies help all income groups to varying degrees, they offer least help to those in need but higher

income groups benefit more because they spend more: "If we aggregate the benefits by the numbers of families in each of all income categories our estimate is that, in the first year of operation 63% of the Government's expenditure on food subsidies went to families with incomes above the national average"

They calculate subsidies save industry up to £270mil in the year in terms of food bills. They note the pay limits under 'threshold agreements' where wage rises are triggered off only when the RPI rises by certain amounts have a perverse effect with subsidised food. As items subsidised go into the calculation of the monthly index, wage rises are frustrated, wages that still have to cover other non-food essential. They estimate that in some months the subsidies take back from poorer households through their indirect effect on wage rises almost as much as they give in cheaper food. Their conclusion is the stated government objectives could have been better achieved by direct monetary transfers rather than food subsidies.

- 1 August 1976: Iain Sproat demands all parties call for an immediate halt to immigration before further success of "dangerous extremists" ie NF. He says "the cry should be 'Not one more family. Enough is enough. The gates are shut'". He says of the Thurrock bye-election vote for the NF: "some of these decent people, tried to the very brink of endurance, gave a loud warning to the Government and their out-of-touch advisers.... Both Labour and Conservatives have persistently shut their eyes to the problem and as a result they are handing votes to dangerous extremists. What millions of middle-of-the-road, tolerant, and decent British people, Tory and Labour, want to hear is one of the major parties saying loud and clear, with no evasions no ambiguities: 'No more immigration'"
- 1 August 1976: Edward Graham MP, new government whip as Lord Commissioner of the Treasury, wants to keep the rabble in line: "Labour supporters should think very carefully before they embark on helping to create a climate of hostility and downright opposition to their government's actions, the result of which will be to do precisely that which the opposition parties are dedicated to achieve."
- 1 August 1976: A research report by Alison Kelly of the Centre for Educational Sociology at Edinburgh University is published. It shows students from working-class homes in Scotland are as far from achieving a breakthrough into professions like medicine and law as they were 30 years ago. It notes that established professions remain to a large extent self-recruiting in spite of secondary education and the introduction of student grants. The major

conclusion is that recruitment patterns within Scottish universities have changed little since the 1930s. Inequality has not been eradicated, or even noticeably reduced, by alterations to entrance requirements and the provision of mandatory student grants. Professional (and most prestigious) faculties still have very few working-class students. Conversely, a larger proportion of male students with working-class backgrounds have engineering or teaching in mind as a career when they enter university, and female students from manual backgrounds are found to be "consistently over-represented" in teaching. For students with working-class backgrounds, engineering and teaching may represent the chance of social mobility through a similar route — the factory or the school — whereas the professions are a closed door to another world. It suggests that working-class students contemplating a professional career are probably deterred by financial considerations if their parents are unwilling or unable to support them during long training. It explains that when children of professional adults do not follow their fathers' occupation, they frequently enter another profession.

1 August 1976: Italian Ministry of Health says its embassy in Hanoi, Vietnam, is inviting Prof. Ton That Thut, of Viet-duc hospital for his assessment of the IOMESA, Seveso industrial accident. Viet-duc Hospital have become experts at mitigating the effects of agent orange and other defoliants used by the US/South Vietnam military.

1 August 1976: GEC's chairman Lord Nelson makes a powerful attack on aircraft and shipping nationalisation. This is because the firm has a 50% stake in British Aircraft Corporation. In his statement to the firm he states the decision is wrong and "exacerbated by the nature of its execution, involving a basis of compensation which is, for the first time in a case of nationalisation, manifestly unfair, and defended in an equally unprecedented manner by officials as well as Ministers with specious arguments which cannot be intended to do other than dress up a purely political act.... The Government hypocritically maintains char its proposals furnish a fair basis for compensation; if they are allowed to go through there must be the gravest doubt as to the capability of our democratic system to protect the fights and property of private individuals and organisations from arbitrary Government action."

GEC directors' report states "that the shareholders' legitimate interest in the total profits of BAC earned since 1973 should be so reduced without compensation is a deprivation amounting to expropriation."

- 2 August 1976: 'It is clear that one of the largest clouds on the economic horizon is sluggish capital spending.' (Business Week, 2 August 1976)
- 2 August 1976: An inscribed silver salver was presented to ex-Prime Minister Sir Harold Wilson by his former Cabinet colleagues at a ceremony at No. 10 Downing Street last night.
- 2 August 1976: An Age Concern report details that pensioners are often forced to travel miles to a chemist to collect medicine when they are ill, noting "nationwide closures of chemist shops have made it almost impossible for many old people... Pensioners often travel more than two miles to have a prescription made up—in the hardest-bit rural areas it can be up to 35 miles."
- 2 August 1976: US officials stationed in South-East Asia disclose, in order to publicise and propagandise, key aspects of US talks with Fraser and Peacock in USA at the end of Jul 1976.

They state: 1. control of East Timor by a "friendly anti-communist" government is a matter of direct strategic interest to the US, since the fastest way for US nuclear-armed submarines to pass hidden underwater between the Pacific and Indian Oceans is through the Straits of Ombai-Wetar just north of Timor. USA has 41 SSBN submarines, each armed with Polaris or Poseidon nuclear ballistic missiles, and unlike land-based missile systems, the SSBNs are very difficult to detect when underwater. The missiles with a range of 4000km can threaten Soviet targets from just inside the Pacific or the Indian Ocean.

- 2. If all passage through Indonesian waters is denied, at least 8 days would be added to the underwater submarine journey between Guam and Diego Garcia. USA believes that agreed under-water transit rights for nuclear armed submarines are wholly unlikely to be included in any Law of the Sea treaty. (Soviet submarines entering the Indian Ocean from bases in the Soviet Far East use the Straits of Molucca and Singapore, where they have to surface in order to pass through safely and securely.)
- 3. USA considers Indonesian Government goodwill important for securing American and Western interests in a global context.
- 4. USA has warned Australia to cease all official criticism of Jakarta over Timor since the incorporation law.
- 2 August 1976: Officials announce Giscard d'Estaing has approved the sale to South Africa of 2 'non-military' escorts to be used in conjunction with destroyer ships. Similar cases feed the centre-right assertion that Britain is losing out in the arms sale race to France.

- 2 August 1976: Professor Lord Nicholas Kaldor of LSE, Keynesian, ends his short period as special adviser to the Treasury having presided over a period of growing unemployment and degradation, earning £22,200 p.a. in the process.
- 2 August 1976: After a government appeal, House of Lords supports Tameside Council in its insistence on educational segregation in defence. The press later praise the decision showing that Britain is a country with the rule of law (freedom for the strong to preserve their inalienable privileges).
- 3 August 1976: Callaghan lies to the the Cabinet that Britain's underground nuclear testing in 1976 is to "improve the effectiveness of our existing system". (CAB 129/59, Cabinet Conclusions 3 August 1976, 2), even though they are for a new system the Chevaline Warhead and Re-entry Body.
- 3 August 1976: Sir Iain Stewart, prominent multiple director and chairman of Hall-Thermotank, is appointed a director of Dorchester Hotels, purchased by Arab Interests bought for over £8mil from the McAlpine family's Development Securities firm.
- 3 August 1976: Glasgow Sheriff Court sentences a woman to 9 months' prison for failing to disclose co-habitation and claiming an extra 'illegal' £1575.55 over the course of 2 years.
- 3 August 1976: Dr Harry Judge, director of the Oxford University department of educational studies, is announces as the future chairman of the School Broadcasting Council that advises the BBC on educational output.
- 3-4 August 1976: A total of 98 are executed in Sudan over a military plot to wrest control away from Numieri.
- 3-4 August 1976: Ugandan armed forces invade Makerere University, Kampala, killing dozens of student oppositionists.
- 4 August 1976: Government announces it has received "a submission by Tate & Lyle and Manbre and Garton of their joint analysis of the prospects for the cane sugar refining industry and their suggestion of possible rationalisation". Barclays bank has been assisting for some time with Sir Charles Ball Tate & Lyle's takeover of Manbre and Garton. The government allows the takeover an example of rationalisation to go ahead, Tate & Lyle promises to safeguard employment. An effective monopoly is created, the employment promise is broken in 1977, with significant job cuts.
- 4 August 1976: <u>Daily Telegraph</u>'s John Paven: "Temporary expressions of tripartite goodwill between the government, TUC and

- CBI, have revived speculation that Britain is slipping or being steered towards the corporate state."
- 4 August 1976: <u>The Guardian</u> reports on the decision of IS to contest the Walsall North by-election. Its candidate, Jimmy McCalluro describes himself as a 'Socialist Worker candidate'. His election handout reads: "Socialist Worker has always criticised socialists and militants who have had illusions that socialism can come through Parliament. Standing a candidate doesn't mean we've changed our minds. For us the main measure of the effectiveness of our intervention will not be the number of votes we get."
- 4 August 1976: <u>The Times</u> reports "a strike of capital. Many companies are not even replacing old capital equipment as it wears out. It seems hardly legitimate for a manufacturing company... to prefer interest receipts as a major and long term source of profits. As an example, can it really be that GEC needed cash and near cash at March 1976, amounting to close on a third of the capital employed?"
- 5 August 1976: South African Energy Supply Commission (Eskom) and France's Framatome-Framateg sign a contract for the joint venture to build the Koeberg nuclear power station and "supply capital works, nuclear fuel and services for Koeberg Units 1 and 2." The governments signing a bilateral agreement on 15 Oct 1976 to formalise the relationship.
- 5 August 1976: Secretary of State Kissinger meets Callaghan and Foreign Secretary Crosland's replacement Ted Rowlands. AP: "They were discussing a special fund of undisclosed fund to reimburse white Rhodesia for property they may lose in the event of a black African takeover... Other topics included the August 31 United Nations deadline for South Africa to take steps towards granting self-determination to Namibia which it rules under a revoked League of Nations mandate—and increased violence in Rhodesia and the prospect that the radical black factions may gain the upper hand in any black majority Government."
- 5 August 1976: A 16-year-old is found dead in a tenement district as a result of glue-sniffing in Bridgeton, Glasgow. The area is known locally as "Nightmare Alley."
- 5 August 1976: Labour Left MP Nigel Spearing proposes a way forward for the sugar industry: "if we cannot obtain a permanent increase we should at least seek a short-term increase in terms of the EEC allotment, which would have the effect of reducing unemployment following the rationalisation plans shortly to be announced"
- 5 August 1976: 4 SWAPO members are shot dead by Zambian armed forces at Mboroma. "On 5 August 1976 the Zambian army

captain in charge of the camp came to inform us that our request to go to Angola was granted provided we guarantee that we would walk in two files while on the Zambian soil. We guickly organised ourselves into detachments and formed two file and started moving out of the camp. When the first detachment reached the gate-way of the camp where the Zambian soldiers had pitched up their tents, order was given and fire was opened on us by the Zambian soldiers. As soldiers we all took cover at once. Unfortunately the following four Namibians were killed: Jerry Mwiyale, Johannes Kadhila, Abner Nangolo and Johannes Kanyemba. Kanyemba's leg was amputated and he later died in Kabwe hospital. Fifteen among us were wounded including Eunice Haimbodi, Gideon Ambunda, Immanuel Filippus, John Kavandje, Immanuel Kanyanye, Johannes Shilongo, Joseph Kalondoka, Josephine Petrus, Lukas Truck Nauyoma and Paulus Shilongo. The Zambian captain in charge of the camp later remarked that those killed were far below the number of people they had intended to kill." (5 August 2012, Keynote Address by Hizipo Moses Shikondombolo)

5 August 1976: Uncredited Duncan Campbell in New Scientist reports on NSA in Britain "Foreign Office refused to answer a parliamentary question last week. ... There is no question that British commercial communications, at least those going to and through the United States, have been intercepted by NSA. A year ago, former director of the CIA William Colby told an investigating committee that the NSA tapped all overseas telephone calls. This would mean that British calls to the US, plus parts of South America and South East Asia, have been intercepted. British communications to many other parts of the world, excluding western Europe, go via Intelsat communications satellites, and could be monitored from any normal Earth station, or by special receiving stations.... GCHQ, has such a facility in Cornwall; while the US Army Security Agency, close to Harrogate in Yorkshire, has similar, and secret, satellite receiving terminals. ... one former NSA employee states that "sanitised" information (which is presented so as to conceal the source) is passed via security officers attached to companies doing work for NSA. One senior British diplomat has also privately stated that similar use is certainly made of material gathered by GCHO. The NSA, with a secret budget variously estimated at between \$1 and \$10 millions operates a world wide chain of electronic listening posts.... Persistent US complaints about Soviet "irradiation" of their Moscow embassy in fact refer to microwave jamming of the NSA's sensors there.... Three main NSA bases in Britain, at Chicksands in Bedfordshire, Edzell in Scotland, and Menwith Hill near Harrogate, carry out these activities. The vast Flare Nine aerial at Chicksands monitors the radio spectrum below about 30 MHz, and can pinpoint sources... According to a former Chicksands employee, one of the

principal countries monitored from there is France. Interestingly, De Gaulle expelled the NSA from French sites during the 1960s.... At present, there appears to be little governmental control over how the US listening bases are operated."

5 August 1976: SASO organiser Mapetla Mohapi is killed in police detention, having been arrested in Jul 1976 while working at the Izimele Trust, a training centre for former detainees. Very soon after his death, his wife, Nohele, is arrested and placed in solitary confinement: "I didn't get a drop of water to wash myself, I was unable to change and I was in my menstrual cycle. I was so dirty, requested water so that I can bathe and wash myself. But nobody wanted to help me. They even refused me access to the magistrate... I even had lice as I couldn't wash myself.... After a month I was allowed to get some items... I was alone at Mount Road, a police station with very few cells. There are two very small cells, painted black. It was a very dark place, there is a bucket inside and they would come and fetch you at night and take you to SANLAM Building. That is where the atrocities used to take place... they would bring blank papers so that I could sign, and they promised to release me, if I should sign them. But they asked me if I wanted the same thing to happen as happened to my husband? At times I would be fastened to a grill and then would be assaulted brutally and would be unable to defend myself... After they beat you, they would beat you and find out if you don't want to go and relieve yourself.... I stayed six months in solitary confinement in Port Elizabeth, and they would come and report some of the things that are happening at home. They even came and told me that my youngest child is dead. They even promised to release me so that I can attend to the funeral [as long as] I should sign this paper. In February after six months I was taken away and went into custody under Section 9 in Grahamstown. When you were in the van you would feel that you are free because it was the first time when you could meet other people and communicate... Grahamstown, comparatively speaking, it was just a hotel, it was like a hotel. There was a bed and the blankets were not infested with lice." (15 April 1996, TRC East London Sessions) Eventually on release after a 3-year banning order, she is impoverished fighting for justice over her husband's death, losing a civil case against the police, having to pay R250,000 in costs.

5 August 1976: Eric Clapton plays the Birmingham Odeon: Eyewitness Caryl Philips describes it "Clapton went into a rap about Enoch. His initial line was "Enoch's right — I think we should send them back." I don't think he said "nigger" he said "wogs". He definitely said, "Keep Britain White". Nobody cheered, but after he played another song, he did the same again. It was extraordinary —

but he stood there being overtly offensive and racist." (Robin Denselow, When The Music Stopped)

Eric Clapton: "Do we have any foreigners in the audience tonight? If so, please put up your hands. Wogs I mean, I'm looking at you. Where are you? I'm sorry, but some fucking wog... Arab grabbed my wife's bum, you know? Surely got to be said, yeah, this is what all the fucking foreigners and wogs over here are like, just disgusting, that's just the truth, yeah. So where are you? Well wherever you all are, I think you should all just leave. Not just leave the hall, leave our country. You f\*cking n\*gger. I don't want you here, in the room or in my country. Listen to me, man! I think we should vote for Enoch Powell. Enoch's our man. I think Enoch's right, I think we should send them all back. Stop Britain from becoming a black colony. Get the foreigners out. Get the wogs out. Get the coons out. Keep Britain white. I used to be into dope, now I'm into racism. It's much heavier, man. Fucking wogs, man. Fucking Saudis taking over London. Bastard wogs. Britain is becoming overcrowded and Enoch will stop it and send them all back. The black wogs and coons and Arabs and fucking Jamaicans and fucking n\*ggers don't belong here, we don't want them here. This is England, this is a white country, we don't want any black wogs and coons living here. We need to make clear to them they are not welcome. England is for white people, man. We are a white country. I don't want fucking wogs living next to me with their standards. This is Great Britain, a white country, what is happening to us, for fuck's sake? We need to vote for Enoch Powell, he's a great man, speaking truth. Vote for Enoch, he's our man, he's on our side, he'll look after us. I want all of you here to vote for Enoch, support him, he's on our side. Enoch for Prime Minister! Throw the wogs out! Keep Britain white!" (John Street, Rebel Rock: The Politics of Popular Music, citing from verbatim reports from The Guardian, The Times, NME and Melody Maker)

6 August 1976: Air Chief Marshal Sir Andrew Humphrey is promoted to Marshal of the Royal Air Force.

6 August 1976: A modified Nomad, produced jointly by Britain and Australia, crashes during testing in Avalon, Victoria. 2 are killed.

6 August 1976: Commons Committee on Public Accounts Report is published. It features details of Ministry of Defence over-spending by £5.4mil for HMS Sheffield, and quickly abandoned plans for a new radio telescope for Manchester University's Jodrell Bank radio astronomy group nonetheless costing £750,000. The project is deemed too expensive in June 1974, however overblown fees to consultants amounting to nearly £750,000 have been paid.

"The Science Research Council spent £3/4 million to find out that it could not afford to build a new radio telescope at Jodrell Bank...The SRC spent £80 000 to discover that its original idea would have cost

about £8 million..... Consultants' fees of £245,000 and agents fees of £30,000 were then committed for [another design] ... The cost of the design work, which was based on the tender price for building the telescope, rose to £660,000."

The Public Accounts Committee also looked into the affairs of London University Computing Services Ltd (LUCS), which started life providing computer services to London University and operating as a commercial bureau. After a change of computer LUCS became solely a commercial venture, and an unsuccessful one at that. London University had to pour money into LUCS to keep it going. And, following a financial reorganisation, the university was owed £65,000 with little chance of getting it back." (New Scientist, 12 Aug 1976)

These cases of massive fraud see no one arrested or imprisoned or even fined.

- 7 August 1976: Air Chief Marshal Sir Neil Cameron is appointed Chief of the Air Staff.
- 7-8 August 1976: Argentinian and British officials meet in Buenos Aires on board the museum ship ARA *Presidente Sarmiento*.\*\*
- 8 August 1976: Rallies are held in republican areas to commemorate the victims of 1971's introduction of internment. Máire Drumm, SF Vice-President announces the campaign for reintroduction of special category political status for prisoners will continue. She declares Belfast will be "torn down stone by stone" if political prisoners are not returned their political status. "Long Kesh will burn again and we will destroy this town and any other town and that goes for Britain as well."
- 8 August 1976: Rhodesian forces launch a massive thrust into Mozambique. Sadruddin Aga Khan, U.N. Commissioner for Refugees, confirms in Oct 1976 that the raid has killed at the very least 675 civilians and injured hundreds more at a camp for Rhodesian refugees in Mozambique. Many others are also killed elsewhere.
- "At Nyadzonia, it took us over a week to bury the nearly 2 000 people who had perished in the horrendous incident. ... as we walked away from the horrible place, I was afraid to turn back and see the thousand or more sobbing shadows... we were confronted with an endless sea of dead bodies stretching in all directions... corpses here, corpses there, and corpses everywhere... corpses of babies strapped on their mothers' backs... corpses of small boys and girls... corpses of young men and women... the corpses had all

sorts of mutilations; decapitated heads, shattered jaws, crushed or missing limbs, disembowelled entrails, scattered brains, gouged eyes, everything. The highest concentration of the corpses was around the open space they used for their morning assembly. We would later learn from the survivors that the Rhodesians had come with their faces painted black and with camouflage, weapons and vehicles similar to those used by Frelimo, the Mozambican army. That was how the 15 000 or so refugees at Nyadzonia had mistaken them for Frelimo. And so when one of the Rhodesians stood on the pedestal at the centre of the square and blew the emergency whistle, everyone had stampeded to the square, anxious for any good news. ... Virtually every building in the camp had been gutted and only their charred hulks remained. The shell of the makeshift clinic run by the Red Cross across the drift stood looking up like an old woman wailing at a funeral. There were corpses strewn all over the smouldering logs and others burnt beyond recognition. And a short distance away to the east, the Nyadzonia River writhed and cried, heaving under the weight of hundreds of bloated, floating bodies. And then there were the injured, hundreds of them... Some had been shot and left for dead. Others had their limbs crushed by the rumbling steel-belted wheels of the pursuing armoured vehicles" (Alexander Kanengoni, Sunday Mail 8 Aug 2004)

9 August 1976: A British Institute of Management report is published, charting the rise of the company vehicles given to management. "Increases in company-car entitlement over the last four years are closely related to the attempts of successive governments to limit pay increases, especially at senior levels. In many cases, companies have lowered their threshold for car entitlement, partly in lieu of paving a salary increase, justifying the car on the grounds of a limited amount of business mileage. It will be interesting to see how much 'essential user' categories have been expanded during the period of voluntary incomes restraint. The survey results certainly indicate that considerable expansion took place just before the 1975 voluntary limit was agreed, probably as an 'insurance' measure by companies wishing to act in advance and maintain good executive morale. Leyland's Jaquars and Daimlers... account for almost half of all the top men's cars. Replies from the 450 companies show that nine out of 10 provide their chief executive with a car. ... Forty-three chief executives so about their company business in Rolls Royces, while 25 travel in a Mercedes, top of the foreign challenge. Several companies give their chief executives two cars, perhaps with a thought for his or his wife's personal petrol expenses. The second car is always a small family saloon. Managers in smaller companies such as engineering consultants and other specialised industries tend to receive more expensive and technically advanced cars such as Volvos, BMWs and Mercedes Benz."

9 August 1976: CBI gives a warning to employers not to break the new 5% pay policy, in its booklet guide to Stage 2 of the government's pay scheme. "Failure on the part of some employers to observe the limit properly could result in a rapid breakdown of a policy which, despite its shortcomings, the CBI has agreed is necessary to reduce the rate of inflation." It also states bargaining deals should not include promises for after the end of stage 2: "To anticipate any future developments after July 31. 1977, could result, for example, in an employer being prevented from honouring any such commitments, which could result in industrial unrest."

9 August 1976: PCC member Marta (Lidia Ugarte) Roman is arrested by DINA agents and detained in an area called "The Tower" of Villa Grimaldi, where she is tortured and killed, the body, in a sack tied to the neck with wire, is thrown into the Pacific. It emerges on 9 Sep 1976 at La Ballena beach, Los Molles. According to its later autopsy, the body features a broken spine, chest and abdominal trauma with multiple rib fractures, the complete collapse of the liver and spleen and ruptures to other organs, dislocated shoulders and dislocated hips, double radius and ulna fracture in the right arm.

9 August 1976: Police charge into Máire Drumm's home early in the morning arresting her for her speech the day before. Later in the evening, in protest culturally republican youths take over buses and lorries and many we're set alight. A hijacked British Army people carrier is captured by youths on Twinbrook Estate and burnt.

9 August 1976: Embarkation onto royal yacht Britannia is turned into a PR exercise: "They waved to the crowd and were joined by Prince Andrew and Prince Edward. Even bigger cheers greeted Prince Charles and Princess Anne. The royal party stayed on deck until the ship was well downstream. The Queen and Duke were last to go below, almost reluctantly. A salute was fired by the frigate HMS Penelope, which will escort the yacht. The royal family will disembark at Aberdeen to begin their Balmoral holiday.... Councillor Geoffrey Shaw, convener of Strathclyde Regional Council, Provost John Walsh, of Inverclyde, were among those presented by Lord Muirshiel, the Lord Lieutenant. ... At Customhouse Quay the royal party walked the final 100 yards to the gangway through an avenue formed by youth organisations."

- 9 August 1976: Protests are held in Khartoum, Sudan against the British embassy.
- 9 August 1976: Dunfermline district council's housing committee meets to discuss whether to honour Cowdenbeath Town Council's promise to house 2 penniless refugee Chilean families. The issue

has had to be debated because of government redivision of local authority boundaries. Opposing the move councillor Margo Cowe states: "With the present cutbacks in local government expenditure, particularly in housing, I think we have enough to do housing our own people without taking on any more. Also, there is already so much unemployment in this area without making the situation worse by bringing in immigrants who'll no doubt be looking for work." Eventually it is agreed to honour Cowdenbeath Town Council's earlier commitment.

- 9 August 1976: High Court imposes a fine of £250 on Richard Ingrams and £250 on <u>Private Eye</u>'s publishers for making reference to multi-millionaire Sir James Goldsmith in satirical columns which do not even feature his name.
- 9 August 1976: IMF approves for apartheid South Africa a stand-by of 152m SDRs (special drawing rights) about \$228m over the next 12 months.
- 9 August 1976: Confirmation that a British mercenary, Robert Thacker has been killed in Beirut training Falangists against the "Soviet-aided PLO" in Christian Beirut. Leslie Aspin, director of mercenary firm B.A.B. (Best, Aspin & Bishop) Norwich Ltd states: "He was not a dog of war or anything like that. He was a professional soldier. He was with the Australian Army in Vietnam, Rhodesian SAS, and he went to Angola.... The Christians were suspicious at first, but we proved ourselves by our actions, and we are now opening an office there and a training school to instruct the Lebanese."

Many mercenaries travel by private jet outside British borders, enabling them to bring weapons-enhancers, weapons manuals and high-grade armour to assist their right-wing clients. Unsurprisingly no efforts are made to restrict the military assistance to rightist forces. In fear of lengthy imprisonment under the PTA, no organisations openly recruit for guerrillas in defence of basic rights for democracy in Ireland, for trade union defence duty in Argentina, or as defence forces for Turkish students, whose victimisation by stay-behind GLADIO forces is conveniently disregarded as 'political violence' etc.

- 9 August 1976: Protests against Gerry Fitt MP for refusing to support calls against the ending of political status for and criminalisation of guerrilla prisoners in northern Ireland lead to the storming of his house on the Antrim Road. He is photographed brandishing a gun against the protesters.
- 10 August 1976: UN's International Commission of Jurists releases a report detailing rural workers in Rhodesia in bondage to their white employers with measures "akin to slavery".

It notes domestic servants and black workers in farming, milling, mining and rural transport are bound by the Britain-imposed 75-year-old 'Masters and Servants Act'. Under the Act these blacks are disallowed from leaving jobs without the Master's permission. Offenders are threatened with lifelong-debt-level fines or imprisonment. Failure to resume service following discharge from prison can draw successive sentences until the worker returns.

- 10 August 1976: Glasgow branch president. Inland Revenue Staff Federation states: "Parliament and the tax-paying public have a clear choice to make. If the current economic cuts affect Inland Revenue manpower then the already overworked system will gradually become less efficient and the impartial and just treatment taxpayers now receive will, on the admission of the Government, give way to an element of rough justice. The members of our union feel a deep sense of duty to protect the public purse but we must have the proper resources and manpower to do so."
- 10 August 1976: <u>Glasgow Herald</u> typifies press reaction to republican protests, urging the 'harder line': "There is no alternative policy to the harder line against them [republicans], for the failure of the cease-fire agreement of 1975 shows how difficult it is to hold them to any kind of negotiated agreement. After seven years of urban warfare that may seem a sober conclusion, but it is not entirely pessimistic. Every urban society is the potential victim of well organised and ruthless aggressors from its own midst and liberal societies are especially vulnerable since they cannot invoke the ruthless response themselves. They must fight as best they can"
- 10 August 1976: Babcock & Wilcox, a major engineering contracting firm, announces its largest ever order, one worth £100mil for a power station in apartheid South Africa. Its plants in Renfrew and Dumbarton will supply key components. It has recently begun work on 3 smaller generators for the South African government worth £60mil.\* Nonetheless redundancies from Babcock and Wilcox are still feared because government recommendations are that no new power generating capacity will be required until the 1980s.
- 10 August 1976: A British Army patrol shoots, in the middle of crowded civilian street, into the car of a watch-list republican on Finaghy Road North, Belfast. He is killed and his car loses its living driver causing it to plough into 3 children of the same family, killing 2 and injuring 1.
- 10 August 1976: <u>Financial Times</u> examines 'Labour productivity differentials within international companies' by C.F. Pratten: "there is a vicious circle where shorter production runs, lower wages and less capital equipment reinforce one another". Any increased

- investment has continued to head towards labour-saving equipment, technology and plant in order to be more competitive.
- 10 August 1976: With the funding and assistance of Brazilian militarists and government factions, rightist-militarist Gen. Spinola returns to Portugal, having fled by helicopter following his failed rightist coup in early 1975.
- 10 August 1976: Rolls-Royce UK signs a contract with Dutch shipyard firm, Wilton-Feyenoord, for Rolls-Royce to supply Olympus gas turbine engines for a new class of naval corvettes for Indonesia's *Tentara Nasional*, currently engaged in its strangulation operation around eastern Timor.
- 11 August 1976: Jack Jones TGWU chief launches a scheme featuring other unions as well to raise  $\pounds 1$ mil a year, with a donation of a penny a week by trade union members, to fund research into gerontology and problems of old age nearly two million members. He states "the average worker does not have a pot of gold but he has a heart of gold"
- 11 August 1976: Shipbuilders and Repairers National Association 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter report records that SRNA shipbuilders have received 73 orders at 331,000 tons in the first 6 months of 1976 compared to 75 orders in the same period in 1975. It states British shipbuilding's productivity is very high and ships are being completed in faster time than ever before.
- 11 August 1976: Mass protests in a South Africa 'stay away'. Police are again seen using Land Rovers driving them into crowds of young people and hunting looting suspects. At least 33 are shot dead in looting incidents in Soweto and Johannesburg.
- 11 August 1976: 'The Cosmetics and Toiletries Survey. Mid-term 1976' notes many women find it necessary to compete in appearance when aiming to secure jobs. A newspaper report: "In spite of the recession, over £40m was spent on facial cosmetics alone —and to that can be added the amount spent on hair preparations, deodorants, and men's toiletries... the "bible" of the beauty market, discloses today that in the past three years the proportion of women using rouges, blushers, and shaders has increased from 24% to 32%. In a new product field spot removers—14% of women are now users. Although the market for perfume essences has hardly changed the trend is now away from liquids to the more convenient spray"
- 11 August 1976: Profits of Bougainville Copper, an important part of the RTZ stable in Papua New Guinea that mines copper, gold, silver and concentrate, are announced. They show an increase of 17.5% to 33.6m kina, by helped by higher output and increased copper

prices. Apart from deliveries to long-term buyers in Australia and South East Asia, the company has secured contracts for 28,000 tonnes of concentrate in the first half of 1976, including a shipment to the US and one to PRC. Bougainville is 53.6% owned by Rio Tinto of Australia which in turn is 80.7% owned by RTZ.

- 12 August 1976: Women's Peace Movement (later Peace People) hold a rally of 1,000 at the site of the deaths on Finaghy Road, Andersontown.
- 12 August 1976: Maronite forces charge into Palestinian refugee camps in the outskirts of Beirut, killing thousands in the camps.
- 13 August 1976: Bhutto formally asks for the return of the Koh-i-Noor diamonds, seized by British militarists in 1849. Britain refuses. Callaghan responds "explicit provision for its transfer to the British crown was made in the peace treaty with the Maharajah of Lahore which concluded the war of 1849 ... I could not advise Her Majesty the Queen that it should be surrendered." A civil servant summarises: "The stark facts are these: i) we have the koh-i-noor diamond, whether or not our possession of it is legally justified, ii) we have made it clear that we are keeping the diamond, adducing the best arguments to support our contention."
- 14 August 1976: A 10,000 rally, under the auspices of Women's Peace Movement, gathers at the site of the deaths at Finaghy Road North. Then there is a march to Milltown cemetery, the burial site. 14 August 1976: 12 year old Majella O'Hare is shot dead by a paratrooper in South Armagh. Her father hearing two shots, finds the girl bleeding in the road: "He came up to find Majella on the road and the soldiers didn't know who he was and were very abusive to him. He was just a broken man. Majella died in his arms." (Michael O'Hare) Less than half an hour after she is shot, British Army press office release a statement saying that a gunman had opened fire on the army patrol and that a 12-year-old girl was hit, the statement says the army did not return fire. A revised statement later states the Army patrol has returned fire in an exchange.
- 15 August 1976: Some Sunday newspapers become 'independent' army mouthpieces over the O'Hare shooting: "hit by a ricochet from a gunbattle between terrorists and paratroopers" (Sunday Express), "killed in crossfire between a gunman and soldiers" (Sunday Times) without crediting the source. The Observer repeats the allegations without comment "The Army said later that the girl was caught in

crossfire after gunmen had opened up on a foot patrol." It is eventually confirmed that no exchange of fire has taken place and that, as according to eyewitnesses the two bullets found in O'Hare's back are the only ones that were fired. Later in the week a 2,000 strong protest march over the killing is held; no individuals or banners allied to Peace People attend. In the dozens of interviews given by Peace People over the next month no mention of the British Army shooting is made.

15 August 1976: The emergent 'leaders' of Peace People, Mairead Corrigan, Betty Williams, and Fortnight editor Ciaran McKeown issue the Peace People Declaration: "We have a simple message to the world from this movement for Peace. We want to live and love and build a just and peaceful society. We want for our children, as we want for ourselves, our lives at home, at work, and at play to be lives of joy and Peace. We recognise that to build such a society demands dedication, hard work, and courage. We recognise that there are many problems in our society which are a source of conflict and violence. We recognise that every bullet fired and every exploding bomb make that work more difficult. We reject the use of the bomb and the bullet and all the techniques of violence. We dedicate ourselves to working with our neighbours, near and far, day in and day out, to build that peaceful society in which the tragedies we have known are a bad memory and a continuing warning."

15 August 1976: UAE announces a joint Japanese-British venture in constructing a major-sea-water distillation programme. Its value is estimated at above £20m. to be built in Dubai. by Sumitomo Heavy Industries of Tokyo will provide labour on the ground under license from British firm Weir Group, Britain's premier specialist desalination plant firm.

16 August 1976: CBI issues its response on the transport policy consultation document. It says capital investment in transport must rank equally with other industrial investment. CBI urges investment to provide adequate -roads to ports and bypasses to meet the long-term needs of industry. It urges improved productivity of transport operations and declares that the entire transport system must assist the the nationalised industries to conduct marketing policies without government interference. "If industry is to maximise its production, there must be sufficient investment in transport equipment."

16 August-2 September 1976: Cliff Richards becomes the first Western pop musician to tour in the Soviet Union. He plays 12 concerts in in Leningrad and 8 concerts in Moscow. He avoids any reference to prisoners of conscience, Christian or otherwise.

- 18 August 1976: South Africa-sponsored Turnhalle Conference in Namibia unilaterally delays the withdrawal date of South African forces to at least Dec 1978, hence ignoring a UN resolution enforcing their return by 31 Aug 1976 at the latest.
- 19 August 1976: Lockheed Aircraft, centre of a worldwide corruption scandal, that will rumble on over the firm's persistent use of slush funds and corruption to financially secure key elements of within the Indonesian military, Italian police, Turkish military, the Thai junta, Shah's entourage, receives good news from its 'friend' British Airways. British Airways announces the purchase of 12 newly modified long-range Lockheed L-1011 TriStar jumbo jets for \$448 million.
- 19 August 1976: US Securities and Exchange Commission and Federal Maritime Administration announce their investigation into British firm Burmah Oil's illegal deals for its US subsidies to build 8 oil supertankers.
- 20 August 1976: The Guardian concludes of the FA football season championship just beginning that, similar to last season: "At the top, the riches promise to go to the richest."
- 20 August 1976: Devshi Bhudia, worker at mail order department in Chapter Road Grunwick's, is sacked for working too slowly. 3 others, Chandrakant Patel, Bharat Patel and Suresh Ruparelia, walk out in support of him. At 6.55pm Jayaben Desai also puts on her coat to leave and is called into the personnel office by Personnal Manager Alden, where she is warned of serious consequences of supporting the 4. "I say, "Look, Mr Alden, why you bring me in the office? I am here to explain something and I want to know what is going on. If you want to shout at me I am not prepared to listen to what you are talking about. If you are prepared to listen to me I am prepared to listen to you as well, but if you shout like that to me I am not talking to you.' 'Then he started to threaten me and warn me, he said, "Look, Mrs Desai, I warn you" I know that they are the tactics they always use; they give a warning the first time and they sack you, because they do not have any evidence as to why they have sacked you.... As soon as I heard that "I warn you", I stopped him in the middle and said, "Look, I do not want to work with you; I do not want your warning. I respect you all the time and expect the same respect from you, and in this condition I am not prepared to work with you. Please give me my cards straight away. I am leaving." (Joe Rogaly, Grunwick, 1977) Sunil Desai, her son also leaves with her. The Grunwick 6 agree to return to picket on Mon 23 Aug.

- 21 August 1976: Peace People hold a rally in Ormeau Park, culturally Irish section of Belfast. The Declaration of the Peace People is read at the rally. Around 20,000 participate.
- 21 August 1976: A 17-year-old Celtic fan is stabbed to death by rival fans close to Arbroath Football Club ground just the after an Arbroath-Celtic match.
- 22 August 1976: Scottish Office Under-secretary Hugh Brown explains: "the frightening task of housing management, has caused a changing pattern in the housing need. Young oeopie, perhaps because of the declining private rented sector, or perhaps because of the unattracrveness of council estates, are going for some form of owner-occupation. Whether this is by choice or from necessity, it is selecting the demand for council housing. At the end of June 9,000 public sector houses were approved. Last year, over 15,000 were approved. This is the end of the 40,000 building programmes. We have now got to the position in Scotland \_ when four houses are built in the private sector to five in the pub-He sector. Ten years ago, it was one private sector house to five public sector houses."

He commends 'cooperativised', arms-length organisations taking over council housing such as the planned transfer in Sep 1976 of the Summerston estate: "What we need to have now is a aeries of trial schemes throughout the country, which can be carefully monitored so that we can learn by their achievements."

Patrick Lally, chair-ma a of the Glasgow District Council housing management committee, says owner-occupation is the only form of housing which offers control to the person living in the house. "The present situation is that the local authority controls over 50% of the housing in the city. That amounts to about 170.000 houses. Of these tenants, 80,000 receive some form of iinanciai assistance towards the payment of their rent — either in social security supplements or in rent rebates — and 8000 pay no rent at all.

"These people have no chance of owning their own home and so we must provide a third avenue. This is what we are pioneering within the city, but we must be sure that real control is passed to the tenants — and not merely a shadow of it,"

22 August 1976: A well-timed work-to-rule by Spanish air traffic controllers leaves many flights to and from Spain and Britain delayed by over 12 hours. Inevitably, Spanish workers' demands are simply ignored only the infringement of British middle-class holiday tourists inalienable rights to prompt air transport.

- 22 August 1976: Iran proves its worth to the West by not announcing it will not uphold the resolution agreed at the NAM Conference 2 weeks ago for an embargo on oil exports to France, in protest at its supplies of weapons to South Africa. Its spokesperson declaring it is opposed to the use of oil as a political weapon.
- 22 August 1976: Carter in an interview in <u>L'Express</u>: "I do not favour the use of supersonic aircraft under foreign flags to the United States, in as much as the Congress and the Government rejected the SST which could have -been built in the United States "because of its "enormous consumption of energy per passenger, the enormous cost of the necessary investment, and also the risks it contained for the environment, particularly its noise. If these factors worked against an American aircraft, I think they should also work against Concorde and against any foreign plane."
- 23 August 1976: Jack Jones explains TGWU priorities for the TUC Conference: "We are in favour of a planned return to free collective bargaining but we want to avoid a wages explosion... A wages explosion can be avoided by setting down priorities and we think our amendments will help in this respect"
- 23 August 1976: NUPE workers at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, Western General, Royal Edinburgh, and Astley Ainslie Hospitals walk out in protest at the instant dismissal of a healthcare support worker 'auxiliary nurse'
- 23 August 1976: Picketing begins at RN Rosyth Dockyard,RN arms depot, Crombie, and RN stores Lathalmond, following MoD's suspension of 31 forklift drivers at the end of last week. Refitting and refuelling work on nuclear submarine HMS Resolution in dock at Rosyth remains unaffected as RN workers ignore pickets. Bill Davidson, shop stewards convener at Rosyth, explains: "Our newly set-up negotiating committee approached management last Friday but they were no1 prepared to meet us. We have approached them again with a view to begin meaningful negotiations but meanwhile the men remain on dispute and pickets will be on duty each day."
- 23 August 1976: The Grunwick 6 begin a picket outside the factory. 50 other workers from Grunwick's Chapter Road and 25 from Cobbald Road join them in support. Well-prepared Grunwick's hired heavies come out to confront the strikers leading to a confrontation. Sunil Desai goes to the Citizen's Advice Bureau for legal advice. The local CAB advises him to contact a trade union for representation. He rings the TUC who advise everyone to join APEX (Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff). APEX is

described by Shirley Williams, their MP as "famous throughout the trade union movement as the most determinedly moderate and fundamentally anti-communist union of them all."

- 23 August 1976: Percy Walt, Scotland NFU chief states: "The Prime Minister has said that the CAP needs to be reviewed, and that some of its aspects axe plain daft. I would not quarrel with that as regards some things the Commissioners have done, but the CAP is the basic support policy for our industry. I suspect Mr Callaghan had the consumer in mind, and we are not going to stand by and watch the CAP dismantled in the alleged short-term interest of consumers unless it can be replaced by a more effective support for farmers' returns... We are not adding to the so-called surplus mountains. The mountains are being subsidised to move to Britain" Nonetheless he supports Gavin Strang, Ministry of Agriculture Secretary, for the maintenance of UK marketing boards to export abroad. The standard NFU position opposition to imports, support for exports, prices for consumers a detail.
- 24 August 1976: Management make an offer to allow the reemployment of the Grunwick 6 as long as they are not trade union members. Jack Dromey, secretary of Brent Trades Council meets many of the Grunwick's strikers at 11am. A meeting at Brent Trades Hall is held, with the election of a strike committee consisting of himself and some of the original Grunwick 6.
- 25 August 1976: Chairman Sir Bede Callaghan and executive members of the Australian Foreign Investment hold discussions with financiers in the City of London.
- 26 August 1976: <u>Financial Times</u> notes of Oman: "According to published spending figures, defence and national security will account for RO274.5m, over RO23m more than in the revised budget for 1975 [almost equivalent to its civil expenditure at R0289m] (R0237.3m. last year); the Government's participation in Petroleum Development (Oman) will be RO28m. (RO26.8m.); and loan repayments and interest RO44.5m. (RO15m.)" Britain's withdrawal has meant a shift of the burden of defence resources onto the Omani state itself.
- 27 August 1976: <u>Evening Standard</u> reports on policing for Notting Hill Carnival. Superintendent Ron Paterson of Chelsea police station states: "Last year's carnival was disorganised and potentially explosive... The bands meandered around, going to unexpected places and blocking streets, pedestrians couldn't walk where they

wanted to. Confusion was the order of the day" (Evening Standard 27 Aug 1976, 15). Selwyn Baptiste, chair of the Carnival Development Committee, expresses some concern but states: "What we want is organized chaos... with space for freedom of movement. The emphasis is on mobility".

28 August 1976: The Economist reports in 'National Association for Freedom: into its stride' that NAFF has wholly absorbed its members of the Middle Class Association, chaired by John Gorst MP, and is making new strides in its journal Free Nation "using unpaid contributors who are often professional journalists - of which 30,000 copies are printed at a non-union printing press 'somewhere in the west of England'. Half of the print order is, the NAF claims, sold at 15p a copy, mainly in the home counties and in the Manchester area, the remainder is distributed free."

28 August 1976: Peace People hold a march along the culturally loyalist Shankill Road to Woodvale Park. Around 25,000 participate.

28 August 1976: The Times bemoans the tough life for millionaire horse owners: "Betting on racing for a recent 12-month period was estimated at about £1,500m. In 1975-76 the Treasury's benefit from that amounted to £110m. Yet the total prize money for all races throughout the United Kingdom this year is only £10m. While the total costs of keeping horses in training have been estimated at between £25m and £30m, the average prize-money per race, under £2,000, is less than half that available in French racing. The average owner must therefore expect to lose money, often a considerable sum, for the pleasure of participating. Up to a few years ago the ratio between costs and prize-money was far less adverse and many owners could absorb the losses involved... Inflation put a stop to mat comfortable state of affairs. Owners with horses of less than top quality were finding it increasingly difficult to bear the costs and the losses, which now amount to thousands of pounds per horse rather than hundreds. Owners with large strings of horses reduce them to more realistic proportions. Some owners (like Ravi Tikkoo) took his horses to France. Others merely stopped putting their horses in training altogether... The tax position in the United Kingdom too acts as a disincentive to buying and owning racehorses, in sharp contrast to the Republic of Ireland for instance which is promoting its horse racing industry by granting amongst other things substantial tax concessions and incentives. A particular blow to English racing was the imposition of VAT on bloodstock purchases. Whilst Ireland charges no VAT at all and France, on some transactions, imposes, 7% VAT but only on the carcass value of the animal, in the United Kingdom 8% is payable on the purchase price... The general depressed economic climate in England... has in

addition emphasized another serious trend—the buying up of Britain's best bloodstock by foreign buyers because the English can no longer afford them. At an important sales in December, 1974, the 25 most expensive (and therefore thought to be the best) horses were all bought for foreign owners. A year later at the same sales nearly two-thirds of the total price realized came from abroad. Whilst it is no doubt good for British sellers to realize realistic prices, in the longer term it means that in a few years Britain, where the breeding of thoroughbreds originated, will be left with the second-rate animals whilst all the top stock— and of course their progeny— would be in the hands of Americans, Japanese, French and other foreign owners."

## 29-30 August 1976: Notting Hill Carnival.

The higher numbers of police are noticeable. Before the Carnival, Chief Superintendent Patterson has said: "If the Carnival were held in the streets this year we would have to think in terms of not hundreds but thousands. Police leave might have to be cancelled not just here but throughout the metropolis .....I am 100% convinced that the Carnival has outgrown itself and is no longer suitable for the streets of Notting Hill or any other London streets in its present form."

Over 3,000 police are present on Carnival street corners. Coaches full of police are parked around the Carnival area. Over the two days, 16 arrests were made for theft. In 1975 with no confrontation, 80 police were present. Stallholders have been refused permission to set up stalls. Police raid centres of entertainment on the first day. 'Illegal' stallholders are arrested for obstructing the highway, several 'authorised' food sellers with alcohol are heavily investigated, some sellers of alcohol are arrested if the correct papers can not be shown. Early in the day a young Robert Elms met with a police roadblock trying to get into the Ladbroke Grove area asks British Transport Police how to get in and is told "Why do you wanna go there, where the nig-nogs are" (Robert Elms, TV Interview).

On the second day, police aggressively shout at people to 'Move on' whilst the Carnival is in procession. Police try to hold certain corners amongst crowds of people and aggressively push through crowds in order to act upon support for arrests. Police march through the crowds on account of hunting pickpocketers. Young black people attempt to block an arrest and are set upon by police leading to open confrontation. British Transport Police and Metropolitan Police are involved. They have no riot equipment but plenty of numbers and vehicles, they attempt to charge crowds with their vans and cars. Some of these vehicles are stoned and later abandoned. The Special Patrol Group are brought in and attack scattered sections of crowds.

Despite calls for an official inquiry, Home Secretary, Roy Jenkins rejects any external investigation.

31 August 1976: A 50-year-old farmworker is killed working on farmland in aristocrat-run Snalgow Estate, Perthshire.

31 August 1976: Newspapers report on Notting Hill events "the mere sight of a white bobby is enough to induce paranoid reactions in some disaffected West Indian minds" (Evening News 31 August 1976). Daily Telegraph (31 August 1976) includes a front-page interview with Robert McIntyre, a 6'2" ex-soldier, present at the riot, admitting to being "bloody scared, though I'm half Scots, half Irish and can throw a punch as well as anyone", even though all popular violence is directed at various police forces. Daily Telegraph headlines: "CARNIVAL ENDS IN RACE RIOT" beginning its report "Fierce race riots broke out in Notting Hill last night" (31 August 1976) even though there is zero evidence of different races of ordinary people confronting one another. "BATTLE AT CARNIVAL" Mirror 31 August 1976), ("ULSTER IN (Daily PORTOBELLO ROAD ", Daily Mail 31 August 1976) are examples of the military theme. The causes are basically not discussed with general references to "calypso mobs" (Daily Express 31 August 1976), unexplainable "savage hatred" (Daily Mail 31 August 1976). Sir Robert Mark holds a press conference and denies that the Metropolitan Police have made any mistakes and paints a heroic picture of the Metropolitan Police, refusing to abdicate their responsibilities, not prepared to buy "an illusory peace" by allowing "no-go areas" in London. He claims police methods were justified in order to protect "decent black people" from "young black hooligans". He says "Almost all the trouble came from young people — youths and girls — between the ages of 14 and 19. It was guite discernible that they were using this occasion to rob other people. There Is no question of the police being in anyway hostile to the festival. We are not going to buy an illusory peace by watching decent black people being robbed by young black hooligans, even if it involves an element of risk." He argues a larger police presence was needed because of the high level of crime at the previous year's event. He argues for next year's Carnival not to be banned but to be policed "under more controlled conditions such as in a stadium" When asked to explain why people have tried to drive police out he says: "I suppose we are a manifestation of all the frustrations they think they suffer from."

<u>Daily Mirror</u> cites dubious figures claiming that, over the previous year, 80% of all street crimes, muggings, attacks and bag snatchings were committed by blacks and over 60% of their victims were white (31 Aug 1976). Several days later Metropolitan Police display for the press a cache of several hundred handbags and

purses which they claim has been retrieved from pickpockets in the days immediately after Carnival.

31 August 1976: APEX makes the Grunwick's dispute official. ACAS (Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service) offers mediation to both sides, Grunwick's management refuses.

31 August 1976: Hull prison confrontation to a long backdrop of brutalisation: "If you add the 40 men's wages in the Assembly you wouldn't have £40 - that is not one screw or instructor's wage.... The cost of keeping a man or woman in prison is about £60 a week now, and if you look at the yearly prison expenditure, you'll find five sixths of that goes on screws' wages. And out of that 80 pence a week that prisoners get you have to buy tea, sugar, milk for breaks and you could not possibly work in that dust without it - so 12p a week has to be spent in this way. At one time there used to be a free issue of tea or a hot drink but when Kearns, the previous governor, came 3 years ago he stopped it, so the prisoners had to supply their own and many could never afford it. ... 5p a week for the people in the segregation unit - there was always 20 to 25 men in there, and we all used to collect this and buy tobacco and get it smuggled down to them; 6p a week for T.V. (rented by prisoners), not everyone paid this or watched, but the majority did; 1p a week 'common fund' (this was compulsory and was supposed to be for the buying and upkeep of recreational facilities, and the extra food at Christmas - for 'that menu' that The Mirror never fails to print ... The canteen was run at 10% profit, and despite frequent requests, the authorities would not disclose where this money went - they robbed us in every way."

"because of the fact that everyone was in for a long time, often 'life', and the work was so boring, repetitive and stupid, some prisoners would make a corner for themselves and their mates so they could take their breaks there, and make a shelf, a cupboard to hold their cups, tea and sugar, or a stool to sit on. But often we would come to work mornings and find that the screws had been in and smashed them up. As for facilities: one toilet to 50 men, two taps (hot and cold) to 50 men, three baths or showers to 50 men - the prison proper was 100 years old! The only modern parts were the sensitised steel fences, the barbed wire on top, and on top of all the roofs closed circuit television"

"paid for by prisoners wages... one billiard table to each of the 4 wings; one table tennis ditto; one T.V. to 40 men (all paid for out of wages). You were allowed cell hobbies which you paid for yourself or your friends and relatives outside did, and the regime used it against you whenever your 'attitude' was 'wrong'. As we spent most of the evening in the cells (we were locked up at 8 pm) with nothing to do for many ... everyone tried to make something, but you'd find

you'd be allowed some of the materials one week, then next you wouldn't - like, say, varnish or an adhesive or something - not allowed for 'security reasons'."

"You'd get handed stuff in by visitors and you wouldn't be allowed to have it - the reason was always 'it's against security requirements, it's nothing to do with us, see Security about it' - but of course you couldn't see Security, it was an amorphous malignant secret service.... They'd stop T-shirts, socks, underwear, towels, toilet gear (like tubes of toothpaste or aftershave lotion), calendars, lampshades or whatever, and growing lists of banned cell hobby material like stuffing for toys (on the grounds that it was inflammable and could be used to start a fire - and this with a prison full of timber, lacquer, paint etc.!). They stopped clothing on the 'grounds that it could be used as clothing on an escape, or to disguise a prisoner as a civilian' ... Of course a few people were allowed to have them, those who fraternise with Security, which also had a monopoly on the allocation of jobs, so that those who 'played the game' got working on the gardens or in the gym etc. (this on the grounds of Security of course). This might all seem trivial, but you have to realise that these small things are important to someone who is doing 20 years, or life with a minimum of 30 years, or whatever, and everyone was a long termer here.

"Outgoing letters were often stopped, as people would tell their friends and relatives what was going on, but they have a 'rule' which says that a prisoner cannot complain, or make detrimental statements about prison conditions. You're supposed to either go to the Visiting Magistrate or petition, but you always get the same reply from them. (The Secretary of State has sympathetically considered etc.) Incoming letters, cards, etc. were invariably going missing, or 'never arrived'. All letters to solicitors, NCCL, or any other body were always opened and read/photocopied, either surreptitiously or blatantly, depending on how well the prisoner had sealed them.

As far as visits went you were searched before the visit, strict surveillance was kept on them, there was often petty interference and a strip search afterwards, sometimes trying to get you to 'bend over and expose your ass' which they didn't get away with as most refused. ... There is nowhere and no time when you are free of them, even in your cell in the evenings the door would spring open and they'd be there, 3 or 4 handed to give you a strip search. They were always trying to mix it too - they'd say they were acting on information received, like frustrated Old Bill which is what they are. They would wait till you were halfway through a class (if you were on education in the evening or whenever) and come in and remove you for a search. Kearns and the Security, headed by Withers, Stevenson (Senior Officer) and co. got the Irish language class, given by a priest entirely voluntary and unpaid, stopped on

completely fabricated 'conspiracy' type reports. There was at one time about 25 people used to come in on a Monday for a debating class, give lectures etc. (called Social Studies), they got the numbers whittled down in the last 18 months from 25 men to 6 men. They squeezed everything to breaking point. ..."

[Reports on prisoners in the office] "read like the ravings of a very frightened, extremely paranoid and evil (amateur) psychologist. Every other word was 'psychopath', 'misfit', 'anti-authority', 'manic-depressive' and so on, and virtually no-one was excluded, they were all in the same language, and one prisoners file was almost interchangeable with another. ... each of us turned up by name in some other prisoner's file, and it soon was obvious that according to the system every friendship existing in prison was hatched out of inherent criminal tendencies, that every association was suspect, conspiratorial and everyone was up to no good. That is when everyone decided to begin demolishing the prison with their bare hands ... "a dangerous psychopath. He is bitter and has a biting wit which he employs against the staff at every opportunity. He has served 2 years of an 18 year sentence and will be 60 by the time he's due for release, by which time he should be a cabbage.""

September 1976: Government grants formal approval to a joint venture - VSEL (British firm), Rheinmetall (German) and OTO Melara (Italian) - to produce the 'advanced technology' FH70 VSEL ultralightweight category towed field-howitzer artillery. Orders are placed for 71 of these artillery units. Government continues funding research into suitable production methods for self-propelled, SP70. It considers foreign sales will be better with the self-propelled unit. September 1976: David Bowie gives an interview in Playboy, translated into its worldwide editions. "I'd love to enter politics. I will one day. I'd adore to be Prime Minister. And, yes, I believe very strongly in fascism. The only way we can speed up the sort of liberalism that's hanging foul in the air at the moment of a rightwing, totally dictatorial tyranny and get it over as fast as possible. People have always responded with greater efficiency under a regimental leadership. A liberal wastes time saying "Well, now, what ideas have you got?" Show them what to do, for God's sake. If you don't, nothing will get done. I can't stand people just hanging about. Television is the most fascist, too. Adolf Hitler was one of the first rock stars. [Q: How so?] Think about it. Look at some of his films and see how he moved. I think he was guite as good as Mick Jagger. It's astounding. And, boy, when he hit that stage, he worked an audience. Good God! He was no politician. He was a media artist himself. He used politics and theatrics and created this thing that governed and controlled the show for those 12 years. The world will never see his like. He saved a country. Really, I would like to be Prime Minister, but I think I'd have to set up my own country

first. I don't want to be Prime Minister of the old country. I'd have to create the state that I wish to live in first. I dream of one day buying companies and television stations, owning and controlling them."

September 1976: The month's <u>Labour Research</u> records: "The thirty leading British manufacturing companies ... produced goods at home worth £18,000 million in 1975-76, of which £3,470 million were exported. Their total overseas production was £16,280 million or 90 per cent of their home production, and four and a half times greater than their exports from the UK. Overseas investment was running at an annual rate of £1,500 million a year by early 1976. For Britain at the present time the two top priorities are higher exports and more investment...The interest of British multinationals are in conflict with the national need for exports and investment." September 1976: England, Wales & Northern Ireland Police Federations' campaign against the government's pay limits in Phase II publicly begins with a mass meeting inside (and a gathering outside) Central Hall, Westminster. Basil Griffiths and Joe Martucci address the crowd.

September 1976: NAFF and Grunwick's begin their alliance. "NAFF's participation began one evening in September 1976. I was just about to leave the office in 11 Grape Street, adjacent to Centre Point, when Sir Frederic Bennett, the MP for Torbay, called to draw attention to Grunwick's plight, mentioned briefly on the back page of the Evening Standard. "Right up your street John - Give em a ring." I did, the following morning and was put through to George Ward. ... he exclaimed "I've been trying to get hold of you ever since I heard your manager (Roger Webster) on the radio last week. Do you think there's any chance of meeting sometime within the next few days? The situation is getting a bit heavy." "I can be with you within an hour," was my reply. I was in daily contact with George and visited Dollis Hill as often as necessary. ... An ancient double-decker bus brought all the staff safely to the factory gate each day and returned them after work. I went with them on occasion to boost morale... the police always managed to keep the approach road open, no matter how many thousands of pickets were swarming in the vicinity..." (John Gouriet, Hear hear!)

September 1976: Sir Anthony Part, Permanent Secretary at the Department of Industry from 1970 to June 1976, who treats Tony Benn like a "lunatic patient", responsible for writing the detail to £10mil of state assistance supplied to Lucas Aerospace over that period, becomes a director on its board. This state assistance aims to save employment. but in fact means the firm employs 11,500 in 1978 compared to 17,000 in 1970. Government assistance has been used to cushion the transformation of the firm into a leaner,

more competitive outfit (and more profitable in share options for its directors such as Sir Anthony Part).

September 1976: <u>Bank of England Review</u> states "company profits continued to recover in the first quarter of 1976, rising by 12 per cent" and between the last three months of 1975, and the first three months of 1976, profits have risen by 24%.

- 1 September 1976: Joe Gormley, NUM president, says again he welcomes an incentive scheme that might involve a sum available at national level with production targets being fixed by local management-NUM Lodge agreement. Under present TUC pay policy a new scheme could be implemented in August 1977. He announces the NUM negotiation team in London has set up a small working party to devise new methods of encouraging miners to extract coal quicker.
- 1 September 1976: Clyde Oil Extraction Ltd announce they have given notice to 80, over half the workforce, at the oil extraction plant at King George V Dock due to "difficult market conditions."
- 1 September 1976: 1,300 redundancy-threatened oil rig construction workers at Methil take part in instant strike after being told that only 100 will be kept on at work when existing orders are completed in Feb 1977. The workforce announces an immediate work-to-rule and overtime ban.
- 1 September 1976: State assisted Burmah Oil announces it has successfully renegotiated its contract with Pertamina, Indonesia's oil firm, to transport 7.5mil tons of LNG from Indonesia to Japan for the next 20 years. It has managed to get Indonesia to agree to paying a higher freight charge meaning even less for the Indonesian population from its own resources.
- "this deal has breathed life into the concept of a worldwide liquid natural gas market, in which the oceans of the world are covered with costly vessels towing explosives back and forth. The LNG dream, as fostered by Burmah and El Paso, has already changed the face of nature. Elaborate plans are worked out to protect shipping. Installations, including pipelines, must be built to receive the gas. In all, it is the coming of a new energy industry. A new energy industry, indeed—but for what? The liquid natural gas industry is one of the more absurd operations of the late 20th century. ... In Japan, government planners are emphatic in their denunciation of the LNG agreement, vowing that their country should not have—and will not again engage in—such a venture. If they must import any exotic fuel, they regard it as cheaper to bring in LPG—propane. For all users across the world LNG will be enormously expensive, contributing to inflation, and since in Japan

it will be used in part to create electricity, it will be an inefficient use of a scarce energy resource." (Village Voice, Dec 13, 1976)
Burmah Oil is part of the massive Pertamina fraud and corruption scandal, which emerges in the 1980s. It is very poorly investigated and blame is placed, as ever solely upon the Third World militarists, not the shareholders' cash cow business firms.

- 1 September 1976: GATT Secretariat releases its annual report at its conference in Geneva which states: "the margins of unemployed or underemployed labour should be expected to remain relatively large for a number of years. It is, indeed, difficult to imagine a new investment boom which could carry annual economic growth rates beyond the 4%-5% generally looked for." It berates governments for lying about energy efficiency schemes: "The decline in oil consumption observed in the industrial countries in 1974 and 1975 was largely due to recession itself and to two unusually mild winters, rather than to genuine energy saving and substitution"
- 1 September 1976: Cowley British Leyland senior TGWU official Reg Parsons attacks fellow shop-stewards as 'moles' after having withdrawn their TGWU-constitutional right to office space and negotiating privilege: "I am, in my own mind. absolutely satisfied that these four stewards have been for some time organising and engineering events based on policies designed by no more than a handful of men. I therefore have no guilt whatsoever in openly agreeing that their facilities be withdrawn as shop stewards. It is becoming Increasingly difficult as your senior shop steward to continue In this very responsible job against a background of corrupt agitators who are financed by outside political forces to bring Leyland to its knees for political purposes. We understand what is going on in this plant with certain groups."
- 1 September 1976: 92 rectification engineers on strike over a regrading claim at British Leyland Longbridge vote to return to work on the advice of shop stewards.
- 1 September 1976: National Cash Register announces 600 will lose jobs at their plants in Dundee. The firm previously employed 6000 in Dundee but the work force at present is around 2000. About 900 have been paid off in summer 1975.
- 1 September 1976: The Sun applauds Sir Robert Mark's press announcement that the Metropolitan Police will not "quit black areas" with a headline "IT'S NO TO NO-GO". Evening Standard (1 September 1976) points the finger at outsiders causing trouble. Daily Express refers to "animal spirits" within young black males (1 September 1976). Its headline "Are police, then, to keep a low profile in black areas of our own capital city?" is intended to strike fear and the article raises the spectre of "race war in Britain" noting that "young blacks" had simply "run riot" with no evidence of police

provocation. The Telegraph describes "black youths" committing "inexplicable violence" and lamenting the problems of "lawlessness" and "black crime and disaffection" (1 Sep 1976).

In general, there is praise for "these brave men", "our boys in blue", and calls for new anti-riot equipment. The editor of the <u>Caribbean Post</u> states: "while the State has a lot to answer for, so too have West Indian parents. The Asians, have in contrast, maintained a strong family discipline and motivated their children in the direction of material success. But West Indian parents for the main part have lost control over their children" (Evening News, 1 September 1976). The deputy leader of Kensington and Chelsea Council, who has tried to ban Carnival from the streets of Notting Hill is heavily featured in <u>The Guardian</u> reminding the public that "This is not Trinidad". Its editorial refers to "an element of hooligan violence and vandalism familiar from other occasions" (1 Sep 1976), naming Manchester United fans.

Journalist Lynda Lee-Potter compares Notting Hill to Belfast and Chicago and describes the "thuggery and vindictive hooliganism" of Carnival. She lists the Carnival as one of a list of dangers to society: squatting, social security "spongers", occupying land for rock festivals. She states there is a collapse of "law and order" and notes "in our safe, comfortable homes in the provinces we're all beginning to know fear" (Daily Mail, 1 Sep 1976, p7)

<u>Daily Mirror</u> is broadly supportive of Sir Robert Mark with a huge headline: 'BEHIND THE FRONTLINE OF FURY' (1 Sep 1976) on its front page. Only on p5, is there an article by columnist John Pilger who suggests societal and police discrimination as a potential explanation for the events: "a calculated act of police overkill" and criticises "the bloated presence of a police force which, by waiting for trouble, cause trouble".

- 1 September 1976: Grunwick's receives an official letter from APEX seeking a meeting after refusing to talk to strikers.
- 2 September 1976: Roy Mason, former NUM Right Yorkshire full-timer, is appointed northern Ireland Secretary, in order to assert a tougher line at the republican protests against the ending of special category status. His first press conference sees his declaration that IRA will be treated "as criminals, not politicals".
- 2 September 1976: European Commission on Human Rights report concludes (after closed-door hearings Oct 1973-Mar 1975) that the Republic of Ireland's case against Britain is correct and it must answer the case of ill-treatment of internees at the European Court of Human Rights. It finds the interrogation techniques, specifically including deprivation of food and sleep, noise bombardment, forced standing at attention, hooding and mock noises, have involved a

breach of the Convention on Human Rights constituting inhuman, degrading treatment and torture.

- 2 September 1976: Grunwick's directors sack all 137 on strike and effectively reject from this point on all approaches from APEX to discuss re-instatement whether with or without union representation. Soon Grunwick's organises a massive regrading exercise within the plant, effectively meaning pay rises of over 15% to those who remain loyal. Those who join the picket line will be dismissed. From about this point onwards, readmittance of striking staff as members of APEX is off George Ward's agenda.
- 3 September 1976: Hull prison confrontation ends with the promise of no beatings. This promise is adhered to whilst John Prescott MP is present to witness prisoners come down from the roofs. But once the observers are gone "the MOs (Medical Officers) ran alongside the screws yelling 'Don't mark their faces'. These people are medical officers yet they are breaching the laws of the Red Cross on the treatment of prisoners"

"A lot of guys were transferred immediately after processing - they got their roughings up, were handcuffed, and subjected to abuse and more beatings as they made their way down the stairs surrounded by screws, chanting, spitting, and kicking at them. And then onto the waiting buses. Those who went to Strangeways, in buses of 12, all were met by some 20 screws, and while handcuffed, were beaten from the buses to D wing Seq. Unit. How many this was I don't know - I only know about one busload for sure, but I'm certain the others must have got it too. Those of us that remained, were taken off to undamaged areas, in various parts of the prison. I was in with a group of some 25 guys. We were banged up, in single cells, all in a row - this was about 4 pm Friday. Very soon after we were all locked up, the first group of screws arrived, - about a dozen of them - this was the start of the systematic beatings that were to continue until Sunday afternoon. The screws split into groups of about 4 or 5, and worked their way up and down the line of cells. It was systematic and co-ordinated - either they would charge into a cell, push the prisoner on to the floor, and kick him into a corner, and carry this on for 5, 10 minutes or longer. Or they would drag you out, with your arms and legs flailing and hurl you against a wall, landing blows on the head, back, legs and kidneys anywhere that was exposed. When being beaten like this you instinctively roll yourself into a ball-like position - legs tucked in, arms trying to shield the head - some cons shouted abuse at their attackers, some just rolled into a ball and were silent except for screams and gasps of pain. Without exception every prisoner got at least one beating in this session, which continued up to about 8p.m.

on Friday night. Saturday morning brought the first food since we came down from the roof. We were shepherded along to 'breakfast' which consisted of plates of hot food being smashed into our faces. Then, back to the cells, for another session along the same lines as Friday night. The beatings on Saturday began after 'breakfast' and continued into late afternoon. A few doors down from me ('A') an Irish prisoner suffered a long beating at the feet of 6 screws, who left him lying, half in, half out of his cell. He was in a shocking state - bruised, bleeding and gasping. A few minutes later, another group of screws picked him up and bundled him back into the cell for another severe kicking. Immediately they'd finished, a Medical Officer appeared - saw him - and he was immediately taken off to hospital. Sunday, I was transferred - and suffered the same treatment given to these who left on Friday - handcuffed, I was pushed and kicked down the stairs by a jeering group of screws. I was taken to another prison and immediately locked up in solitary."

- 4 September 1976: A Peace People double-pronged march takes place in Londonderry/Derry. One prong along the Foyle on the west (Cityside) bank, the other along the Foyle on the east (Waterside) bank. A rally is held at the Craigavon Bridge at the end of the marching. "Having heard a visiting BBC man argue fiercely one night that anyone less than enthusiastic about the peace women must be a Provo, it was no surprise to hear him next day reckon at 40,000 at a rally on Derry's Craigavon Bridge. The next bulletin halved the estimate. Most other reports put the crowd below 17,000" (Fionnuala O'Connor, Irish Times)
- 4 September 1976: Vorster-Kissinger meeting in Geneva, Switzerland agrees for Kissinger to conduct shuttle diplomacy over settlement in Rhodesia and to assist South Africa's normalisation with Black Africa. It is considered this will have greater success compared to Vorster and Botha's efforts in 1975.
- 6 September 1976: Over 100 prisoners at Horfield Prison, Bristol, go on hunger strike in protest at prison guard brutality.
- 6 September 1976: A typical day, Taylor Woodrow places a building worker onto the Economic League's blacklist: "subject was very miltant... would not re-employ him" He becomes another of thousands secretly blacklisted under governments of both colours. It has its uses: "Within 24 hours they were able to tell me that eight of the men had been prominently involved in disruption at other sites... We use the service when we want to find workers for sites in troublesome areas such as north London. So far only two of our London sites has been closed by the strike and we want to keep it that way." Shannon Stevenson, managing director of Bradford's most prominent city-wide newspaper the Bradford Telegraph & Argus uses the Economic League throughout the period: "When I

- was at Bradford we did make use of the Economic League's services. What we were really doing was that we wished to avoid employing any Red Robbos. If someone was a member of an extremist...organisation we would be interested." (Leeds' Other Paper, 19 Feb 1988)
- 6 September 1976: "Back ... after my wonderful holiday in Ceret. (We returned from France on Saturday.)... The PM came in just before lunch from Balmoral. He had enjoyed his weekend with the Queen immensely. He says what a 'natural family' they are." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)
- 6 September 1976: NUS Ballot result, giving a narrow majority in favour of industrial' action and rejecting a 5% pay offer, is announced at TUC. NUS claim is for a £6 a week increase from July 1976. Len Murray immediately attempts to thwart NUS members declaring their interests declaring "It does not seem to me that it is an enthusiastic demand by the seamen for industrial action, and I would think the executive would share that view."
- Both TUC and government are adamant the NUS should receive a pay award between £2.50-£4 beginning from Jan 1977, as do employers.
- 6 September 1976: Kissinger-Crosland talks. Kissinger praises Britain's "co-operation and wisdom" in its dealing with Rhodesia and says Britain and USA are working together in close harmony and without significant differences in Africa.
- 6 September 1976: Cyril Plant, TUC President, at its 1976 Conference: "We have played a more active part in the last 12 months in helping to beat the enemy of inflation than any other organisation outside the government, and we cannot simply turn our back on that role because the going is increasingly tough and rough." He says the social contract means difficulties for trade unions and it is not easy to restrain wage claims at a time of rising price inflation "but this is a contract for all seasons." The demand is for action against "unfair imports" and control on the outflow of capital from the country as part of "a more meaningful approach to job creation, not just a casual policy but one that will give help and encouragement to the present generation of young people."
- 6 September 1976: NUJ withdraws a resolution opposing further cooperation over pay restraint.
- 6 September 1976: Alex Ferry, AUEW Glasgow division chief: "In many instances workers in Scotland are getting their priorities wrong regarding job security. When confronted by an employers'

statement about difficulties they immediately apply pressure about redundancy money instead of Involving trade union officials in trying to get new orders. Workers are selling their jobs and this kind of attitude is encouraged by the prophets of doom whose philosophy is that unemployment Is Inevitable In the present Industrial scene."

He agrees that in some cases redundancy is inevitable but in others It could be avoided If a positive (ie proactive order-seeking) approach is taken. "Jobs are not there for workers to sell, especially in view of the large number of young persons who have still to get one." He explains "It is tragic that workers do not realise that short-term wealth Is no alternative to longer term security and so fight for their Jobs" and notes that, excluding inducement payments, a 40-year-old with 10 years' service earning £50 a week will receive £750 under the government's severance scheme.

7 September 1976: Sir Eric Yarrow, chairman of Yarrow, states the firm is in negotiation for a large export order with Iran (4 2000-ton support ships worth at least £50mil) He also announces the firm has secured the contract for building another Type 22 RN frigate at £30mil for the firm.

7 September 1976: Ladbrokes opens a vast 'supershop' outlet opposite the London Palladium, with chairman Cyril Stern: "This is our eighth £1m a year supershop. By the end of this year we will have something like 40 supershops—10 of which we expect to do £1m a year turnover."

7 September 1976: Cameron Iron Works secures another order from Framatome, the French nuclear consortium, a specialist nuclear power-station extruded pipe order at over £1.5mil.

7 September 1976: Scotland Secretary Bruce Millan, is jeered by a demonstration, with cries of "We want work" by more than 2,000 in Dundee City Square.

7 September 1976: Bank of England withdraws monetary support to sterling allowing it to float freely.

7 September 1976: Labour Party's NEC's Home Policy Committee's tentative plans to nationalise 4 major private banks (Barclays, Lloyds, Midland's and National Westminster Bank) and 7 insurance firms (Commercial Union, Royal, Sun Alliance & London, Prudential, Legal & General, Guardian Royal Exchange and General Accident) are immediately attacked. NEC document is so timid that it proposes an extensive bureaucracy (for management from private sector to be slotted into) stating "in view of the diversity of customers' requirements the separate identities of Britain's biggest clearing banks should be maintained". Nonetheless John Hunsworth, director of Banking Information Service, says: "The present proposals, with their poor and inadequate research, are basically no more than an attempt to get control of other people's money." Bill

Harris, chairman of the British Insurance Association: "The country would stand to lose much of insurance's overseas earnings, an average of £350m per annum."

7 September 1976: Jack Jones at TUC declares the increase for pensioners in Nov 1976 is "too little and very late". The rise is £3.30 for a married couple (to £24.50 a week) and £2 for a single pensioner (to £15.30 a week). He states: "A little more humanity is needed in Government and the corridors of power in Whitehall. We have a responsibility to free pensioners from the prison of poverty, and it is time all of us pressed and pressed and pressed again to raise the level of pensions to what they should be.... Our acceptance of the social contract led to bold first steps by the Labour Government. We were proud then. We don't want to lose that pride now." But he argues against a resolution for reduction in the retirement age to 60: "Unless there is that increase, they will curse you for putting forward this proposal." Tom Bradley, chairman of the Labour Party, calls for urgent measures including selective import controls but stands by defence of the social contract as the main instrument for rescuing Britain from recession.

7 September 1976: Resolutions for higher pensions, retirement at 60 and reinstatement of cuts to the NHS are passed.

7 September 1976: Conveners from 8 unions at Babcock & Wilcox plant in Renfrew lobby union general secretaries about possible cuts totalling 5500 jobs at over the nest 3 years unless CEGB places orders for power stations.

7 September 1976: The Citizen South Africa's new pro-apartheid liberal paper is launched funded to the tune of R13million by the Information Department as part of Operation Senekal. It hosts journalist-intelligence operatives such as Aida Parker and Gordon Walker. It is the culmination of the first step of Information Department activities, that includes amongst other business, it having "financed a British Conservative MP, Sir Frederick Bennett, to arrange tours of South Africa by British MPs and host South African parliamentarians visiting the UK... Two Labour MPs were employed at a cost of £2,000 per year to 'protect our interests and also to provide us with information... whenever new pressure groups were formed in England... They were really informers more than anything else'. These payments continue until 1978 when the Department of Information is overhauled in the wake of the Muldergate Scandal. Johannesburg's Sunday Express reports \$14mil of what is earmarked for The Citizen has been distributed in corrupt payments abroad (Sunday Express, 29 Oct 1978)

8 September 1976: "evening... dinner at Guildhall with thirty educationalists and careers officers to discuss problems of 16-to-18-year-olds. The PM was good in his opening remarks and so were several of the speakers." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)

- 8 September 1976: At TUC Conference. Right to Work hold a large demonstration.
- 8 September 1976: TUC 'Left' Alan Fisher of NUPE votes with others on TUC General Council not to support the NUS pay claim in defiance of pay restraint.
- 8 September 1976: Glasgow Herald's City Comment on bank nationalisation proposals: "Certainly if these things should ever come to pass the government of the day would lay its hands on enormous financial power to use as it thought fit without having to consider the wishes of the owners of this finance who are companies, shareholders, and individuals who save either directly or through pension funds. It would be an enormous, unhealthy power which would remove virtually all economic constraints from starry-eyed politically motivated Government Ministers" Economic constraints must be maintained at all costs.
- 8–11 September 1976: Secretary of State for Trade visits Yugoslavia.
- 9 September 1976: Archbishops in Ireland issue a statement in support of the Peace People.
- 9 September 1976: ICI admits that £1.3mil was paid to foreign government officials to obtain "government administrative action." 9 September 1976: Sir Charles Villiers, chairman, refuses to discuss any date when the BSC Hunterston project would begin. "When anyone tries to predict a date at BSC they are always out five years one way or another". Bob Scholey, chief executive of the BSC, says the priority is to "get cracking" on production at Ravenscraig. Capital expenditure is being delayed until concessions have been wrought from the workforce.
- 9 September 1976: John Fotherington, managing director of North-Eastern Farmers Ltd, states: "A full devaluation of the Green Pound now to give us parity with other EEC countries would undoubtedly be welcomed by farmers, but it would have the effect of pushing-up end prices to unacceptable levels, leading to massive consumer resistance."
- 9 September 1976: Publishing firm Collins, with extensive interests in Australia, USA and Asia, increases profits despite cutback in public library and educational expenditure. On a 12.5% advance in sales to £21.6m in the first 6 months of 1976, pre-tax profits have increased by 18% to £1.86mil. Much of the improvement is due to a reduction in interest charges as a result of reduced inflation and a big overseas profits increases from Pan Books, where Collins have a

one-third stake. Chairman Sir William Collins, reveals that most of the growth comes from overseas. He says sales in Britain are only marginally up. But even taking account of the improved results, orders are limited meaning the new manufacturing plant at Bishopbriggs, capable of greatly increased output, is still working below capacity.

- 9 September 1976: Anthony Tuke, chairman of the Committee of London Clearing Banks, attacks bank nationalisation demands saying: "the transparency of the present case for bank nationalisation seems to reveal that the authors are motivated less by the practical evidence than by a deep-seated desire to gain political control over the use of the funds deposited with the banks by their customers." He concludes "at home, nationalisation of the banks would reduce their efficiency and hamper the ready availability of funds for worthwhile investment in industry. Abroad, the high reputation of British banks would be damaged and with it the foundations on which much of our foreign trade is built."
- 9 September 1976: Sterling falls leading to a several month-long sustained attack on the currency, after the Bank of England abandons purchases on international currency markets, where prices have been raised inordinately high by traders' speculative transactions.
- 10 September 1976: Callaghan appoints 'harder' figures for key Cabinet roles: Roy Mason at NIO, Shirley Williams at Education,
- 10 September 1976: Callaghan honours Comrade Mao Zedong on his death: "Mao was one of the outstanding leaders of this century and devoted himself wholeheartedly to China and to the Chinese people. He will be remembered as a man of great vision and as a thinker with a profound sense of history. China's position in the world today is a memorial to his unique achievements."
- US President Ford: "Americans will remember that it was under Chairman Mao that China moved together with the United States to end a generation of hostility and to launch a new and more positive era in relations between our two countries."
- 10 September 1976: NATO begins combined land and air exercises in Federal Germany.
- 10 September 1976: Financial Mail reports that following the start of a strike at Armourplate South Africa, the British-owned Pilkington Glass plant begins taking precautions against strike action by increasing production in anticipation of a walkout, to bring glass reserves up.
- 10 September 1976: Mayor of Jeddah, Sheikh Mohammed Farisi, states orders of up to £3mil for low-cost worker housing in the city

- will be placed over the next months after a visit as the guest of Glasgow Lord Provost Peter McCann. He has already ordered £400,000 worth from Weir Construction, Coatbridge prefabricated construction firm. "We want to do business with the British but you must move and take these opportunities. It's no good sending out salesmen with papers. You must send out examples of goods, letting us see what we can buy."
- 11 September 1976: National Party and NF supporters march in Blackburn with placards 'Free Robert Relf', 'Scrap the Race Act', 'No more mosques in Blackburn'. 4,000 anti-fascists hold a counterprotest, 3 antifascists are arrested. NF complete their march.
- 13 September 1976: British Army launches explosions to bring down a bridge by the six counties border. 17 families in Kiltyclogher, County Leitrim, have their homes seriously damaged as a result. They receive no compensation throughout the term of the government.
- 13 September 1976: Under the impact of financial pressure on sterling MLR is increased from 11.5% to 13%.
- 13-15 September 1976: First major Czechoslovak visit to Britain post-1968. Foreign Minister Bohslav Choupek holds talks with Crosland and others.
- 14 September 1976: Kieran Nugent is the first prisoner sentenced under the prison regime introduced in March 1976, meaning he is forced to wear prison uniform as with all criminals in the mainland. He is sent to the 'H-Blocks' of HMP Maze where he refuses to wear prison clothes and wraps a prison blanket around himself. This begins the blanket, later dirty, later hunger strike, protest for political status.
- 14 September 1976: Labour Party political broadcast featuring Michael Foot, Millie Miller and UPW General Secretary Tom Jackson aimed against NF. Foot announces "some people just don't seem to realise just how strictly immigration to Britain is controlled already under the existing law."
- 14 September 1976: Jayaben Desai is hospitalised after a management car is driven over her foot. Police do not act.
- 15 September 1976: Against opposition from Britain and USA, Socialist Vietnam secures membership in the world lender-of-last-resort bank, the IMF.
- 16 September 1976: Concealed huge losses, bad debts and loans to directors by the Slater Walker banking and insurance empire are disclosed. Slater Walker had built a fortune on shrewdly-timed

takeovers and mergers, which would then be rationalised and parts deemed unprofitable sold off a process known as "asset-stripping." Government-appointed accountants in a statement to shareholders declare the Bank of England had to secretly step in with major loan and guarantee financial assistance. They also point out that the parent company, Slater Walker Securities may have broken company law by making loans to its related companies to buy shares in Slater Walker Securities. Slater Walker's current chairman, Sir James Goldsmith, says all loans made will be pursued actively "no matter who the debtor" to claw back funds.

- 17 September 1976: South Africa's <u>Financial Mail</u> reports on stayaways since the start of 1976: "the emphasis in the leaflets distributed... had switched from being anti-government to being anti-business". It suggests international investors might become more nervous if stay-aways are not controlled and that investors might begin raising voices to the NP in favour of reforms against hard apartheid under this pressure.
- 20 September 1976: Police attack pickets and then arrest 1 Grunwick's picket.
- 20 September 1976: The Muppet Show, financed and effectively owned by Lew Grade, is broadcast as a full show for the first time. Within a few years, The Muppet Show has more than 235 million weekly viewers in over 100 countries.
- 20 September 1976: Dom Mintoff's Labor Party wins election in Malta. It is a clear mandate for Mintoff to carry out foreign policy changes bringing Malta into the non-aligned group. "Under Labor Party government for the past five years, Malta has become increasingly dependent on substantial loans from Saudi Arabia. Libya has shared in the island's new investment finance bank, a number of hotels, a joint company with the government, a shipyard and other new projects. With a Labor victory, that dependence is expected to increase, especially as the planned British withdrawal in three years will mean a loss of £30million to the Island. About £14million is in the form of rent for NATO bases. About a third of that amount is paid by Britain and about £16million is spent by the British services on Malta.... Had the Nationalist Party won, the prospects for signing another lease would have been good. The Libyans want to get rid of the NATO base and were banking on a Mintoff victory. British official attitudes are muted but are believed to be similar to those of their NATO partners."
- 20 September 1976: Callaghan again considers the use of a commission as a way to kick serious reform into touch: "PM sent for the two Toms and me to discuss bank nationalisation. The NEC has

put up a terrible document for Party Conference on nationalising the clearing banks. Jim wants to outflank it. He is clearly inclined towards a Royal Commission... bash the City for its failure, but oppose nationalisation." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)

- 21 September 1976: A West Ham-Millwall supporters' confrontation leads to a Millwall supporter being thrown onto the path of a train at New Cross station, killing him.
- 21 September 1976: "Shirley Williams came ... commented on how tough Jim has become, which she welcomes... she proposed to pursue a 'hard' line at Education" (Bernard Donoughue's diary)
- 21 September 1976: Orlando Letelier, deprived of Chilean nationality by decree on 10 Sep 1976, Institute for Policy Studies fellow and lecturer at the American University, Washington DC, is killed in a car-bomb that also kills assistant Ronni Mofitt and severely injures Michael Moffitt. Later convicted for the crime is Michael Townley, a DINA US expatriate, later released as part of Witness Protection, and senior DINA figures General Manuel Contreras and Brigadier Pedro Espinoza in absentia.
- 22 September 1976: Health Secretary of State tells workers that it is nonsense to plan protests against every public service budget cut. 22 September 1976: NUS Executive votes 9-7, with the support of General Secretary James Slater, to call off its threatened strike agreeing to accept a pay offer under phase 2. James Slater says faced with opposition, members would have been on to a "hiding to nothing" if they had gone ahead with a strike due to begin 27 Spe 1976.
- 22 September 1976: Chairman of the Head Masters Conference states has belatedly acknowledged that parents are responsible for choosing which schools their children should attend, he points out that the United Nations Convention on liberty of educational choice, signed by Britain, becomes effective from 23 Sep 1976. Albert Booth: "This is a common sense outcome and yet another demonstration of the effectiveness of a policy that depends on consensus and cooperation. It is unfortunate that in one aspect, the extra compensation for weekends at sea, the General Council of British Shipping found it necessary to make a forward commitment. Such commitments can lead to problems, and the TUC and my Department generally advise people to avoid them."
- 22 September 1976: "I put in a paper on import controls, which is more and more becoming an issue. Jim sees that it is politically essential to do something, especially against Japan" (Bernard Donoughue's diary)

- 23 September 1976: Government announces import quotas on monochrome television sets from Taiwan, restricting import licences to 70,000 in a 15-month period beginning 1 Oct 1976. Roy Sanderson, national officer of EEPTU state it is "too little, too late" urging total protection of the consumer electronics industry. Thorn, the largest British manufacturer of monochrome sets says it is "a welcome relief" and hopes for more.
- 23 September 1976: "Chancellor's paper 'The Next Steps'. This painted a very gloomy future, and stated that we should have to go to the IMF for another loan next month. Even that would only tide us over till the end of 1977. He is preparing for import deposits on a seven-day basis. But he rejected import controls. His strategy looks very right now. Our reserves are down to £4 billion and the deficit this year and next will absorb that. Sterling is at an all-time low. Inflation is no longer falling. The incomes policy is lacking. We have record interest rates to protect sterling and finance the PSHR. Our import content is rising all the time. There is no prospect of unemployment falling." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)
- 23 September 1976: Sustained by continuing arms transfers, South African Interior Minister Connie Mulder, warns the army will be permanently mobilised within South Africa's borders in cases of further unrest.
- 23 September 1976: Another Grunwick's picket is hospitalised after being knocked down by management car.
- 23 September 1976: The 7 insurance companies facing nationalisation issue a joint statement declaring the scheme amounts to a meaningless assault against a flourishing sector of the British economy.
- 23 September 1976: UPW Executive votes against backing any boycott of Grunwick's mail, simply allowing individual postal workers not to cross the Grunwick's picket line. Cricklewood UPW branch continues its policy of not delivering mail.
- "The Cricklewood office, which covered Grunwick, said they were refusing to cross picket lines to take the mail into the plant, and they were now looking for other branches to act. We passed this up to union headquarters, but our general secretary Tom Jackson said that nobody else was doing anything so we couldn't go it alone." ([London UPW official] Derek Walsh in Charlie Kimber, Cricklewood postal workers supported Grunwick strikers)
- 24 September 1976: Thatcher on her visit to India tells journalists that Britain is more densely populated than India and that fear of continuing immigration is causing Britain's racial problems. She states that until 2 recent cases of violence, Britain had gone through a very long period without racial problems. "What we are getting now is fear of numbers continuing to come in in the same

volume as they have been coming in during the last few years. Britain is more densely populated than India"

She strongly defends the Diego Garcia military base: "If you have a Soviet presence in the Indian Ocean, I certainly think you must have a presence sufficient to counter that and to deter any threat.... The vital supplies of the Soviet Union do not have to come across any ocean whatsoever. They are mostly to be found on the land moss." She also defends Britain's RN manoeuvres in the Indian Ocean announcing Britain must defend its trade routes and vital supplies.

- 24 September 1976: Ross Belch, president of the Shipbuilding and Repairers' National Association, makes a tough anti-Japan argument urging protection within British orders. He states Japan is on course to capture half the world forecast for new shipbuilding of 13 millions tons meaning Britain could be could be left with a "derisory 250,000 gross tons" in 1977 compared to previous output of more than 1 million tons. He demands immediate government action: "The time for words is long post and the time for prompt, effective, and positive action is now upon us."
- 24 September 1976: "Financial Times had the whole story about import deposits and import controls certainly from the Treasury. Yesterday the Guardian had Jim's plans for an inquiry into the banks and Healey had lunch with Peter Jenkins, the author. Ministers leak!" (Bernard Donoughue's diary)
- 24 September 1976: Prof George Steiner at the Headmasters' Conference states economic illiteracy and linguistic laziness is causing economic suicide on behalf of the British nation.
- 24 September 1976: Sterling ends at \$1.706.
- 24 September 1976: Smith announces that he accepts British proposals as presented by Kissinger for a 2-year transitional period between ceasefire and new elections.
- 25 September 1976: Albert Booth announces a 'job swap' scheme to operate from Jan-Jun 1977 in designated high-unemployment areas where older workers who retire early from paid posts are given a minor sum if their employer replaces that post with someone else.
- 25 September 1976: <u>The Economist</u> reports an ongoing capital strike: "Fixed investment fell to a new low in April-June (down 3 per cent on January-March) despite a sharp rise in gross trading profits to 7.3 per cent of GNP"
- 25 September 1976: Chairman of the Joint Committee of London Clearing Banks, Sir William Armstrong, chairman of Midland Bank,

former head of the Civil Service, current Lord Armstrong of Sanderstead attacks the proposals for bank nationalisation in a report.

26 September 1976: <u>The Observer</u> appears to suggest further industrial activity in the Third World: "Above all steps must be taken to provide alternative outlets for the manpower and industrial capacity that are becoming surplus to the requirements of the advanced world. It is not only the less-developed countries that need a 'new economic order' — a concept aimed at enabling them to participate more fully in the fruits of the earth that they have been trying to sell to the advanced countries without much success for some two years. The affluent countries may soon find they stand in no less need of such a revolution, the Third World being the one place with untapped markets of the size they are going to need."

26 September 1976: At a rally in Nakuru the GEMA "Change-the-Constitution campaign" is launched, spearheaded by Kihika Kimani and supported by Dr. Njoroge Mungai, James Njenga Karume, James Gichuru, Jackson Angaine and Paul Ngei, featuring 20 opposition MPs. Kihika Kimani states "Kenya should not be different from other countries where the speaker of the National Assembly normally assumes the Presidency temporarily until election are held" The aim being to resist Presidential clique rule during the runup to an election period allowing electoral fraud, banning rallies, imprisonments to be enacted as in the 1974 election.

27 September - 1 October 1976: Labour Party Conference 1976.

27 September 1976: Callaghan keeps a tight watch: "first session - and five of the first eight speakers were Trotskyites. The PM had a private list prepared beforehand of all the Trots who were due to move or second motions." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)

27 September 1976: <u>Daily Mirror</u> editorial 'The Making or Breaking of Jim': "When Jim Callaghan speaks at the Labour Party conference tomorrow he will be addressing not only his party, but the nation and the world... The British people are anxious...Jim Callaghan must not offer bromides... He must spell out the need for profits..profits to invest... Not investment for a quick killing in Singapore securities. But investment in export industries that will lead to new jobs."

27 September 1976: Sterling reaches \$US1.683.

Dealers said the droD came in light selling in a thin market. The Bank of England appeared not to be resisting the pressure on the British currency, they added. Describing the dangers Bush: "The Black Governments which would emerge from the conflict would be more attuned to communist influence than governments brought about through negotiation. The Rhodesian Government was already under siege [needed rescuing in spite of itself]... The end result would be a bloody conflict resulting in Black rule no later than 1978. And as the emergent Black governments are expected to have a communist tilt, this would be harmful to the interests of the United States."

Kissinger: I wanted you to know the intelligence estimate on which we have been operating all this year. That is, that the whites in Rhodesia will be overthrown within two years.... Moreover, the only way Rhodesia can defend itself is through incursions along neighboring borders. These countries will respond by asking for communist aid. The now moderate states will find guerrillas within their borders which will tend to radicalize their countries. These increasingly radicalized countries would then surround Zaire and could lead to an entire bloc in southern African hostile to the United States.

the potential impact of another foreign intervention. The issue goes far beyond the questions of Rhodesia or South West Africa. The impact extends elsewhere -- to the Middle East -- where a successful resolution of the situation of southern Africa by force will not be lost on the countries there.

You must also understand that what the Black African leaders say to me privately is far different from what they say publicly. They say privately we want you to see what you can do. At the same time they make strong public pronouncements.

The settlement which has been put forth arose from British principles British constitutional principles. When it was determined we could not wait, I got in touch with the British. They had a plan for the transfer of power in Rhodesia, I also got in touch with South Africa and asked them whether they were ready to assist in this process. The South Africans had the same interest we had. A negotiated transfer of power is in the interests of the moderate blacks and South Africa.... The British engaged in the drafting of a constitutional structure and a plan for the takeover of rule by Black leaders. Five missions, American and British, traveled throughout Black Africa trying out the ideas of this structure and plan. The basic approach was accepted.

Last Sunday the five Presidents met in Lusaka. You have all read the lurid stories that the Presidents rejected the proposed settlement. This is not true. They have accepted the concepts. It was our fear that the radicals would demand a constitutional conference first, with the view this would take a year and a half and the fighting would continue in the interim. We want a transitional government first. What we are doing is urging the British to call a conference on the transitional government first and then a constitutional conference will follow.

it up and to keep the Black radicals from blowing it up. Concluding the issue is up to the British. The United States has no legal standing in Africa. For the British to call a conference quickly is the best.

Kissinger: In a way. We believe the longer the whites stay the better for all -- the more viable the nation will be for the future. If the new government drives the whites out, the economy will cdLapse. In any event, they cannot drive them out for two years. This will be during the interim government in which the whites will still have a strong influence. After that the more whites who stay, the more money will be available for investment (rather than compensation).... The British are moving but they tend to move in bureaucratic way. We need someone to take charge and say this is it. Otherwise people will ask for more. But the British do have a source legitimacy in Africa. Once a conference can be put together, it would take about 4-6 weeks to complete its work.

(President Secretary of State Kissinger, Secretary of the Treasury, Director of the Central Intelligence Agency George Bush, Administrator of the Federal Energy Administration Meeting with Bipartisan Leadership, Memorandum of Conversation)

28 September 1976: Chancellor Healey cancels a visit to Hong Kong and Manila, returning from Heathrow to Whitehall, to begin an application for IMF funding to sustain the sterling in the face of its collapse. Sterling is at \$1.63, a fall of 4c in one day. Only after the conclusion of IMF agreement does any notable recovery in sterling's value occur.

28 September 1976: Callaghan at Conference stresses Labour resolve for "strict control over immigration" which "is necessary, subject to honouring our commitments."

He attacks Militant entrists: "I also draw the party's attention to ... those elements who misuse the word 'socialist' and who seek to infiltrate our party and use for their own ends.. They are as much the enemy of the Tribune group as they are of the Manifesto group or even of the great majority of us who do not happen to belong to either, but are simply ordinary members of the party. Is the Party really satisfied with a youth movement. which is increasingly

dominated by a single brand of socialist sectarianism? I do suggest to the National Executive Committee that they could do well to examine these activities."

He says the Government has no particular duty to carry out the programme of its most 'democratic' policy source the NEC: "The NEC must remember, too, that they are responsible. Yes, they are responsible for their statements and their resolutions. But the Government is accountable for its actions and that is the difference between us. We are accountable in a parliamentary democracy to Parliament. [No one] will expect the Government, dealing as we have to with the day-to-day realities of the situation to simply swallow whole and undigested the 147 pages of Labour's Programme 1976."

He says Labour is following a course which Conservatives agreed with: "Labour was elected. to replace conflict by partnership, confrontation by co-operation. We knew this was the only way for the country. Even the Tories in their own hearts knew it. There is no better way."

He wants education to work more directly for business interests: "There should be much closer co-operation between employers and schools, and employers could do more to make their requirements known to teachers. Heads of schools could extend their sphere of interest to obtaining and acting upon the advice of local firms about their requirements. Firms could provide practical help of various kinds to local schools... This would help industrial and commercial training to flow naturally from the last years at school. I am concerned at the gap that exists at many levels between education and industry today."

He wants to reduce 'labour costs', for workforces in one country to compete with those of other countries:

"Overcoming unemployment now unambiguously depends on our labour costs being at least compatible with those our major competitors. ... The only long-term cure for unemployment is to create a healthy manufacturing industry that will hold its own overseas... What is the cause of high unemployment? Quite simply and unequivocally it is caused by paying ourselves more that the value of what we produce. There are no scapegoats. This is as true in a mixed economy under democratic socialism as it is under capitalism or communism."

He asserts business confidence will guide investment in industry: "The willingness of industry to invest in new plant and machinery requires. that industry is left with sufficient funds and has sufficient confidence to make the new investments. When I say they must have sufficient funds, I mean they must he able to earn a surplus and that is a euphemism for saying they must be able to make a profit. Whether you call it a surplus or a profit, it is necessary for a

healthy industrial system, whether it operates in a socialist economy, a mixed economy or a capitalist economy."

He describes how the interests of the unionised employed are fundamentally opposed to the interests of the non-employed [the poor, the old and the sick]; but that interests between employees and employers are shared ones, and make cooperation a necessity:

"We have struggled... to try and maintain their [the poor, the old and the sick] standards and indeed improve them against the strength of free collective bargaining power which we have seen exerted by some people."

He vigorously promotes trade union management cooperation: "The National Enterprise Board is in place and is in business. The Industry Act is working. The detailed examination of the 39 main sectors of British industry by employers and trade unions together has produced agreed reports. The Social Contract stands confirmed yesterday for the next three years because there is no other way, and it demands complete co-operation between the Party, the Government and the unions. ... active trade unionists on the shop floor are recognising that they share a joint responsibility in their place of work. The ordinary worker is getting more and more outspoken in his opposition to ... bands of disrupters."

He promises a long march for industrial growth against competitors: "we live in too troubled a world to be able to promise that. in a couple of years we shall enter the promised land. The route is long and hard but I believe the long march has at last begun. Governments of both parties have failed to ignite the fires of industrial growth in the ways that Germany, France and Japan, with their different political and economic philosophies, have done..this time we are not borrowing to pay for yet another short-lived consumer boom... which never bought success the world's markets or in the work place."

Key parts of the speech have been written by Peter Jay, the Prime Minister's son-in-law, wife of Margaret Jay.

"Jim made his speech. It was nearly an hour. No humour. Few cheers. Straight down the line... had some remarkably courageous words about the impossibility of simply reflating back to full employment ... the moderates and the PLF liked his attack on leftist infiltration. In the room afterwards he was relieved that they had taken it so well." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)

28 September 1976: "afternoon ... emergency talks in the Treasury with Healey, Lever and the Bank of England... Bank wanted to resume intervention to support sterling. But it was decided we could not until we had fresh loans. The PM asked me what I thought we should do. I said get the IMF in as soon as possible - accelerate the timetable. He did not respond, but later he told Healey to do that." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)

- 28 September 1976 pm: After the first 2 days of a Labour Conference with resolutions in favour of a social welfare state, sterling falls to \$1.637 at the end of trading.
- 29 September 1976: Chancellor Healey announces intention to apply for a loan from the IMF.
- 29 September 1976: Tom Jackson, UPW, states: "We should tell the IMF that they have to bail us out or we go down; and if we go down, we pull half the developed world with us"
- 29 September 1976: Cape Town Supreme Court sentences <u>Cape Times</u> journalist secret SACP member David Rabkin, arrested 28 Jul 1976, to 10 years for offences under the Terrorism and Internal Security Acts. His crimes are having written 14 anti-apartheid leaflets since his return from Britain to South Africa in 1973. His British wife Sue Rabkin, since she is pregnant, is sentenced to an 11-month suspended sentence and is returned to Britain with her other daughter.
- 29 September 1976: SWAPO's Sam Nujoma holds talks with Kissinger in a hotel room in New York, with Kissinger praising Nujoma, telling him "the United States Government considers you to be much more important than" other Namibian figures. (Sam Nujoma, Where Others Wavered: Autobiography p.254)
- 30 September 1976: Callaghan closes Labour Party Conference claiming if the present government collapses "I feel it would lead to a totalitarian Government of the Left or Right... If we were to fail I do not think any government could succeed"
- 30 September 1976: IMF officials confirm Healey has warned Britain will begin a partial debt moratorium by blockading withdrawals of large foreign deposits of British sterling. "There has also been a lot of discussion of debt"
- 30 September 1976: <u>The Economist</u> declares "Jim Callaghan is the best Conservative Prime Minister Britain could get"
- 30 September 1976: ICL receives another instalment of government's £40mil contribution towards the research and development of the 2900 series computer.
- 30 September 1976: In a TV interview Healey states the alternative to IMF assistance is "economic policies so savage as to lead to riots in the streets" meaning a sudden drop in living standards and unemployment at 3 million.
- 30 September 1976: Employment Secretary Foot at a Tribune rally urges the Labour Left support the IMF application arguing "if the choice is between borrowing and unemployment, then I'm in favour of borrowing."
- 30 September 1976: Callaghan telephones Ford in Washington last night to assure himself of US support in IMF considerations.

- \* October 1976: Britain again decides to continue its occupation of SBAs in Cyprus: "The considerations which led Ministers to agreeing in 1974 to stay in Cyprus for the time being were:
- a. The value of the bases to HMG and the United States in an East/West emergency or a renewed Middle East crisis; denial to the Soviet Union; and the destabilising effect of withdrawal on an already disrupted Southern flank.
- b. [non-declassified]
- c. The need not to disrupt Anglo-American political, defence and intelligence co-operation, which is a major contribution to British influence in international affairs.
- d. The likely effect on all parties to the Cyprus dispute of withdrawal except on terms agreed with them. HMG undertook in 1960 to relinquish the SBAs, if ever, to 'the Republic of Cyprus', ie, at present the Government of Archbishop Makarios. A handover in the absence of agreement would be likely to lead to Turkish occupation of the Eastern SBA at least, and quite possibly of the whole island. This could lead to the extinction of independent Cyprus, further disruption of NATO's Southern Flank and possible war between Greece and Turkey.

These considerations are still valid and are likely to remain so under a new US Administration. ... it can be seen that no action which HMG could take unilaterally could secure a settlement; and that no settlement is likely over the next 5 years at least." (\*\*)

October 1976: John La Rose describes the tension in approaches within minority political organisation: "groups like 'Parents against Mugging' initiated by Courtney Laws in Brixton, and now the 'Haringey Black People and Youth Action Committee' formed on the initiative of Len Dykes, Chairman of the West Indian Standing Conference in North London have now been launched. The statement which the latest group has been circulating speaks of the misbehaviour of the Black Youth... By linking themselves to the repressive organs of the state they are being called upon to act as a sub-police ... to consolidate and defend their bourgeois class interests ... The concept of crime is a bourgeois concept of social guilt for action taken against bourgeois property ... The wageless black youth are struggling against capital's rules." (Race Today, Oct 1976)

October 1976: Memorandum of understanding with France and Federal Germany is signed to acquire Milan crew-portable anti-tank guided weapon system. It will be a joint venture 'Euromissile' involving firms from all three countries. \*\*

October 1976: A British business delegation led by Sir Ralph Bateman, Vice-President of CBI, visits India to explore possibilities of greater Indo-British trade and economic cooperation as well as collaboration in joint ventures in third countries. Whitehall holds a ministerial-level meeting of the Indo-British Joint Committee on Trade and Economic Cooperation.

October 1976: Keidanren, Japan Business Federation, led by its President Doko Toshio, makes an important trip to Europe to visit leaders of EEC countries and EEC trade commissioners. A modus vivendi of sorts is established to correct imbalances in EC-Japanese trade relations.

October 1976: <u>Stafford Knot</u>, magazine of 1st Battalion Stafford Regiment describes the recent six counties tour: "Our 'patch' in Belfast comprised, in the north, the hard Republican area of Divis flats, traditionally a trouble spot through the present emergency and sandwiched between the Lower Falls and the city centre. This eerie, huge, concrete 'terrorist paradise' (as it has been described) dominates the local skyline and is filled with a generally unpleasant, mainly evil and hostile population of approximately 7,000 ... South of the city centre was the Protestant working-class area of Sandy Row. Here a maze of small terraced houses and a generally more friendly atmosphere greeted the patrolling Stafford soldier."

October 1976: 'PJ1/43 Draft Letter' from Sir Frank Cooper, Permanent Secretary to the MoD, Sir Douglas Henley, Comptroller and Auditor General records that five agents have been paid by Royal Ordnance in order to illicitly boost sales: in Chile, Thomas C. Sargent; in Peru J.K. Blair OBE; in Netherlands Col. Douwes Dekker of Goliath Ltd to market the 30mm Rarden and turret; in Austria Manfred Harrer is agent for the sale of 105mm tank guns and ammunition and has earned a fee on the sale of surplus Centurion tanks; in Japan Mitsui & Company salespeople.

October 1976: Sounds magazine, largest British music publication at the time, gives Eric Clapton a clean bill of health in a new interview-report in the month's issue: "So one night in Birmingham someone said something that triggered off an unexpected part of Clapton's rowdier personality. Maybe it was the drink. Maybe it was just a bad day. But it was so human and typically Eric. How many times have you gotten a bit drunk and spouted out great truths and philosophies only to later blush the next morning? "I thought it was quite funny actually. I don't know much about politics. I don't even know if it would be good or bad for him to get in. I don't even know who the Prime Minister is now," he laughs not entirely serious. "I just don't know what came over me that night. It must have been something that happened in the day but it came out in this garbled thing," he laughs at the recollection. ... "I thought the whole thing was like Monty Python. There's this rock group playing onstage and the singer starts talking about politics. Great," ... "I don't even

know if we've got an MP in Surrey! I guess I should be expecting a letter from Enoch Powell any day now. Could get a libel suit as well cause I said he was the only politician mad enough to run the country. I didn't use his full name though," Eric says like an innocent schoolboy, "so it could be Enoch anybody. I don't even know what sparked it off." Probably the Arabs I jestingly offer. "Oh that's OK," Clapton muses. "I think they don't know how to spend their money. They're buying things for completely over the top prices without knowing it. I'm sure they're being taken left, right and centre. But they're sinking a lot of money into England and we'll probably regain if we're clever enough. Then they'll have to go back and discover more oil. ... I'm in the musician's union. I could get a job playin' for the BBC. There's no panic. That's what I see in a lot of the groups today, this sort of mad panic; gotta get a number one, then do the TV's. It's like they expect their careers to end in three years."

October 1976: British Institute of Management's journal for the quarter runs another large advertisement for a one-day central London conference in tax-evasion and minimisation specifically for directors of private companies. The conference (morning coffee, lunch and tea included) is £54 per delegate.

- 1 October 1976: Singer Business Machines International becomes part of the ICL group.
- 1 October 1976: A private buyer in Sotheby's purchases a 19<sup>th</sup> century centrepiece for over £600.
- 1 October 1976: Rightist <u>Sydney Morning Herald</u>'s editorial demands tough IMF action against Britain: "At the Puerto Rico summit talks in June President Ford warned Britain that in future it would have to turn to the fund rather than to the central banks for loans. The clear implication was that the fund would attach more stringent conditions affecting domestic economic management and particularly anti-inflation policy — than could be imposed politically by the US and West Germany.... If the British Government's management of sterling prices was in any way intended to effect the annual Blackpool conference it does not seem to have had the desired result. Mr Benn's self-indulgent rhetoric about Britain's economic problems being caused by "the crisis in capitalism" has fostered the sort of myopic atmosphere which allows the Government to be promised "full loyalty and support" provided it rejects conditions on an international loan which would mean more cuts in Government spending. The Labour Party's rank and file do not seem to have accepted the bitter truth about Britain's high living which is so obvious to most other observers. Why they expect their selfishness to be propped up by a \$3.100 million dose of international charity from the IMF is a mystery."

2 October 1976: IMF managing director Johannes Witteveen makes clear Britain cannot be certain until negotiations are completed that the IMF will grant the full US\$3.9 billion sought by the government.

4-8 October 1976: Conservative Conference.

Michael Heseltine explains: "Let us make one thing clear, the red flag has never flown throughout these islands yet, nor for a thousand years has the flag of any other alien creed. It is only our party that can keep it that way"

Whitelaw with the full support of Thatcher makes a call for an end to immigration to preserve good race relations. Thatcher defends the speech at the time: "Mr Whitelaw said that we were committed to admit two groups only for permanent settlement: the United Kingdom passport holders in East Africa and the dependants of those heads of families who were here legally on January 1, 1973. By dependants Mr Whitelaw made it clear that we meant only the wife and young children of the head of family ... we accept our commitments to those two groups."

She later describes it "large-scale New Commonwealth immigration over the years had transformed large areas of Britain in a way which the indigenous population found hard to accept. It is one thing for the well-heeled politician to preach the merits of tolerance... It is quite another for poorer people, who cannot afford to move, to watch their neighbourhoods changing and the value of their house falling... The problem [for the Conservative Party] was that it was very difficult to see what scope existed to cut down on present and potential future immigration... Closing loopholes, tightening up administration and some new controls on primary and secondary immigration - all of these offered opportunities to reduce the inflow. But I knew that the single most important contribution we could make to good race relations was to reduce the uncertainties about the future. It was fear of the unknown rather than the awkwardness of the present which threatened danger. Willie Whitelaw shared that basic analysis, which is why he had pledged us at the 1976 Party Conference 'to follow a policy which is clearly designed to work towards the end of immigration as we have seen it in these postwar years'." (Margaret Thatcher, The Path to Power, 406)

4 October 1976: World Bank-International Monetary Fund conference begins today in Manila.

4 October 1976: Anthony Shrimsley in the Sun celebrates the new Conservative monetarist document declaring it contains "no threats against any section of the community" as opposed to the government that assaults a beleaguered community of managers. 4 October 1976: "Treasury has had a secret meeting with Yeo of the American Treasury, and he has preached rigid monetarism at them. I have seen all the minutes and papers. Our Treasury is having a

I have seen all the minutes and papers. Our Treasury is having a critical meeting with Healey tomorrow; when they will try to convert him to the squeeze. They say we cannot get a loan without such a squeeze, and certainly some of the IMF people are saying this. But our Treasury and Bank people are encouraging them to say it." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)

4 October 1976: A 13-year-old Brian Stewart is shot in the face by a plastic bullet in Turf Lodge, Belfast. "A corporal said be had aimed at another youth, but as be fired, he was struck by two missiles which caused him to jerk the weapon. As a result the plastic bullet hit Brian Stewart, who he said had also been throwing stones. Local people contested this, claiming there was no rioting at the time. Lord Justice Jones ruled in a civil case that the boy had been participating in a riot and that the firing of a plastic bullet was reasonable. An appeal to the European Commission of Human Rights failed." (Human Rights Watch)

4 October 1976: Royal Albert Hall signs an agreement for Frank Sinatra to perform a Royal Gala benefit for the NSPCC (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children) charity, before a week's worth of concerts.

5 October 1976: Press coverage is minimal and is influenced by a series of British Army press statements. Initially in the morning Brian is described as a passer-by but then, later in the day is referred to as a "leading stone-thrower".

Major Timothy Sewell (the officer who had been taking photographs) gives a television interview stating that Brian had lead a riot of 500 people and that Brian had been "observed for a considerable time, was specifically targeted and he got what he deserved".

Later "at Brian's inquest Major Sewell, who was the only representative from the British army who gave evidence, changed the story of 500 rioters; however, he again perjured himself by claiming Brian was leading 20 rioters. This is quite a dramatic change from his original story. No one in authority asked where the mythical 480 rioters went. This Major Sewell went on to perjure himself further by claiming that the intended target had been a boy dressed in a blue and white stripped jersey. He went on to say, "We would not have aimed at a boy of Brian's stature "Major Sewell claimed he saw the baton round gun being fired from the shoulder aimed to hit a direct target. He made no mention of Pvt. Smith's

aim being deflected by the same Pvt. Smith being hit by a missile. Video footage of his interview would have allowed our legal team to point to his perjury. We were refused the use of the video evidence by Cecil Taylor the BBC's Head of Programmes. The facts were that there was only Brian and two young girls, standing on the corner talking. At this time there was no riot in progress. Lt. O'Brien may have suspected that my wee brother Brian was the boy he had two hours earlier "threatened to get" and he gave the order to fire based on this assumption. The very next morning a local television crew filmed the narrow street where Brian, was wounded, there was no rubble on the ground, there were no broken windows, damaged cars or any evidence that even a minor incident had occurred where Brian was shot. The statements made by the reporter on this broadcast indicated that there was no evidence of a riot." (The Murder of Brian Stewart, Marie Duffy, Brian's oldest sister)

5 October 1976: Roy Grantham, General Secretary of APEX asks Secretary of State, Albert Booth to set up a court of inquiry into the Grunwick's dispute.

5 October 1976: "I summoned the Unit economic consultants -Andrew Graham from Oxford, David Gowland from York, David Piachaud from LSE. ... majority view was that something needed to be done on the economic front - because we cannot finance next year's external deficit and we won't meet this year's 12% money supply target. Therefore sterling will weaken again. ... they accept the Treasury concern, and agree a monetary squeeze is necessary. Andrew Graham disagrees... thinks we are still on course, and the devaluation plus incomes policy means a reduction in real living standards and more competitive exports - which is what is required. However, we went for the squeeze, but decided it must not be the traditional one, ... LSE have given me an ultimatum. I must resign from No. 10 today (not have leave till 5 Jan 1977 as earlier promised) or resign my life tenure at LSE. I am inclined to go back to the LSE which I have always loved. Those right-wing professors in the LSE Government department are making me give up my life career and job security - something they would never dream of doing themselves. As if this work here is not relevant to my future research as a teacher of British politics and government. Typical academic humbug and envy!" (Bernard Donoughue's diary)

5 October 1976: Foreign Secretary Tony Crosland says Britain is in favour of "a land for the Palestinians" which, the Foreign Office in Whitehall later explains would "not necessarily be a sovereign state but a place where the Palestinians will be free to look after their own affairs". This subtle shift is in part as a result of the growing economic assertion of Middle East. "Britain's Middle East policy is dominated by economic calculations... the source of 85 percent of

her imported oil. Links with Middle East oil producers are particularly important in view of their holdings in sterling. Middle East sources help to meet Britain's public-sector foreign currency borrowing program and there is considerable private investment in Britain by individuals in the area. On the trade front, the Middle East is the fastest-growing export market in the world for British companies. Trade with Arab countries rose from £500 in 1973 to nearly £1500million in 1975. This year [1976] it may exceed £2000million. During 1975 and the first quarter of 1976, the value of British exports to Arab countries in creased more than those of any other Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development exporter. Exports to Israel are also significant; £237 million in 1975 and £181million to the end of September, according to official quarters."

5 October 1976 pm: Around 4,000 armed hard-rightists of Nawaphon, militarily funded and trained by ISOC, and Krating Daeng, its youth division, responsible for dozens of murders of protesters and trade union activists, and rightists in Or Sor Thailand's Volunteer village 'armed guards', expanded in 1974 to Bangkok, form a blockade outside Thammasat University waiting to attack the 2,000 in a student occupation inside.

6 October 1976: "Lunch with my stockbroking friends at Grieveson Grant, with their gilt dealers and Peter Cook from the Bank of England. Interestingly they believed we would have no problem in selling gilts and financing the PBSR deficit." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)

6 October 1976: Kenya's Attorney General Charles Njonjo arbitrarily announces the death penalty will be applied for those intending the deposition of the President. It is part of his attack on the 'Kimani Group': "In view of the recent wave of statements at public meetings about the alleged need for amendment to our constitution, I would like to bring to the attention of those few who are being used to advocate the amendment that it is a criminal offence for any person to encompass, imagine, devise or intend the death or deposition of the President....Furthermore, it is also an offence to express, utter or declare such campassings, imaginations, devices or intentions by publishing them in print or writing"

6 October 1976: Joint Arab-British Chamber of Commerce begins operations. Backed by the Arab League, it allows British firms access to Arab countries outside the traditional British domain, since membership of chambers of commerce is compulsory for international firms in many Arab states. In addition to providing detailed market information, technical translations, bilingual printing and allows efficient processing of export documents via Arabic-

speaking staff so that export deals and shipments do not come undone for having infringed import substitution measures.

6 October 1976: Hundreds of heavily armed riot police with hundreds of hard-rightist students (provoked by lurid, fantastical stories of leftist students hanging the effigy of prince Vajiralongkorn and depicting the royal family as incestuous) storm Thammasat University. Smashing the main gates with vehicles, in a 4-hour onslaught dozens of students are killed, hundreds seriously injured. 1,700 students are arrested forced to strip and crawl through lines of kicks by police and rightists before transportation to interrogation/torture centres. Several students attempting to flee the assault are caught outside the university, seriously beaten and lynched with several corpses then struck with sticks and poles in front of public view, mutilated and burnt in open bonfires.

Well over 100 are killed by nightfall. <u>Time</u> describing parts of the events as "a wild outbreak of kicking, clubbing, shooting, lynching. Youths hurled themselves into the river to keep from being shot. Then the blazing finale as a heap of gasoline-soaked bodies was set afire." (Time, 18 Oct 1976)

6 October 1976: Cubana Flight 455 shortly after taking off from Sir Grantley Adams International Airport in Bridgetown, Barbados to Cuba explodes, immediately killing all 78 on board, after having a bomb planted by members of the Venezuelan DISIP intelligence operatives and CIA-linked rightist Cuban exiles.

7 October 1976: Kissinger holds talks with Argentine Foreign Minister Admiral César Augusto Guzzetti. Kissinger states "Look, our basic attitude is that we would like you to succeed. I have an old-fashioned view that friends ought to be supported... The quicker you succeed, the better." Kissinger encourages Guzzetti to apply for as much foreign assistance as possible as soon as possible, before any "human rights problem" restricts votes in favour of easy credit "There are two loans in the bank [Inter-American Development Bank] We have no intention of voting against them... Proceed with your Export-Import Bank requests. We would like your economic program to succeed and we will do our best to help you."

7 October 1976: In Nairobi 98 Kenyatta loyalist MPs, including Dr. Gikonyo Kiano and Charles Rubia and future 'democratic leader' Mwai Kibaki issue a statement condemning the amendment to reform the constitution away from Presidential decree rule before elections as "unethical, immoral, bordering on criminality and very un-African"

7 October 1976: Len Murray, General Secretary of TUC, makes a request for trade unions to give all possible assistance to APEX, including boycotting Grunwick's services.

7 October 1976: 8<sup>th</sup> Budget. Chancellor announces Bank of England will raise its minimum lending rate to 15% from 13%.

"PM sent for Healey before the defence Cabinet committee and they discussed the Unit paper. Healey apparently intends to ignore it and proceed on a crude rise of 2% in MLR and special deposits. In fact he had promised Ed Yeo - the appalling American redneck — last week at a Treasury lunch that he would raise interest rates today. So the whole consultation process, even with the PM, had been a charade." (Tony Benn's diary)

7 October 1976: Sir Harold Wllson is named chair of a government committee to review the role and functioning of Britain's financial firms at home and abroad.

7 October 1976: A 2% increase in MLR to 15%, a post-war high.

- 8 October 1976: "depressed about the whole economic nonsense... mortgage rates (12.25%) ... Worked on the PM's speech for Monday's emergency debate and I drafted his important speech on education at Ruskin College, Oxford.... The reality is that the Treasury and the Bank do not want us to get the loans. ... They want us to be forced to cut borrowing by £6 billion in one year, even if it kills off industry and produces five million unemployed. Have a deep feeling that the Labour government has taken steps this week which will make its defeat inevitable. ... We have slumped into Conservative policies always the prelude to Conservative government as in 1950-51." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)
- 9 October 1976: A Villa Park friendly between Aston Villa and Rangers sees fans invade the pitch, after Villa take a 2-0, and begin attacks between rival supporters. 65 are arrested.
- 9 October 1976: Australian Prime Minister Fraser addresses the Indonesian Parliament declaring "I personally place the highest importance on a stable and soundly-based friendship between our two countries [which] has become, after three decades, what might be described as a constant factor in our foreign policy" He states Timor is a matter of the past and "the important thing now is to look to the future".
- 9 October 1976: Philippines riot police charge a demonstration laed by Catholic priests and nuns against the continuing martial law blocking the route to the Presidential palace.
- 10 October 1976: "Two gloomy views on the prospects if the Government does not get the economy right came on the BBC's "World at One" programme where both Lord Cromer, a former governor of the Bank of England, and Sir Monty Finniston, former

chairman of BSC, forecast rationing of food and other commodities if Britain became unable to pay her way."

- 10 October 1976: Brian Stewart dies 6 days after being shot by a plastic bullet, fired by a British solider, near his home in Norglen Road, Turf Lodge, Belfast.
- 10 October 1976: Soviet Union and MPLA-controlled Angola sign a treaty of friendship. In contrast to other military friendship for instance the 1976 PRC-Egypt Treaty (2 states with clear militarist trends), heavy warnings are sounded in the press, over the likely totalitarian drift in Angola as a result.
- 10 October 1976: Fraser gives a press conference on his talks with Suharto and responding to whether Suharto accepts Australia's position on Timor states: "I believe President Suharto and myself are satisfied with the totality of the talks." He reiterates "the important thine is to look to the future and work to the future".
- 11 October 1976: Somare holds talks in Hong Kong, before leaving for PRC.
- 11 October 1976: A meeting is held over Brian Stewart's death the previous day after his being shot a week earlier. Peace People attend the meeting, but face hostility and a few stones from some attendees who accuse them of failing to report or oppose the violence of 'forces of law and order'. Republicans calm the crowd and take the Peace People leaders into safety to avoid an ugly incident. In the press "the Turf Lodge incident was automatically interpreted as just another example of the thuggery of Republicans and the admirable forbearance of the Peace People in face of it." (Eamonn McCann, Sunday World, 17 Oct 1976)

Peace People later in the week release a statement that Army activity in areas like Turf Lodge is provocative and drives people into sympathy with armed resistance to the British army. The established order begins to raise questions against the Peace People movement from this point on. Its support is severely dented in culturally loyalist areas after this statement.

11 October 1976: The Age reports on the "6000 white Rhodesian farmers like Lady Wilson, the English, South African and Rhodesian-born gentry ... We have met — Lady Wilson and I — among the orchids and plush sofas of the new Cecil Hotel in Umtali.... Later I am picked up by a young, blond special branch man who takes me to their headquarters across the road — insisting on keeping the lavatory door open while I urinate in case I flush any evidence down the pan — and questions me about the conversation.

On the wall in the Balfour Hotel in Rusape (the wall of the whitesonly bar, which is discreetly indicated by a sign on the door which says "Right of admission reserved") is a picture which sums up the white farmers' determination not to leave. It is a sketch of Rhodesian leader Ian Smith, with a World War II Spitfire behind him. The caption is a quotation from one of his speeches: "We shall never surrender to the forces of evil."...

She opens her handbag, and pulls out a small loaded Webley pistol... We drive up "ambush alley" — a track between two gloomy rows of New Zealand kauri pines — before bouncing to a halt in front of the homestead, a two-storey concrete villa surrounded by ornamental gardens"

A dinner party in "Zengheni homestead. Lady Jacqueline Wilson puts down her monugrammed silver knife and fork and calls a servant to draw the curtains. "Bloody rain it's just what the terrorists want," she says... in the parquet-floored dining-room of this vast old colonial mansion, with its oil paintings and massive imported oak furniture"

"Backing [Rhodesian landowners] up in their last-ditch stand, are a force of so-called \_ police reservists, a para-military force of about 35,000 part-time men who are nick-named the "bright lights" because they are sent from the cities to guard lonely farms. Lady Wilson has two "bright lights" — she calls them "Lady Wilson's own" and makes them sign her regimental visitor's book — guarding her farm and her 17-year-old son when we get back. ... the 1000-odd whites a month leaving Rhodesia can take no more than about \$1200 with them. But it's more than that "I've lived here for 25 years, built this place up""

- 12 October 1976: <u>Daily Mirror</u>'s article 'We would die for peace': "The two battered leaders of Ulster's peace movement clasped hands in a solemn pact yesterday. Undeterred by a beating from a mob, they swore to battle on for peace.. even at the cost of their lives. Mrs. Williams said they were prepared to face even greater violence and she was not afraid to die."
- 12 October 1976: BP announces its Forties field will be producing 500,000 barrels a day by the end of 1977, 100,000 more than the original estimate. David Steel, BP chairman, explains that the recoverable oil reserves there have not altered. Instead the rise in output is due to a higher labour:output ratio. Output is expected at 450,000 barrels a day in 1977. This means the existing oil will be extracted more quickly and with less given over in labour costs. Tony Benn welcomes BP's statement as "good news for Britain".
- 12 October 1976: CBI (Scotland) and STUC issue a joint communiqué announcing a new initiative to encourage increased exports. Douglas Hardie, chairman of CBI (Scotland) commends "the commitment by both organisations to impress on their members the need that the country's recovery should be export led with the right quality of goods reaching customers at the correct time. I cannot agree with the general impression abroad that trade

unions are only concerned with self-interest, the STUC confirmed their sense of responsibility today." James Milne, general secretary STUC, states there is a false view in Europe in particular that British goods are of inferior quality and are delivered late, which he will work to correct.

14 October 1976: Callaghan is "delighted at the way the advance publicity was going for the Ruskin education speech. ... Ralf Dahrendorf came in at 10.30. We discussed LSE and the future of his "European Brookings Institute'. He can obviously get a lot of money for it. Lunch with Peter Gibbings" of the Guardian. We discussed rescuing the Observer. ... In the evening we continued to work on the education speech." (Bernard Donoughue's diary) Advance publicity for Callaghan commends his ideas for "back to basics" in education. The entire Ruskin College speech is a media exercise to encourage centre-right editorialisation over the failure of state/comprehensive education vs the success of private/streamed education before the speech. It allows Callaghan to pull back from some centre-right demands and present his position as authentically left-wing.

14 October 1976: US planners reflect on the massacre at Thammasat university, Bangkok, the subsequent military coup and the end of electoral democracy. It blames the students for provoking the army to massacre them: "Thailand may go through future periods of relatively open and even free government, but there can be few illusions about the temporary character of such episodes.... The results of this experiment were foreordained... in the 40-some years that have passed since the overthrow of the absolute monarchy in 1932, there have been only about three years of democratic government, most of it since October 1973... A takeover probably came close to occurring last [1975] February [but] General Bunchai Mabrungphong ordered a military alert to prevent a coup from taking place. Moreover, the king clearly opposed a coup last February. Finally, most military leaders were concerned that a coup would require the inflicting of many thousands of casualties to restore order. By contrast last week there was agreement among the military leaders, the King apparently approved, and the student and labor leaders were neutralized either by arrest or by concern over the involvement of the students in an insult to the Royal family. Democratic government was seen by a significant proportion of Thai – not all of them military officers – as being unsuited to Thailand's needs. A large share in the responsibility for the events ... must lie with the leadership of the National Student Center of Thailand (NSCT) and with the progressive faction of the Democrat Party. The student leaders ...

appeared to be using the demonstrations against Thanom to consolidate their ascendancy over Thai university students and to reach beyond them to the community as a whole." (Telegram From the Embassy in Thailand to the Department of State, October 14, 1976)

- 14 October 1976: French Appeals Court upholds application of the death penalty for 2 French travellers for the murder of 2 British tourists in Toulouse in 1972.
- 14 October 1976: DHSS report announces a record number of people have been sent to prison for social security abuses in Scotland in Jul, Aug, Sep 1976. 496 have been convicted and 49 imprisoned. A Department of Health and Social Security official states: "The high rate of imprisonment shows the Courts' stricter attitude to abuse like this. They certainly seen to be coming down harder".
- 14 October 1976: William Roe, assistant director of the Scottish Council of Social Service, says at a conference discussing the future of the that the MSC Job Creation programme. He states the MSC (Manpower Services Commission) is deluding itself in thinking it has produced 13,000 new jobs in Scotland. He notes that many of the jobs created in Scotland have lasted only a short time and none are in the mainstream of industrial economic activity. He recommends that if the £90m available throughout Britain for MSC Job Creation is not cut the following year it should be put into standard economic development programmes.
- 14 October 1976: Scottish NFU attacks the Consumers' Association plea to keep food prices down by not altering the level of the 'green pound. Percy Watt states: "This association is useful to the public in making comparisons between different manufactured products, but they should stick to a task which they know, and not make irresponsible statements... on subjects such as the green pound which they cleanly do not understand. We are not asking for the green pound to be brought down overnight to the proper market value of sterling, but I warn the Consumers' Association chat unless a first step in that direction is quickly taken by the British Government, the livestock industry cannot face the vast escalation of costs over this winter — resulting from inflation and the indirect effect of the drought. There will be a return to the downward trends of production which we saw a year ago, and this time it will be wellnigh impossible to bring the industry back to play the role of which it is capable in Britain's future. I think it's shocking that this association, which claims to speak in the consumer's interest,

should be so incredibly short-sighted. Nor can I believe that they are so deluded as to imagine that there can be basic supplies of cheap food from the world outside the European Community. If they think the British farming industry should be sacrificed for the sake of any short-term casual supply that may be available, then it is sheer irresponsibility."

- 15 October 1976: APEX and Grunwick's Strike Committee Lobby of Parliament asking for Employment Protection Act to be enforced.
- 15 October 1976: APEX officially refers the dispute to ACAS on the advice of the Albert Booth and Michael.
- 15 October 1976: Sep 1976's RPI is published showing increases in food prices in that month compared with a year ago is 19.7%. RPI increase as measured in Aug 1976 was 18.4%. The rise in 30 days since Aug 1976 is 3.8%. The sterling crisis is having a severe effect. Increases are particularly high in milk, potatoes and meat including bacon.
- 15 October 1976: Labour Left adopts the national line: "Norway has 6% of our market, bat we have nothing of theirs" calling for more aggressive capture of platform building contracts for Norwegian fields.
- 15 October 1976: BP introduce yet another line of high-viscosity motor oil, VF7, to Britain. Containing more powerful detergents than other oils its advertising claims it will clean an engine better than any other. Within a few months hundreds find that the oil is damaging engines and the product is withdrawn from sale.
- 15 October 1976: Another Sadat referendum sees his re-election by 99.9% and the arrest and torture of hundreds in connection with a boycott campaign.
- 16 October 1976: Philippines referendum asking the population for approval for amendments to the new constitution allowing Marcos to exercise power until martial law is lifted, give him emergency legislative powers and immunity from legal action even after his term ends.
- 16 October 1976: "Dinner at the Callaghans' flat with the PM and Audrey, Merlyn Rees and his wife, Ron Hayward and his wife, myself, Jim's secretary, Ruth and Jean Denham from the Press Office. We all united to attack Ron Hayward about the Trotskyites in the Party. A nice meal ... big reception at Sophia Gardens to celebrate Jim becoming PM. 1,000 guests. A cabaret. ... Music and singing till 2 in the morning. Quite different from Conference... there really are nice people in the Labour Party. Decent working-class

supporters of Labour, not those guilt-ridden middle-class Trots at Blackpool." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)

Decent working-class Labour instantly becomes Trotskyist-infected guilt-ridden as soon as militarism is openly questioned or pay levels for productive workers (manual and non-manual alike) are attacked.

16 October 1976: Richard Dimbleby Lecture is broadcast. Subtitled 'Elective Dictatorship' it features Lord Hailsham (life peer and former hereditary peer) attack Labour for trying to support nationalised industry and comprehensive education. Many liberal commentators manage to welcome this centre-right assault in favour of greater judicial tyranny: "The powers of our own Parliament are absolute and unlimited. And in this, we are almost other free nations impose limitations on representative assemblies. We impose none on ours... the point I am making is that, as a result of the changes in its operation and structure, the absence of any legal limitation on the powers of the Parliament has become quite unacceptable. And the questions which I desire to leave for your consideration are, first, whether the time has not come to end or modify this legal theory, and, secondly, whether and how it is possible to do so. Of course, this doctrine of absolute sovereignty of Parliament has been fully recognised for very many years. Judges may pass judgement on the acts of ministers, as they have recently done in the Tameside dispute, and in the arguments about Laker Skytrain. To this extent, the rule of law applies and prevails here as in other countries. But once the courts are confronted with an Act of Parliament, all they can do is to ascertain its meaning, if they can. and then apply it as justly and as mercifully as the language of the law permits. So, of the two pillars of our constitution, the rule of law and the sovereignty of parliament, it is the sovereignty of Parliament which is paramount in every case. Only a revolution, bloody or peacefully contrived, can put an end to the situation which I have just described." (Lord Hailsham, The Dimbleby Lecture, The Listener, 21 October 1976)

17 October 1976: Trico strikers return to production having secured application of the Equal Pay act after a 21-week long strike.

17 October 1976: Princess Alexandra and husband attend the canonisation ceremony of Blessed St. John Ogilvie in the Vatican. His canonisation is for reviving from the dead a cancer victim in 1967 in the fashion of Jesus to Lazarus.

The Pope declares: "Honour to you, the representatives of a Scotland which has given to humanity such a great hero of freedom and faith" Over 4000 Scottish Catholics attend the ceremony alongside over 10000 others. Jack Glass and followers of the 20th Century Reformation Movement, who have driven from Glasgow,

hold a protest outside on the steps of St Peters declaring with banners "Four million Scots are against this canonisation. Ogilvie was a traitor, not a Saint."

- 17 October 1976: French police break up a large public attack on British HMS Ark Royal naval personnel on shore leave in Toulon, France. British personnel have been responsible for a hit and run incident with a French motorcyclist.
- 18 October 1976: "We had drinks in the SCR [Senior Common Room of Nuffield College, Oxford] and then a simple lunch. The PM was very relaxed and chatted nicely to all the students.... Tom McCaffrey and I went for a walk around Oxford, including looking into Lincoln College, where I was a very happy undergraduate. ... Jim delivered his big education speech. He had modified it quite a bit over the weekend, softening some of the criticisms of current education methods, making sure he did not end up in the Rhodes Boyson-Tory camp. He read the speech rather hurriedly and was interrupted by a crowd of student Trot militants, protesting about education cuts. I sat on the platform with Audrey." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)
- 19 October 1976: "lunch at the American Embassy with Ron Spiers. We discussed the UK economic situation and the need to finance our sterling balances. He said it is necessary to get the question taken over from their Treasury by the State Department and thinks that Kissinger would help. He also said that the US wants us to take the lead over Rhodesia, since if the US takes the lead that will force the Russians to interfere." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)
- 19 October 1976: Britain, alongside France and USA, applies the triple veto in the UNSC to a resolution calling for an arms sales embargo on apartheid South Africa. Only Italy and Japan abstains. Representing the veto-wielders William W Scranton tells the Security Council that the Kissinger-Vorster talks have meant "substantial progress" and "for the first time there are prospects for results".

Salim A. Salim of Tanzania declares the uncomfortable truth: "They have laid the grounds for more bloodshed in Namibia and in Southern Africa".

20 October 1976: Former prime minister Harold Macmillan gives a BBC television interview to Robin Day calling for a government of national unity. The press has been informed in advance and articles anticipating his wisdom are spread across national newspapers.

- 20 October 1976: British music group Led Zeppellin host the world première of their film The Song Remains the Same in New York. It is fairly widely derided as a cynical exploitation of music fans for sales receipts.
- 20 October 1976: "Cabinet committee ... on the so-called Alternative Economic Strategy ran around the import controls course, with two Cabinet Office papers setting out the pros and cons. No further progress." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)
- 21 October 1976: Chancellor at Lord Mayor's Banquet states: "Living standards will have to suffer a further fall"
- 22 October 1976: "LSE seminar on French planning not much for us to learn. They are different. Anyway their Civil Service believes in it." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)
- 24 October 1976: <u>Sunday Times</u> publishes in sensationalist fashion its exposure of some falsifications conducted by Sir Cyril Burt, spearhead of 11+ testing, official psychologist of LCC, responsible for administering IQ and 'mental' tests in prewar London schools, President of the British Psychological Society, knighted for contributions to psychological testing, member of the London School of Differential Psychology and British Eugenics Society, author of <u>The Gifted Child</u>. Its medical journalist Oliver Gillie asserts that Burt invented his two assistants, Jane Conway and Margaret Howard, never existed, instead of sticking to the central point that his collected data is extremely suspect and impossible to gather.
- In 1997 William Tucker examined the research subjects used in all separated identical twin studies conducted between 1922 and 1990 and finds that no other study has ever come close to having 53 sets of twins that would have satisfied Sir Cyril Burt's conditions. The sum total of all the twins in all the studies (who fit Burt's criteria) would barely reach 53, suggesting a serious bending of criteria in Burt's seminal observational analysis.

(Re-reconsidering Burt: beyond a reasonable doubt, Jnl History Behavioural Science 1997, vol33n2 p145-62)

24 October 1976: Derek Cracknell, first TGWU steward on the Isle of Grain power station site, writes in a letter to the <u>Sunday Times</u> to explain the background of industrial relations: "imagine working day after day at some menial task, such as digging. When it's cold and wet you're cold and wet, when it's dry you're working in a sandstorm... you may not even know what you're digging for or why. You are spoken to as if you're a mental defective.... Nobody gives two hoots about you, you're an easy-to-replace item on the books."

25 October 1976: Sterling endures its worst attack ever falling more than 5c, ending at \$1.595.

25 October 1976: Callaghan states living standards have "fallen this year and will fall again next year". In a TV interview he threatens Britain will withdraw its NATO contingent from Federal Germany if it does not obtain an adequate IMF loan. Unlike Third World countries this exerts real leverage over US government, whose Treasury dominates the IMF in voting. A British withdrawal could have been a big step forward for dismantling power blocs in both West and East but it does not materialise.

25 October 1976: "yesterday's article in the Sunday Times saying that the IMF wanted sterling down to \$1.50. This was bound to produce a run on the pound: Lever could now see little hope of us winning through. The impact on domestic inflation will be terrible. The social contract will collapse and we won't have a third round of wages policy. ... Now it is always external pressure on sterling which defeats us. We don't know who planted the Sunday Times article. It was from America - but possibly from our Treasury representatives there? So that they can create the kind of sterling crisis in which they can bounce through another deflationary package?" (Tony Benn's diary)

25 October 1976: "No.10 just before the PM arrived from the TUC-NEC liaison committee. Sterling had fallen 7cents this morning - the biggest percentage fall ever! ... Just before he [Callaghan] saw Healey, I talked to him and told him not to be panicked. ... Wait for the IMF and then produce a proper final package. This was the line the PM put to the Chancellor and they agreed 'steady as she goes' for the Chancellor's statement to the House this afternoon." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)

25 October 1976: Queen opens the new parts of the Royal National Theatre, usually termed the National Theatre, with 3 auditoria - the Olivier, Lyttleton and Cottesloe. The Olivier is named after Old St Edwardian (Old Teddie) Sir (and life peer Baron) Laurence Olivier, the RNT's first artistic director. The Cottesloe is named after Old Etonian hereditary Lord Cottesloe, current Deputy Lieutenant to Lord Lieutenant of London, and former chief of the Arts Council of Great Britain. The Lyttleton is named after Old Etonian Lord Lyttleton, former chief of British Metal Corp, at the time when it is the major stock-holder in Germany's Metallgesellschaft, strong financiers of NSDAP, suppliers of raw materials and metals for the German war effort.

Although the National Theatre opens with 2 plays that typify traditional bedrock English 'classic' 'unsurpassed' theatre Sir Christopher Marlowe's Tamburlaine the Great and Shakespeare's Hamlet, it features several plays that are termed 'modernist', 'leftwing' and 'experimental', including Ken Campbell's Illuminatus!, an 8-hour 5-play cycle based on the madcap US novel, Alan

Ayckbourn's Bedroom Farce, Keith Dewhurst's Lark Rise and David Hare's Plenty. Nonetheless in the demand for high-production on sets and large casts, the manual workforce are squeezed out leading to a number of strikes.

26 October 1976: A report in <u>Washington Post</u> that the IMF will insist that Britain pushes the MLR up to 18% as a part of the price for the IMF loan causes fluctuation in sterling and FTSE. Sterling increases on the report but falls when IMF denies the report, to close down again at \$1.59. Stock as exemplified by the FTSE index fall dramatically showing a fall of 9 points on the report about the MLR (since a higher MLR will make conversion of fixed capital into profits difficult for most firms) but it recovers to fall only 6.5 points. Sterling and stock prices are letting rip against the population, desperate, in their own way, to reduce the social burdens imposed upon profit-making.

26 October 1976: Eric Sevareid, CBS Evening News announcer attacks Presidential candidates and running-mates for failing to even speak of "the most haunting problem of all; the decay of our most respected ally, in solvency and power— Great Britain" He explains that to cope with a general decline of the West, as explained by Solzhenitsyn "the key remedial step is surely the revival of Britain... if the candidates don't talk about it, that is partly because they can't figure out what to do about it, besides our normal role in the various international loans to Britain- blood transfusions of temporary value." He urges "an initiative, a spark must come from somewhere... the alternative may be to start thinking the unthinkable— Britain going through the wringer." He notes "America began, a generation ago, against Germany and Japan. We could end with them, and with little else" hinting they may not be reliable allies.

26 October 1976: Callaghan clarifies his statements on NATO and BOAR: "this country has a position of very great influence and importance in Europe. Because of this and because of the strength and stability that we give to central Europe through the important contribution of the British Army of the Rhine, attempts to disrupt the sterling system—or, indeed, our rate—and the consequences of such attempts or other adventitious factors due to the overhang of the sterling balances can lead to this country's influence being weakened. The Federal Republic has reserves of \$35 billion to \$40 billion and more. ... I was discussing how Britain's influence in central Europe can be maintained, not removed."

26 October 1976: Price Commission quarterly report for Jun-Aug 1976 reports profit margins for the largest companies are at the

- best level for over 2 years, rising, from 55% to 61.5% of permitted levels. It records progress made against ongoing price increases as "thoroughly unsatisfactory".
- 26 October 1976: Queen Mother opens a new Britain cultural centre in Paris, constructed to mark Britain's adherence to the EEC after the referendum.
- 26 October 1976: EIS Executive votes 31-13 to accept Scotland wide proposals that the basic teachers' contract will become 203 days of work a year up from 200. Inevitably this means more unemployed trained teachers allowing further cuts to pedagogical courses.
- 26 October 1976: It is announced Sally Oppenheim MP, has sold a house in Bishops' Avenue, Hampstead, for over £600,000.
- 26 October 1976: Minister for Social Security Stan Orme states the £10 Christmas bonus for pensioners will never be reintroduced in a written reply.
- 26 October 1976: TUC Economic Committee-Cabinet Ministers meeting at No10. Len Murray says TUC will continue to support the government, and if there are to be reductions in public expenditure they need to be examined "on merit" and on the best ways of using resources. Murray makes no mention of demands for the introduction of import controls. (A weaker sterling means more imports, unless controlled). Len Murray urges the government to stand by the decision not to devalue the EEC 'green pound'. TUC urges more resources given for the NEB.
- 26 October 1976: Strathclyde Regional Council announces an inquiry into divisional structures. 301 managers have salaries above £6000. 99 have salaries above £10.000, 17 regional departments include 75 managerial posts with salaries above £12,000. The Chief Executive is at £19,500.
- 26 October 1976: Callaghan praises Federal German codetermination as a good way forward for employers: "one conclusion that I draw and recommend to employers in this country is that the system of industrial democracy in Germany is working extremely well, and that is why we propose that similar measures should be introduced here"
- 26 October 1976: "sterling crisis... has thrown us completely off course.... It affects everybody. The civil servants are more difficult. The CBI is less co-operative. The Tories are more intransigent." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)

CBI broadly lets financiers act first, landing the sucker punch, and then demands further concessions as its deals become more expensive.

26 October 1976: In a written answer Health Minister Ennals understands they weaken the NHS but announces there will be no restrictions on diversions of resources for advertisement in medicine: "I have no plans to issue instructions to medical journals on advertising. I am, however, concerned about the cost of sales promotion by pharmaceutical companies, which includes advertising in medical journals, and which is reflected in the prices of medicines supplied under the National Health Service."

26 October 1976: Members of the Scottish Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (SACRO) tell a gathering of Scottish MPs at the House of Commons that half of all prisoners in Scotland should be in jail. Sir William Gray. Chairman of SACRO, stressed that nearly half of Scotland's male prison population is inside because they have not paid fines. The average cost of each inmate is £3383 a year. He states: "The community in Scotland is spending £15m every year to maintain people in prison, half of whom should not be there at all."

27 October 1976: UKAEA attacks a joint report from the Council for the Protection of Rural England, Friends of the Earth, and NCCL (National Council tor Civil Liberties) warning of remaining nuclear dangers and increased armed security personnel, increased level of activity by Mi5, Mi6 and Special Branch in surveillance and vetting of many industrial and other workers in civilian roles tied loosely to Windscale. It accuses the report of ignoring the "much worse social consequences which could arise from the energy famine which might occur in the absence of nuclear power".

27 October 1976: Tribalist chief Kaiser Matanzima, prime minister of independent South African homeland Transkei declares the word "Great" has seeped out of "Great Britain" because trade unions are too strong. He states trade union activity will be resisted in Transkei. "We are a young country and cannot afford to have disruptive elements in our midst... It depresses me that the qualification for sovereignty among newly independent nations these days is apparently bloodshed. Because our independence has been peacefully negotiated with South Africa, other nations refuse to recognise us. But we shall not oblige them by dissolving into confusion. They are just like a lot of sheep who follow the trends of the moment."

27 October 1976: As part of week long visit to Federal Germany, Betty Williams of Peace People in Hamburg states the impact of the movement will ultimately extend to other areas of violence throughout the world. She states "no other country in Europe has shown such an interest as Germany in the Northern Ireland tragedy. I've come to Germany to thank the people of this country, not only for giving us their moral backing but also for the financial help they have given the peace movement."

"Northern Ireland, viewed internationally, is what could be called a lovers' tiff when compared with violence in Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East"

"We are now convinced these thugs, who have gained auch notoriety, are cornered animals, but cornered animals bite. My bottom is still bruised."

27 October 1976: An unemployed 27 year old is sentenced to 6 months prison at Paisley Sheriff Court for unfairly claiming £59 from the fiscal office by claiming payment for loss of earnings for attending a trial in the Court as a prosecution witness whilst he was in receipt of unemployment benefit.

27 October 1976: Lord Patrick Devlin writes an article 'The Courts and the Abuse of Power' in <u>The Times</u> supporting the House of Lords decision in the Tameside case.

27 October 1976: Transport Secretary Rodgers announces there will be no inflation-compensating subsidies for public rail transport and ticket prices will increase. He bases his approach on statistics showing him that a 50% increase in rail fares has only resulted in a drop of about 5% in passenger miles. He declares: "It will be hard enough for me to defend the existing amount of rail subsidy. There can be no question of increasing it."

October 1976: The Guardian calculates that the Labour Government has been defeated in the House of Lords in 48 out of 49 votes concluding: "By far the heaviest weight behind the votes on these 48 occasions, both in the moving of the amendments and the manning of the divisions lobbies, has come from the Conservative peers and those Independents who invariably support them. What is more, the insurmountable advantage which the Conservatives get from their army of hereditary members has been the main determining factor in the major votes. Four our of five of those who voted to cut the dockwork zone, four out of five who wrote the delaying power into the aircraft and shipbuilding Bills, were hereditary peers - only very few of them peers of first creation.... the Conservatives have been able to use their superior

- power in the unelected Upper house to do what they do not have the strength to do in the elected Lower."
- 27 October 1976: Courtaulds announces the closure of 3 plants. Skelmersdale, Lancashire (1000 jobs); Sunnybrook Mill, Rochdale; and Wolsey, Lincolnshire. The furnishings fabrics weaving mill at Carlisle, Cumbria is to be reorganised with a loss of 250 jobs. With closures plans announced last week by Courtaulds, jobs to be eliminated stands at 4000.
- 27 October 1976: Mexican peso falls 24% in one day, as soon as it is allowed to float. Its value has fallen by 52.6% over the past 2 months.
- 27 October 1976: Labour NEC votes 13-6 to support a TUC lobby of Parliament against cuts on 17 Nov 1976.
- 27 October 1976: Sterling falls to \$1.565, a new low in the post-1974 era.
- 27 October 1976: FTSE Index falls 8 to reach 265.3, the lowest level since Feb 1975's nerves about the EEC Referendum.
- 27 October 1976: Court of Appeal reverses a High Court ruling that Equity is able to alter its rule-book by member referendum.
- 27 October 1976: Lowland Bonar subsidiary's Bonar Long announces it has won £1.5mil contracts for electricity units in Abu Dhabi and Libya.
- 27 October 1976: Edward Davies, marketing director of Blue Sky holidays, explains 1977 will be "the year of the holiday value-hunter" because surcharges on Spanish destinations will soon be removed as the value of the peseta crumbles. The late 1970s Spanish tourist holiday boom is, large measure, an unintended consequence of financial assaults upon the peseta in an attempt to weaken moves for economic democracy within Spain since 1975. French, Federal German, Scandanavian and British holidaymakers
- 27 October 1976: Wilson's second of 2 ITV interviews with David Frost, praises the Queen's "profound knowledge of politics in the constitutional sense" and pays tribute to her assistance to prime ministers "especially if he was under the weather and got tired or something of that kind." It is almost entirely a cosy 'celebrity' interview. Wilson jokes and comments about the pitfalls of "living over the shop" and soft innuendo about his wife bumping into messengers offering red boxes late at night.
- 28 October 1976: Sterling declines heavily once again closing at \$1.57.

28 October 1976: Australia's Commission under Justice Fox over the Ranger uranium mine, reports that the mine and its exports, to Britain among others, should go ahead.

28 October 1976: "PM saw Lord Bullock to get a preview of his report on industrial democracy, which is apparently running into lots of trouble, with the CBI representatives writing a minority report against worker representatives on the boards. Actually the commission was fated to fail from the beginning because: (1) it was specifically required to look at trade union (not workers') representatives on boards and (2) the industrial representatives were known hardliners." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)

28 October 1976: Lord Hinton of Bankside, ennobled by Wilson, manager of construction at Calder Hall, former head of the Central Electricity Generating Board calls for "autocratic organisation" in the nuclear industry as the only way it can proceed: "In the first 10 years of atomic energy, General Morgan, who was controller of atomic energy at the Ministry of Supply, referred to the heads of his establishments at Harwell, Risley and Aldermaston as "his bold, bad barons", according to Margaret Gowing, and this was probably a reasonable analogy. The three technological establishments were autocracies which produced results.... There must be one single competent engineer (it is an engineering job) who is ultimately responsible. He must stand or fall by his results; by whether his project is completed within the estimate and operates successfully on the programmed date. Unless we can have such an autocratic organisation in Britain I suggest that we should consider whether we might not save money by getting out of the business of reactor development." (New Scientist, 28 Oct 1976)

28 October 1976: Government announces the Parliamentary Select Committee set up to examine corruption linked to jailed architecture firm owner John Poulson, will be held in private to avoid questions over MPs mentioned.

28 October 1976: Maire Drumm, strong republican and strongly in favour of political status for all militants republican and loyalist alike, is assassinated. Having endured husband's internment without trial for 13 years, arrest and torture of her eldest son, internment in Long Kesh of her younger son and imprisonment of her daughter in H.M.P. Armagh, Merlyn Rees has publicly suggested she be arrested. Ruairí O'Brádaigh's later elegy: "some of the comments by politicians and pressmen on both sides of the Irish Sea in the past have not helped and have assisted in making a political figure like Maire Drumm, the target for assassination squads [including] the refusal of a visa to her to enter the United

Slates... under British pressure" She "had to cope with the internment without trial of her husband Jimmy, for thirteen years, the rearing of a family of five, the arrest and ill-treatment of her son Sean, the internment without trial of her son Seamus in Long Kesh and the imprisonment of her daughter, Maire Óg, in Armagh Jail... One aspect of Maire Drumm's life is clear to all who worked with her; she ceaselessly advocated the rights of the Loyalist communities in the new Ireland, and consistently guarded and developed lines of contact with them. Those with whom she was in touch among the Loyalists knew well of her persistent work for a just peace in Ireland"

28 October 1976: EEC statement, with ardent British backing, is issued to oppose demands at the UN General assembly for an economic boycott. It calls for continued ties with South Africa.

28 October 1976: In a written answer it is revealed that over 1,500 Rhodesian students have been denied grants for the year for study by the much-trumpeted Overseas Development Ministry scheme. "Approximately 1,550 applications for grants were unsuccessful... it is not possible to identify how many of these were from applicants resident in the United Kingdom... the basis for selection being the candidate's qualifications for further education, the proposed field of study and the panels' judgement of each candidate's capacity successfully to complete the course requested within its normal term."

- 28 October 1976: MOD explains titanium sponge in the new RAF Tornado aircraft is ultimately supplied from Soviet Union, via a Federal German firm that makes wing parts for later assembly.
- 29 October 1976: Sir Eric Yarrow, at the annual dinner of the Incorporation of Bonnetmakers, says nationalisation of the shipbuilding and aircraft industries would probably cost Britain not far short of the amount the Treasury is seeking from IMF. He says when the cost of servicing the compensation stock and funds for working capital and capital investment are added it will come to close to £2.1bn over 3 years. He suggests abandoning nationalisation and making cuts for a reduced IMF withdrawal.
- 29 October 1976: NCB opens the world's largest coal-mining complex, at Selby, Yorkshire, with the Duchess of Kent cutting ribbon. It is the first new coalfield to be developed in Britain for 70 years and is specifically designed for high-yield incentive payment systems. Management have visited 'Socialist' Poland for ideas and planning.

- 29 October 1976: Metropolitan ad Thames Valley Police make raids in London and Reading under the PTA. Not a single weapon or explosive material is found but literature and personal papers are taken from rooms.
- 29 October 1976: British Rail announcement explains tickets will rise by an average of 12.5% on 2 Jan 1977 with a further rise by the end of the year possible.
- 29 October 1976: George Hutchinson in <u>The Times</u> explains "wreckers" must be dealt with ruthlessly.
- 29 October 1976: "The Treasury plans now are to cut £3 billion from the PSBR half by tax and half by public expenditure cuts. I wanted to press him [Callaghan] that cuts are better than taxes." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)

Pre-tax profits of 139 British companies whose annual reports were included in the Extel British company service during October aggregated 1256m a%ainsi 1222m for the same companies in the previ-ous year.

The net profits before tax of 2268 British companies during the 10 months to 31/1076 aggregated U 0,559m (£11.611m) for the same companies in the previous year.

- 30 October 1976: Prince Charles says he is leaving the RN in 6 weeks because there are "things to do and it would be rather selfish of me If I remain locked away here". He has been selected to head the Committee organising 1977 Sliver Jubilee celebrations.
- 31 October 1976: It is reported in the press that South Africa has begun export of coal to Israel, lessening its dependence on Middle-Eastern oil.

August-November 1976: In the first 4 months of Phase Two, from 31 Jul 1976 to Nov 1976 the cost of living has risen by 5.1%, average earnings by 3.5% (Financial Times, Jan 29 1977)

November 1976: Economic League begins applies its blacklist for another construction worker. It explains in the World in Action documentary to a prospective employer in 1988: "He first came to our notice in November 1976... You know to my mind there is no question you should turn him down. People would be very foolish to take him on."

November 1976: Teddy Kollek, mayor of Jerusalem, civilian adjutant of the military takeover of East Jerusalem in 1967, opens Israeli Book Week under the auspices of the London National Book League. He commends 35 Israeli publishers and printing firms taking part. English leftist author Alan Silitoe reads from his translation of nationalist soldier-poet Be'eri Hazak, from IDF

stronghold Afikim kibbutz, killed in the October War. A sample poem "Lord of the Universe" (Ribono shel Olam) describes a metaphorical effort to communicate with God using a two-way radio on the battlefield: "Please boost the signal intensity".

November 1976: The British-North American Committee, industrialists' body consisting of 100 British, Canadian and US businessmen, releases a report on the desire by Third World nations to exercise ever-greater control over mineral resources. If the trends for excessive taxation or nationalisation continue the result will be "not major shortages of non-fuel minerals for the economies of the industrialized countries, at least not over the next decade or two, but rather the impediment of the economic development of the Third World countries themselves". It urges a refocusing of economic thinking on the direct colonial era where "the political and economic structures of these areas were closely tied to those of the metropolitan centres of the industrial world ... substantial mineral developments were carried out with ease and to the satisfaction of the users of the minerals and the investors in these developments". (Mineral Development in the Eighties: prospects and problems. A Report prepared by a Group of Committee Members, British-North American Committee)

November 1976: MAWU Secretary and 2 organizers prominent in British Leyland are proscribed by the government. British Leyland has informed the TUC that it can not "recognize an African trade union for bargaining purposes.. without setting our business and employment at risk." Black trade unions like the MAWU are not officially recognised by the South African government, but there is no legal bar against companies bargaining with them. It is rarer for the government to arrest black trade union officials, where bargaining occurs.

November 1976: In the month's <u>The Engineer</u> Duke of Edinburgh explains: "The innovator hardly stands a chance... The Welfare State is a protection against failure... national recovery can only take place if innovators and men of enterprise and hard work can prosper."

- 1 November 1976: Scotland trade mission in issocialion with B-ilish Overseas Trade Board to Poland and Hungary, led by Russell, international business constant of the Bank ol Scotland and Lord Clydesmuir. president of the Scotlish Council (Development and Industry), begins.
- 1 November 1976: Singapore's <u>Straits Times</u> in an editorial declares the press is "more or less muzzled... the mass media is predominantly in the hands of the Government... Critics of the PAP have long asserted that the party, despite its many accomplishments in office, is not really true to the ideology it

espouses, namely democratic socialism. The PAP's detractors argue first that the PAP is basically undemocratic because, as the Government of Singapore, it uses sweeping powers under our Internal Security laws to detain without trial its opponents." Editorship is later changed in response to the article.

- 1 November 1976: South African forces, again using Leyland people carriers, swarm into Soweto to police a stay-away protest.
- 1 November 1976: "PM called a secret and emergency meeting of the ministerial group discussing the economic situation Healey, Crosland, Lever and Douglas Wass." [The 'Labour Left' are excluded from these pre-Cabinet discussions] ... I saw the PM... He said, 'Well, Bernard, as my spiritual adviser, don't you think we should make our next big speech on violence, vandalism, law and order, etc?' I agree and we will start working on it." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)
- 1 November 1976: Police arrest 9 pickets at Grunwick's.
- 1 November 1976: Large parts of the UPW begin blacking Grunwick mail.
- 2 November 1976: The Europa section of Le Monde, La Stampa, Die Welt and The Times features a comment piece from The Times US correspondent on post-Watergate USA "two years later, one realizes how profoundly right was... Jaworski [who] confided that he "intended to go through this to the end, not for reward or fame, but simply because of the young people." This crisis, he said, "would shape what the young of America would think or say or do in this system for all of the next generation: unless they believed in American institutions, the system simply would not work".... Of the great crisis, one sees almost no traces today. Did America ever look stronger, or more self-confident? At the State Department, I asked one of the men at the top the obvious question: would America's foreign policy change, and how, if Mr Carter wins? The obvious answer came, nicely phrased: " If my friends working for Carter were to take our place here, the change would be a matter of style rather than of substance."" However he comments: "At a European-American seminar near Washington I listened to one of my favourite European politicians, and one of the wisest, Mrs Shirley Williams, of Britain, call our attention to the dangers connected with "the emergence of a different political pattern in Europe, from what the United States was used to"" ie anti-US feelings, particularly over demands for increases in NATO expenditure.
- 2 November 1976: Europa section also notes "France's share of the Iranian market is almost the same as in 1973 (4.41% against 4.71), while the United States has advanced from 16.6% to 19.55% and Japan from 13.9 per cent to 15.8%. ... West Germany and Britain, not to mention Japan and the United States, are achieving

results in Iran which are every bit as satisfactory and with a great deal less publicity" [than France's]. In part this explains France's greater equanimity (out of the Western bloc) over the Shah's troubles in 1978.

- 2 November 1976: Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution under the chairmanship of Sir Brian Flowers, Chief of the European Science Foundation from 1974-80 publishes its unanimous 16-member report on 'Nuclear Power and the Environment'. It broadly accepts the current status quo, urging only greater defence and security procedures.
- 2-5 November 1976: Foreign Secretary Crosland visits Yugoslavia
- 3 November 1976: "with Robert Armstrong to a nice restaurant in St Martin's Lane. He is waiting quietly to take over as permanent secretary at the Home Office. He told me that Harold Wilson had involved Charles Curran of the BBC in his mad pursuit of South African spies. Wilson had sent for two BBC/freelance journalists and told them he, as ex-PM, knew of a big scoop story, but he would only give it to them if they got the full and open support of the head of the BBC. So Curran stepped in. Now they have discovered there is nothing to discover. They all look fools. And the BBC is furious. ... a fascinating EY Cabinet committee to discuss the latest depressing Treasury national income forecast, and the resulting stance we should take with the IMF negotiators, now here. The four 'import controllers' - Foot, Benn, Shore and Booth - persuaded no new recruits. Shore was very honest in facing up to the massive deflation that must go with protection. Benn does not admit it. For the others it was a question of how to reinforce and modify the existing strategy." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)
- 4 November 1976: Hawk fighter planes begin their RAF service as training planes Central Flying School at RAF Valley base.
- 4 November 1976: Lord Chief Justice in the six counties, Sir Robert Lowry, and British Army Commander of Land Forces, Maj.-Gen. David Young, join Secretary Roy Mason in attacking the BBC chiefs and governors over its coverage of the six counties. The event was a private dinner party held at the luxury Culloden Hotel, Cultra, Belfast, celebrating the extension of BBC's premises in Ormeau Avenue. RUC Chief Constable Kenneth Newman defends the BBC however, noting that it reported police statements without criticism. Roy Mason warning is unusually blunt he says he part of a body (the Cabinet) that controls financing, budgetings and salaries of the BBC and its Board of Governors. He accuses it of giving "daily propaganda" to the PIRA. The message is "I pay your wages"

- 4 November 1976: "I talked to several ministers. Stan Orme asked me to send him an economist as special adviser I suggested David Metcalf from the LSE." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)
- 4 November 1976: Emergency debate in Parliament on Grunwick.
- 4 November 1976: UPW officials order postal workers to abandon blacking of under threat of legal action and in return for a promise from Grunwick to cooperate with ACAS.
- 5 November 1976: UN General Assembly votes 93-9 to criticise Britain, France and USA for the use of the triple veto in favour of South Africa.
- 7 November 1976: <u>Sunday Times</u> notes the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Bill's Lords amendments will: "delete all ship-repairing, prohibit British shipbuilders from operating any ships, and delay vesting day of the aircraft industry until after the next General Election." The Labour government constitutionally can do nothing. This is exactly what happens.
- 8 November 1976: BBC announces it will show 3 or 4 programmes based on 12 scheduled 2-hour interviews to be conducted by Frost at Nixon's home in San Clemente, California, in Mar and Apr 1977. It has been reported in Aug 1975 that Frost has reached agreement with Nixon on the interviews. <u>Daily Express</u> has reported the deal is worth over \$3mil with Nixon receiving \$500,000.
- 8 November 1976: Chancellor Healey confirms EEC finance ministers have expressed a willingness to assist Britain beyond the IMF's \$3.9billion.
- 8 November 1976: Labour Left MP Sydney Bidwell publishes a book *Red, White and Black: Racial Harmony in Britain* with an introduction by Employment Minister Michael Foot. It tackles race relations, inspired by the summer with the Malawi Asian panic and increasing racialist violence. The basic concern is to avoid a repetition of northern Ireland and open rebellion: "The situation there provides a discomforting parallel with race relations problems in the United Kingdom. The six-county semi-state has blown up. Clearly if we are to avoid a similar eruption on the race relations front, we have to take measures to preserve social stability; and we must do so anyway for the sake of social justice"
- 9 November 1976: "Victor Rothschild at his flat in St James's Place.... He ... told me that Harold Wilson had been to dinner with him, had been full of praise for me, and had asked if Victor would ask me if I would be 'nominally' associated with his inquiry into City financial institutions. ...

I dashed to a meeting at LSE to discuss Ralf Dahrendorf's idea for a "British Brookings" [Institute]. Douglas Wass, Belgrove of BP, Mark Bonham Carter, Peter Parker of British Railways, Frank Macfazean of British Airways, Anthony Part, formerly of the Department of Industry, and Edward Boyle. We made a lot of progress and clearly Ralf has access to quite big funds. It could just happen. We ate a buffet supper at the table ... [Douglas] Wass very excited ... felt that the next ten days would decide our financial fate. ... PM has a secret meeting tomorrow morning with all the top Treasury people about the IMF." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)

9 November 1976: Britain again 'defies the will of the UN' by voting against 2 resolutions over South Africa. Britain rejects the call for ending all forms of military cooperation with South Africa and "legitimacy of the struggle of the oppressed people of South Africa and their liberation movements, by all possible means, for the seizure of power" voting against it 108-11-22.

It also votes against the resolution urging the UNSC to take action to impose a mandatory arms embargo on South Africa, which is nonetheless won 110-8-22 in the General Assembly.

- 9 November 1976: British sources in Bonn reveal Federal Germany will purchase 375 British tank guns to boost fire-power of US built Bundeswehr Patton tanks.
- 9 November 1976: Queen and Duke of Edinburgh tour Luxembourg's Arbed steel works.
- 9 November 1976: A government planning paper to the Department of Education and Science's advisory committee on teacher training reveals plans to close or amalgamate 30 education (teacher training) colleges. Education Secretary Williams, in a Commons written answer explains the government view that teacher training places must be reduced to 45,000 by 1980-1 (30,000 on BEd and CertEd, 5,000 on postgraduate PGCE courses, and 10,000 on in-service schemes)

Max Morris NUT full-timer on the Committee explains: "Such a reduction will endanger all our attempts to get satisfactory teaching conditions in the 1980s. It will mean primary school classes continuing with more than 30 children for far longer than necessary. Comprehensive schools will have to put up with shortages of pastoral staff, to look after children's welfare. It will take much longer to end teacher shortages in such subjects as mathematics and handicrafts." A government guidance paper has noted that already 20 teacher training colleges have been ordered shut, 31 ordered to merge with polytechnics, 22 with further education colleges, up to 26 with other colleges including technical colleges, 2-4 with universities.

10 November 1976: "Cabinet committee on economic strategy (F-Y) which is discussing our Policy Unit paper as well as the CPRS paper on the national recovery programme. The PM asked me to speak ... ours was more political and involved more participation by the trade unions, etc ... The discussion went heavily our way with support especially from Benn and Crosland. Overall it was a great triumph for us. ...

[A lunch for a retiring EEC Commissioner] I sat with John Hale, my former tutor at Oxford, and Mark Hughes, who was also at Oxford with me as an undergraduate. I have been trying to get Hale an appointment in the arts world. Dahrendorf sat next to the PM, who asked him to arrange a seminar of sympathetic economists" (Bernard Donoughue's diary)

10 November 1976: A waiter at exclusive Les Ambassadeurs Club announces he has been sacked because he has served a magnum bottle of claret over a diner's left shoulder even though "there was no room to go round the table because there was a column in the way." Prince Charles is a member but offers no help.

10 November 1976: Details emerge at the Old Bailey by prosecution lawyer John Matthew over the behaviour of the obscene publications squad's "almost unbelievable practice of bribery" and corruption. No shop has been able to set up without a "down payment" to the squad of at least £10000. The squad has held Friday night "shareouts" of the prize money for junior officers. "Clients" of the squad have been given advance warning of police visits with the codeword 'W. H. Smith'. If a paying customer is charged for any offence the squad has provided help where possible. Pornographic film makers have been given contacts by police to help them sell their product. Regular monthly payments from Soho owners have occurred. One proprietor has paid £1000 every month at a lunch meetings with DCs. Another has paid £150 a month in a hotel lavatory. Newcomers to the squad have been easily persuaded in joining outright or keeping quiet. John Matthew describes it as a "cancerous growth of corruption" that "spread itself from the most junior to the most senior over a period of many years".

10 November 1976: The Age in its lead editorial 'Battle of Britain — 1976 version' joins the chorus for a government of national unity: "... a Government now required to convince the IMF that it can act decisively in fiscal matters if it is to be granted a \$3450 million loan to help keep the British Isles afloat... Central to the nation's problems has been a massive diversion of funds to the public rather than the private sector. This aberration has survived Conservative as well as Labor Governments. Today around 60 per cent of national spending is accounted for in the public sector. ... At the same time, it is imperative that resources be freed for private industry if growth

is to be stimulated and, hopefully, prices stabilised. Already the slump in sterling value has added grievously to the time scale in which such targets can be achieved. The lessons that Australia can draw from all this scarcely need elaborating. Mr. Healey is now faced with the prospect of a mini-Budget before Christmas in which the options appear to be either running the gauntlet with further cuts in public spending, or increasing taxation in a nation where the Treasury's big spoon has long been a major inhibition to both investment and initiative. Britain has an amazing record of resilience in crises, but even the most dedicated Anglophile must be alarmed at the abyss looming beyond its present economic, monetary and trade problems. Britain effectively is at war - or so, at least, it appears from this distance. To the outside observer, there are questions other than whether Labor can live out the remaining three years of its term (which now appears exceedingly doubtful) or whether a Tory alternative alone can find an answer (also open to doubt). Sympathisers abroad may increasingly find themselves asking whether, for a nation so besieged, a pooling of political resources in a coalition of broad appeal might not now point the way. No doubt many Britons would ridicule the idea. In fact, both Mr. Callaghan and Mrs. Thatcher have already dismissed it publicly. But it worked in the 1940s. And who will argue that the survival of a truly independent Britain is now any less threatened, or that the need for national unity has ever been greater?"

10 November 1976: Enoch Powell gives another pro-Labour speech announcing he will vote to sustain the Labour government: "I can see much in the interests of the United Kingdom which might be better served if this Labor Government were able to govern for some time yet, and to do so without the hourly hazard of dismissal. When I survey the dangers by which the nation's survival and its soul are threatened. I find not one which the Conservative Opposition, as it exists today, is ready or disposed to confront and overcome. On the other side, I perceive in the Labor Government and the party the-embers which might be blown into a flame and the elements which might be combined and activated to break out of the ring of perils that confront it." He goes on to note Labour superiority in 1. its ability to deal with trade unions for the sake of the national economy, 2. its stiffer negotiation within the EEC not to allow the pooling of sovereignty, 3. immigration and policing of illegals.

10 November 1976: Bangladesh's militarist government passes its death penalty-law for anyone involved in anti-state activities.

10 November 1976: USA serves notice it will not agree to UN membership for Vietnam.

- 10 November 1976 pm: Government is defeated in amendments to the Dock Work Regulation Bill. This means the National Labour Dock Scheme will not be extended allowing the shipping industry to continue its plans to promote non-NLDS labour in new container terminals albeit with recognition of TGWU bargaining.
- 11-15 November 1976: Singapore's Director of National Development, Koh Cher Siang visits Britain. He holds talks with British Railm London Transport International and the Railway Industry Association. He also visits the test centre of the supertrams of the Tyne and Wear Passenger Transport Executive in an attempt to discuss possibilities of a purchase for Singapore.
- 11 November 1976: Foreign Secretary Owen in <u>The Observer</u> that a proposed trade boycott with South Africa to push its compliance with UN sanctions against Rhodesia is wrong and dangerous. He is also opposed to further measures against Rhodesia "at the moment I would resist any further pressures because, although we are still encountering fundamental differences on some issues, I believe that there is a fairly widespread willingness to treat seriously the proposals in the White Paper as a basis for trying to reach a settlement and allowing for transfer to majority rule in 1978." (11 Nov 1976)
- 11 November 1976: "I also had a quick word with Harold Lever. Yesterday morning's secret meeting with Healey, Lever, the Governor of the Bank, Derek Mitchell and Douglas Wass had decided to send Lever to Washington to see Arthur Burns... Lunched at Wheelers with Kit McMahon of the Bank of England. He is very clever and interesting. They feel very touchy about the PM's criticisms of their technical competence in managing the currency. ... We discussed the vicious circles - every policy to improve problem X always makes worse problems Y and Z. .... At dinner in the Commons dining room with Harold Lever, Harold ordered sweet white Sauternes to go with all the courses. It really did not go with the hors d'oeuvre, but it was such a superbly luscious Sauternes that I drank it regardless - and so did he. ... John Biffin came over to me to say that "a friend of mine" [meaning Enoch Powell'] says he is going "to keep your show on the road". (Bernard Donoughue's diary)
- 11 November 1976: Dr John Gilbert announces the progression of naval missile systems: "Development of the Sea Wolf guided weapon has been proceeding well. The results of trials currently taking place on board HMS Penelope are encouraging. Production systems and missiles are on order with a view to fitting the weapon in Type 22 and other frigates."
- 11 November 1976: Philippines Defence Secretary, future 'People Power' leader, Juan Ponce Enrile announces martial law in the country will not be lifted.

- 11 November 1976: Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti warns that labour are too high in response to a Rome-wide strike over 1 million in protest at austerity measures already announced.
- 12 November 1976: Paolo Berti and Corrado Incerti describe following recent statements and confessions in Feb 1976 the operation of NATO's 'stay-behind' GLADIO network in <u>L'Europeo</u>: "the long chain of subversive actions which stain Italy with blood has only one point of departure— NATO instructions... essentially the following: each West European country must form organisations of people who are reliable, experienced and equipped to efficiently oppose 'a possible invasion'. Since the invasion could only come from the Communists in the East, the most reliable people to repulse them are the fascists."
- 12 November 1976: Straits Times lead editorial welcomes the results of the destruction of Thai parliamentary democracy as exemplified in the Penang agreement: "Twenty-first meeting of the Thai-Malaysian General Border Committee ended in Penang amidst greater hopes for closer co-operation between the two countries in efforts to eliminate communist terrorists (CTs) operating on both sides of the frontier. The dialogue produced a significantly improved climate for more effective joint action not because of a change in the objective conditions on the ground but rather due to the new regime in Bangkok, which is implacably opposed to communism. The security forces of Thailand and Malaysia have agreed to step up the campaign against the CTs... in contrast to the situation last June, when the previous Thai government insisted that Malaysia withdrew its small but valuable military presence in Belong and suspended the right of hot pursuit. However, for all the good that the current optimism promises. It is by results that the final judgement must be made, and the indications are that the Malaysian and Thai military will have a tougher time ahead."
- 12 November 1976: Joe Gormley in a radio interview calls for stern discipline in the PLP "to stop this group or that group beating the Government" essentially meaning the Labour Left. He also calls for "a general election to clear the air" after the loss of the Dock Labour Bill Commons vote.
- 12 November 1976: In a interview with Independent Radio News, Tony Benn promises the House of Lords will be abolished as soon as Labour has a working majority: "When we have a majority we will do it. I think the days of the Lords are quite genuinely numbered.... I've no doubt whatever that one of the greatest weaknesses is that

we preserve such a primitive and unsatisfactory chamber of Parliament."

- 14 November 1976: Patrick Jenkin asserts unemployment benefits should be taxed. The <u>Dally Telegraph</u> headline is 'Tory outcry at £5000 on the dole' inevitably it misleads and distorts, since the figure includes general benefits available to all and the family in question would need to at least 9 children in total ie virtually impossible to compare with a wage. Centre-right MPs begin to mount a stiffer backlash argument that some are 'better off on the dole than working'. Instead of instituting and enforcing higher minimum wages, the attack is upon any benefit rises. Some MPs have described the Child Poverty Action Group's welfare benefits handbook as "a scrounger's charter." Recently Prince Philip has claimed the welfare state is "protection against failure" and a barrier to innovation of enterprise.
- 15 November 1976: BBC's flagship radio discussion programme Any Questions, is taken off air by trade unionists citing safety concerns when protesters disrupt the programme over the appearance of a National Front spokesman as a guest.
- 15 November 1976: U.S. vetoes an 11 UNSC-member sponsored resolution in favour of Vietnam's admittance to the UN. Britain, alongside only Canada and Federal Germany, effectively abstains by not putting its name to sponsor the resolution.
- 15 November 1976: House of Lords imposes a raft of amendments on the Dock Labour Bill. With little legislative time left, Government accepts the concept on a half-mile corridor meaning docking firms outside this radius would be exempt from any provision.
- 16 November 1976: House of Lords once again removes 13 ship-repair firms from the bill to nationalise the shipbuilding and aircraft industries. Commons has already once rejected these exemptions. In response Labour leader in Lords Lord Melchett later states "It is quite clear to me that if there is further delay It would be so thoroughly catastrophic that it would be irresponsible for anyone to delay passage of the Bll." nonetheless the delay occurs. Former ILP Labour Left Mannie Shinwell backs the Liberal-Conservative amendment "The critics in another place (the House of Commons) can jump into the Atlantic for all I care. We have to make a stand."
- 16 November 1976: Venezuelan President Carlos 'El Gocho' Andres Perez on a wave of populism, after having bought out oil firms in the Venezuelan sector, announces in New York at the United Nations that he has ordered the severance of all commercial relations with South Africa. He urges other nations to follow suit. This is interpreted as meaning the Security Council members

France, US and Britain as well as Latin American rivals Chile and Argentina, which have increased contacts with South Africa.

16 November 1976: Having earlier announced its intention to deport 2 anti-CIA journalists because of their threat to "security". Mark Hosenball, journalist for London Evening Standard and formerly Time Out, is served with a deportation notice signed by Home Secretary Rees. Hosenball is accused of having acquired information "harmful to the security of the United Kingdom and... prejudicial to the safety of servants of the crown." The letter from the Home Office states his involuntary departure "would be conducive to the public good."

- Philip Agee, charged with contacting 17 November 1976: unidentified "foreign intelligence officers" is given a notice to guit ie demand for his expulsion. Agee: "Proctor [new chief of the CIA station in London] could have brought pressure on the British government by allowing them less access to information. Britain receives a lot of information from the CIA" (Guardian, November). Carter Administration refuses to declare the full charges: "the Government prefers to play cat and mouse games rather than to provide frank and straightforward information to an American citizen" (New York Times, 19 Nov 1976). Later only one Labour Left MP, Arthur Lewis, does what he can to stop the deportations by refusing to vote for government motions until Agee-Hosenball are given a "fair trial." However this stance collapses as the two are given a kangaroo court and deported. Later, when US officials thoroughly question Hosenball, they conclude he has no special information on the CIA beyond that in the public realm and file no major charges against him.
- 17 November 1976: A mass lobby of Parliament, called by public-sector unions, supported by TUC, against the cuts. Over 60,000 attend. Norman Atkinson, Treasurer of the Labour Party, addresses the rally, but is heckled. NUPE is a driving force behind the rally. From Jan 1975 to Jun 1976 NUPE has gained 112,980 new members bringing it to 620,806 members. A quarter of NUPE full-timers are CP members. Irene Swann, top element within CPGB, is on the NUPE Executive chairing the Economic Committee that makes key decisions on action overcrowded cuts and wage levels. It is also supported by the Labour NEC who have passed a ritual motion in support of the impotent "lobby", even though several of its members are planning ways and means of imposing cuts.
- 18 November 1976: Callaghan stands by Sir Frank McFadzean, chairman of nationalised firm British Airways, after making antinationalisation comments declaring: "My view is that Sir Frank is a

most efficient businessman, but that he has an abysmal ignorance about politics or government."

- 18-19 November 1976: A 3-official delegation of the TUC (Jack Jones TGWU leader, Joe Gormley, NUM and Alan Hargreaves, head of TUC International Affairs) meets separately officials from the main PCP-dominated Intersindical federation and of the 3 PS-oriented but unaffiliated trade unions. They urge PCP-PS cooperation.
- 19 November 1976: 'Massacre of Juan B. Justo Street'. Argentine armed servicemen and police raid the home in San Nicolas of primary school teacher union activist Maria del Carmen Fettolini and her husband Omar Dario Amestoy, with their 2 children, aged 5 and 3 murdered as a result of the tear gas., were murdered on the 19th of November 1976 in the tragic event that became known as the (Juan B. Justo street is located in the city of).
- 19 November 1976: Rupert Murdoch's purchase of tabloid <u>New York Post</u>, oldest continuously published US dally, is announced..
- 20 November 1976: Hugh Scanlon visiting Melbourne and ACTU delegates says "bitter experience" has showed confrontation between governments and unions is a damaging way to settle disputes.
- 20 November 1976: Hygiene standards on ships in ports are found to be lower than in on-shore establishment in a report by the Environmental Health Officers' Association.
- 21 November 1976: <u>The Observer</u> reports a leaked confidential Labour Party study predicting over 2½ million unemployed by 1980.
- 21-24 November 1976: Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez state visit in London sees him hold talks with Callaghan, Varley and Benn, as well as a dinner at Buckingham Palace. The Times reports discussion over "lucrative contracts in Venezuela's national plan" for Britain: "Trade between the countries has shown improvement over the last few years and in 1975 British exports stood at £92m which was an 87% increase on the previous year. This year's exports are expected to show a further 40% increase." (22 Nov 1976)
- 22 November 1976: Bank of England keeps MLR virtually unchanged from 15% to 14.5%.
- 22 November 1976: Under conditions of IDF general mobilisation, divisions of infantry and tanks are placed up against the Israel-Lebanon border, threatening to intervene should rightist and pro-

Israel forces be weakened to the point of no-return under the Arab Deterrent Force peace plan.

- 22 November 1976: British citizen Alan McHugh, arrested 5 weeks prior, is expelled from Buenos Aires by presidential decree, and placed on a Heathrow-bound aircraft. His Argentine wife, arrested at the same time, remains in detention.
- 22 November 1976: Secretary of State for the Environment Shore announces to the LAA a cut in grant to local authorities from 65.5% of agreed expenditure to 61%, a reduction of over £600mil.

"The Government believes that a grant rate of 61% should be a strong influence for ensuring that expenditure is kept in line with government plans". He bizarrely claims "We are not encouraging in any way an assault on public expenditure. What I am asking for is a measured prudence and restraint." he states the priority of reducing inflation "means sacrifices from us all, and above all. means that we cannot" continue providing social services as before. Local authorities, in response make cuts and increases council taxation rates.

- 22 November 1976: Heath conducts the London Symphony Orchestra in London in a special tribute for his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday. On the same day his book 'Music, a Joy for Life' is published.
- 22 November 1976: Israel is declared a member of UNESCO's European region, reversing the ruling of the organization's 1974 general conference. It means that the Middle East region will be in a much weaker position to demand the end of its onward destruction of Palestinian cultural and religious heritage. Under threat of withdrawal of funds, USA and West European allies have forced through a new rule allowing states to belong to regions of their own choice.
- 22 November 1976: In protest against deportation of Philip Agee, Labour Left candidate for Cambridge bye-election, Martin Smith, withdraws an invitation for Home Secretary Rees to speak at an eve-of-polling rally.
- 22 November 1976: Wiping out rises from the previous week, sterling drops by just under 3.5c falling to \$1.645.
- 18 October 1976: British citizen Alan McHugh and Argentine wife Ana Maria are arrested by military police for links "with a Peronist youth group and a left-wing guerrilla organisation".
- 23 November 1976: "Cabinet... discussing the IMF... For 1977-78 Healey's proposals mean GDP rising only 1% i.e. creating 100,000 more unemployed. He was suggesting £1 billion in real expenditure cuts, plus some financial re-arrangement including £450 million from selling our Burmah BP shares. He then set out a borrowing target for 1978-79 of £6.5 billion, i.e. down a further £2 billion,

partly because of reduced debt interest. ... In the afternoon the PM saw Len Murray, who apparently told him that the TUC would support the government whatever we do, but they would not hold the support of individual union conferences in the spring if we had another big squeeze." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)

23 November 1976: A House of Lords (full of shipping firm directors and shareholders) succeeds in blocking the shipbuilding nationalisation bill. It also kills the bill to nationalise the shipbuilding and aircraft sectors. Bluster from Labour but no action. Labour Left Eric Heffer: "I warn the Lords that by this action, in the long run, they have destroyed themselves. They have put the final nail in the coffin." How long "in the long run" means remains unknown.

House of Lords later amend the Bill to exclude ship-repairing from its scope. In the Labour Manifestos in 1974 the pledge has been "we shall (also) take (ports), shipbuilding, ship-repairing and marine engineering, and the aircraft industries into public ownership and control". The House of Lords has succeeded in deleting ship-repair even though the Bill has received approximately 200 hours of Commons legislative time.

23 November 1976: A stunning six-page Special Report on Italy in <u>The Times</u> sees praise delivered to the PCI for its *storico* compromesso, but doubts as to whether it can pull it off.

24 November 1976: Battersea fire station chief David Callingham hands in his resignation and announces he is emigrating to new Zealand. After a five month-long local FBU 'send to Coventry' strategy against the bullying chief (fixation about spit and polish, unnecessary drills, constant demands to wash fire trucks after returning exhausted from difficult operations), some kind of success is achieved. In spite of FBU official protests that Callingham be stripped of his managerial role, GLC have consistently backed him up.

24 November 1976: Queen's Speech fails to include plans for the nationalisation of docks and or a wealth tax on capital assets. It is part because four-fifths of Commons time is estimated by whips to be devoted to the Devolution Bills for Scotland and Wales. Inevitably a Labour Left chauvinist trend emerges as devolution itself, not the delays caused by those in opposition to it, is derided as taking away from 'bread and butter' issues of 'traditional' Labour.

- 24 November 1976: PDRY shoots down an Iranian Phantom fighter aircraft flying missions over its airspace.
- 25 November 1976: Grunwick increases wages to non-striking workers by 15%. A stunning triumph for strike action

- 25 November 1976: "Spent the afternoon with Gavyn Davies drafting our 'compromise package'. He had thought of clever ways of getting £3 billion off the PSBR with little deflation mainly through import deposits and investment expenditure to boost the industrial strategy. We put this in to the PM." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)
- 25 November 1976: Pakistani military expresses a renewed interest in the Anglo-French Jaguar combat aircraft, when US threatens to block it order for aircraft over its nuclear processing. British Aircraft Corporation announces it will send a high powered team of engineers and salesmen.
- 25 November 1976: <u>Financial Times</u> notes a secret leaked report comparing Ford operations at its new plant in Halewood, Liverpool with Genk, Belgium: "one of Britain's newest car plants operates less efficiently than a comparable factory on the Continent."It has been compiled by senior managers, shop stewards, civil servants and union officials including Bob Wright and Moss Evans.
- 26 November 1976: Britain joins Federal Germany and Israel in abstaining alongside the US no vote to a General Assembly resolution that calls for the U.N. Security Council to reconsider the 15 Nov 1976 vote. British Ambassador James Murray says he cannot support a document that criticises a member state [meaning the USA] for its actions in another principal UN body. The vote is 124-1-3. US Ambassador to UN William Scranton later indicates that when the UNSC meets again there will be another US veto.
- 26 November 1976: Roy Mason threatens the six counties could be left behind by "the tide of devolution" with Scotland and Wales gaining economic strength at the expense of the six counties.
- 26 November 1976: <u>Tribune</u> reports approvingly Frank Judd's defence of international development aid on a particularly national basis where the need for a healthy supply of products from the Third World is the overarching concern: "We have taken cheap raw materials from Africa Asia and Latin America for granted. Our industry cannot survive without these raw materials but unless we recognise the legitimacy of the call for a fair deal by the deprived 70 per cent of the world's population and respond accordingly we may well find ourselves sooner than we think in a crude confrontational situation in which we can no longer take those raw materials for granted. What has happened with oil may yet prove merely a foretaste of worse to follow. Such a situation would spell the ultimate disaster for Britain. We would simply grind to a standstill. If at a time of crisis we are unable to learn the lessons of our national shortsightedness in the past, I fear we shall never learn those lessons. The world as it is at present divided between rich and poor... is a classic formula for catastrophe from which Britain will

certainly not escape. ... We must not give in to the boneheads in our midst. That is what has landed us in the situation we are in today. It is at a time of recession that we -have the opportunity to make sure that the long-term strategy as distinct from the short-term tactics is right." Britain needs to "seek the co-operation of the International Monetary Fund and others" with "enlightened self-interest and common sense. Time is very definitely not on our side. The Cabinet was right to stand firm on overseas aid in July. In view of the widespread prejudice which exists, nobody should under-rate the courage that this required. The need to stand firm remains at least as acute today as it did then."

26 November 1976: Mexican Army are brought out on the open across northern Mexico as thousands of landless agricultural labourers have threatened to take over landowner fields. Landowners in protest at government legal moves to redistribute with compensation, some land in Sonora and Sinaloa dismiss agricultural workers and leave the land idle to reduce food production to force the government to back down – the agricultural sector lockout as practised in Portugal.

27 November 1976: Leonid Plyushich, Ukrainian mathematician who was released in Jan 1976 after 30 months in a Soviet psychiatric prison, speaks at a public meeting organised by Amnesty International in London.

27 November 1976: A march of 10000 through Whitehall then rally at Trafalgar Square led by Betty Williams and Mairead Corrigan, Jane Ewart-Biggs and US folk singer Joan Baez calls for 'peace' in northern Ireland. The usual Metropolitan Police proscription imposed in 1972 banning all events over Ireland in Trafalgar Square is lifted for the day. The Department of Environment has earlier explained in Oct 1978 the rally is 'not political'. Corrigan states: "We now say to the people outside Northern Ireland, the people of the world, we say look to Northern Ireland and never make our mistakes." Joan Baez sings a specially composed song for peace in Northern Ireland to the crowd.

- 27 November 1976: Instead of a more hectoring 'right-wing' Callaghan, Deputy Leader Foot attends the Socialist International conference in Geneva, to fend off criticisms by elements within the Swedish SAP, Dutch DvAP and others.
- 27 November 1976: Foreign Office Minister Ted Rowlands states: "The British Government stands ready to assume whatever role and responsibility we see necessary to achieve majority rule and independence by March, 1978, or earlier. But there can be no question of a British military presence or a new colonial administrative superstructure imposed by us on Rhodesia. There is

- no real substitute for genuine agreement thrashed out through negotiation by Rhodesians themselves black and white." He states Britain's principles at the Geneva conference are: irreversible majority rule but securing "co-operation" or "acquiesence of the white minority which has held and still holds de facto power."
- 27 28 November 1976: Warsaw Pact governments publish a draft treaty. The signatories are to promise not to use nuclear weapons first whether from their own territories or from elsewhere. It proposes the commitment should be open-ended and unlimited and should be registered with UN. They also call separately for USA, Canada, USSR and 32 European States to sign a commitment they will never be the first to use nuclear weapons. Proposals are sent to all 35 participants in the European Security Conference in Helsinki. Unsurprisingly they are rejected by NATO powers, whilst planning to incorporate Spain continues, and the Warsaw Pact offer for steady security and de-escalation is despatched to the memory hole.
- 28 November 1976: Milton Friedman states Britain may face "drastic political change" and finish its slide into "a collectivistic, totalitarian state" unless the "political culture" is changed. He states in typical backlash fashion: "If you pay a man to be lazy, he'll be lazy... If you pay a man to be energetic, he'll be energetic." In Britain "a man who works very hard has no more than the man who is lazy".
- 29 November 1976: EEC leaders summit in The Hague. <u>Financial Times</u> reports it 'Western European governments are pinning their hopes for finding solutions to the problems of faltering economic recovery, the threat of an oil price increase and general relations with the Third World, firmly on the incoming Carter Administration in the US.' (30 Nov 1976)
- 29 November 1976: Tony Benn's Department of Energy's annual report on research and development is published showing nuclear R&D taking the lion's share. Departmental total research budget that includes the tripartite gas centrifuge uranium enrichment programme is £22.6mil in 1975-6, of this non-nuclear R&D is only £7mil. For the nationalised energy firms' R&D: British Gas Corporation spent £15.2mil, Electricity Council, CEGB and Electricity Boards £35.3mil; NCB (National Coal Board) £16 mil, UKAEA spent £96.3mill plus £7.6mil on its external development contracts. The largest single item for research being the UKAEA's fast reactor programme research calculated at £49.1mil in 1975-6.
- 29 November 1976: "went with Gavyn [Davies, subsequent BBC governor] to see Leo Plietzky in the Treasury [who] made his usual

long opening speech, on his triumphs in cutting public expenditure, but it was still too high. He added that he had been personally authorised by the PM to talk with the IMF. He said that the IMF wanted £1.5-2 billion in real public expenditure cuts. He said that the Chancellor would put to Cabinet a paper containing alternative packages ranging from £1.5-2.5 billion cuts, with a range of ways of getting them. Plietzky said that we needed to get our total of spending down by about 2% and then all would be well. I protested that this meant adding massively to unemployment. He said that if we did not do it we would run out of money like Turkey once did." (Bernard Donoughue's diary)

"IMF experts have been criticized in the past for placing too much emphasis oh "magic numbers". Unfortunately, this is exactly what the financial markets will expect as a result of the negotiations." (The Times, 22 Nov 1976, p1)

- 29 November 1976: Treasury submits plans for cuts to the Cabinet: "the British people are enduring ... an actual fall in the real standard of living.
- a. We have to consider the likely effects on confidence of a possible breakdown in the Social Contract caused by further cuts.
- b. Economic opinion, both nationally and internationally, is turning strongly against the policy of further deflation (eg statement by leading economists, the recent statement of the CBI, editorials in the Washington Post and the Herald Tribune, the sympathetic response of President Ford and Chancellor Schmidt to the Prime Minister's message etc).
- c. Provided we secure the IMF loan, we shall get the safety net for the sterling balances. The market will then see that we have the means to regain control of our currency. For the first time in years we shall be seen to have the money to finance our deficit until it is ed into surplus and to remove the sterling balances' threat to the stability of sterling. Our new ability to defend the sterling rate will be a crucially important factor which has hitherto been absent.
- d. The fact that our partners have agreed to the IMF loan and safety net will show the market that international opinion wants us to have a stable currency on the basis of which we can pursue our economic policies and are willing to organise important co-operation in support
- e. The market will see the £1 billion PSBR cut which I am proposing for 1977-78 as the precursor of further cuts going with higher economic activity."
- 29 November 1976: Bangladesh Deputy Chief Martial Law Administrator and Army Chief, General Zia-ur Rahman, is appointed Chief Martial Law Administrator with effective dictatorial powers.

29 November 1976: A whole host of oppositional figures are arrested in pre-emptive raids in Bangladesh, just after news of the postponement of elections. The arrestees include a former non-party speaker, 4 former, a dozen former MPs and National Awami Party figures Matiya Choudhury and Muzaffar Hussein Paltu.

## 30 November 1976:

30 November 1976: Roland Moyle Deputy Health Secretary states health authorities can continue to conduct meetings in private, excluding the public. "Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, public bodies including health authorities may by resolution exclude the public from the whole or part of a meeting whenever publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest... I would not wish to stipulate the circumstances in which they should or should not exclude the public."

In a parliamentary answer he lists the numbers of hospital closures in the past 3 years: "Cleveland Area Health Authority 3, Cumbria Area Health Authority 2, Durham Area Health Authority 1, Northumberland Area Health Authority 1, North Tyneside Area Authority, South Tyneside Area Health Authority 2, Humberside Area Health Authority 2, North Yorkshire Area Health Authority 2, Bradford Area Health Authority 1, Kirklees Area Health Authority 2, Leeds Area Health Authority (Teaching) 1, Wakefield Area Health Authority 3, Derbyshire Area Health Authority 1, Leicestershire Area Health Authority 1, Lincolnshire Area Health Authority 2, Nottinghamshire Area Health Authority (Teaching) 1, Barnsley Area Health Authority 2, Sheffield Area Health Authority (Teaching) 1, Cambridgeshire Area Health Authority (Teaching) 3, Norfolk Area Health Authority 1, Suffolk Area Health Authority 1, Barnet Area Health Authority 2, Kensington Chelsea and Westminster Area Health Authority (Teaching) 1, Barking and Havering Area Health Authority 1, Camden & Islington Area Health Authority (Teaching) 5, City and East London Area Health Authority (Teaching) 2, East Sussex Area Health Authority 3, Kent Area Health Authority 1, Greenwich & Bexley Area Health Authority 4, Bromley Area Health Authority 2, Lambeth, Southwark & Lewisham Area Health Authority (Teaching) 3, Surrey Area Health Authority 6, Kingston & Richmond Area Health Authority 1, Merton, Sutton & Wandsworth Area Health Authority (Teaching) 1, Hampshire Area Health Authority (Teaching) 5, Isle of Wight Area Health Authority 1, Berkshire Area Health Authority 2, Buckinghamshire Area Health Authority 1, Northants Area Health Authority 1, Avon Area Health Authority (Teaching) 2, Devon Area Health Authority 6, Gloucester Health Authority 2, Salop Area Health Authority Staffordshire Area Health Authority 1, Warwickshire Area Health Authority 2, Cheshire Area Health Authority 4, Liverpool Area Health

Authority (Teaching) 1, Sefton Area Health Authority 3, Wirral Area Health Authority 3.

30 November 1976: Britain's EEC source of finance to meet the PSBR evaporates: "Callaghan went to The Hague to meet Helmut Schmidt to try and get German support for us in resisting the IMF; and Schmidt, who had earlier indicated he would, now found that he couldn't because the Bundesbank told him not to. On the plane back, Jim said to Crosland for the first time as far as I have documentation (I have been through my diaries and everything before tonight) that he was going to support Healey. Until then, Healey had been conducting this sort of battle with Jim, simply didn't reveal his position, but having seen Schmidt he then revealed to Crosland that Jim was going to support the Chancellor, and Crosland then knew really that the game was up. And the next day, 1st December, Crosland actually told Jim that he would be supporting him, and then the others just sort of faded away, and they supported Jim too. It brought them, it allowed them, to argue it through again and again and in the end they all agreed with him that there was only one way." (Bernard Donoughue, Mile End Group, 6 Dec 2006, '30th anniversary of the British IMF negotiations')

30 November 1976: Rhodesian military authorities display the bodies of 18 black guerrillas killed in a single encounter on 24 Nov 1976 in eastern Rhodesia without Rhodesian military loss.

30 November 1976: In a stunning announcement High Court judge Sir Robert Megarry, rules the Britain has no financial duty towards the Banabans, former inhabitants of Ocean Island. Their claim for £21mil in mining royalties, extracted from them by force by effective enslavement to work on phosphate mines that destroy any chance of subsistence agriculture on the island, is simply ignored.

30 November 1976: Sheikh Zaid bin Sultan, king of Abu Dhabi, is re-appointed President of the United Arab Emirates for a second 5-year term.

December 1976: Militarist Argentina moves military equipment onto Southern Thule, one of the South Sandwich Islands. The Foreign office is, broadly, unwilling to embarrass the junta at this point and does little. Britain only announces the move in May, 1978.

December 1976: Israeli Conservatory of Music, headed by former President Golda Meir's son Menachem, give a performance at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in remembrance of a soldier student killed fighting in action in the October war.

December 1976: Brent Council's Education Committee approves a private primary school in the Kingsbury-Kenton area by the London Board of Jewish Education. The Council will not subsidise construction but school meals are not discussed.

- 1 December 1976: Mass student-organised protests greet the hand over of power from Echeverria to Jose Lopez Portillo. Police disperse crowds from Mexico City. President Lopez Portillo has promised an extension of austerity measures inherited from Echeverria.
- 1 December 1976: <u>Daily Mirror</u> article 'The Punk Rock Horror Show' details various exaggerations about .
- 1 December 1976: UN General Assembly votes on a resolution, invoking declarations emanating from the Non-Aligned Movement in Lima Aug 1975 and Colombo Aug 1976, that praises Argentina for its efforts to bring about the decolonisation of the Falklands/Malvinas and presses for negotiation to end their continued colonial status. Britain votes against the resolution, the sole UN member to do so and loses the vote 102-1-32.
- 1 December 1976: IMF delegation led by its Chief Executive, Johannes Witteveen, visits Whitehall. Cabinet rejects alternative economic programmes/plans by Benn and Shore. Jack Jones and Hugh Scanlon express support for Callaghan's IMF decision.

1 December 1976 6pm: Bill Grundy Show

"Siouxsie Sioux: I always wanted to meet you. Grundy: Did you really?

Siouxsie Sioux: Yeah. Grundy: We'll meet afterwards, shall we?

Steve Jones: You dirty sod. You dirty old man!

Grundy: Well keep going, chief, keep going. Go on, you've got

another five seconds. Say something outrageous.

Steve Jones: You dirty bastard! Grundy: Go on, again. Jones: You dirty fucker! Grundy: What a clever boy!

Steve Jones: What a fucking rotter."

- 2 December 1976: Reuters reports a Western WHO worker has contracted Marburg fever. It is the first time the outbreak is reported in the British press although the disease has killed hundreds, perhaps thousands in Zaire.
- 2 December 1976: In an example of joint trade union-management action to cut jobs by voluntary redundancies, the Joint Standing Committee for National Newspapers, comprising the 6 print unions and the managements of 10 newspaper groups, produced a booklet *Programme for Action*. The 32-page outline scheme, proposes 2 main voluntary redundancy schemes to reduce employment. Its foreword is signed by leaders of the unions, who strongly urge recommendations to be followed by individual print chapels. It states unless 'voluntary' redundancy is accepted, the only result will

be compulsory redundancy with little or no advance warning to workers and unions, with no government aid available. In this scenario "New forms of printed communications utilizing the new technology, if necessary, printed abroad, could compete more andmore successfully with a diminishing range of British national newspapers."

- 2 December 1976: Plans to construct a new Mini model are agreed by Industry Secretary Varley, with a warning that strikes will mean the waste of £100mil of public money of investment.
- 2 December 1976: USA announces it will build 3 new B1 bomber aircraft at a cost of over £420mil, with a decision on the request for 244 by USAF delayed until late 1977.
- 3 December 1976: <u>The Times</u> business analysis sees Kenneth Owen asks 'Is innovation caught in a poverty trap?' suggesting insufficient profitability means little input into R&D.
- 3 December 1976: The Times reports "Many British companies have gone into Iran with active encouragement from Whitehall. The Government supported the sale of many defence items, including the Chieftain tank. A joint commission was established to assure the Iranians that the British Government would give full political hacking to exporters, with a pledge that ministers would "try to resolve problems". Besides the Crown Agents, several important British companies have suffered discouragement after their initial enthusiasm [including] such companies as Bath and Portland, Beattie, Marples Ridgway, Richard Costain, Cementation." A major headache concerns Crown Agents where "payment in oil is thought to be the only way of rescuing or securing various orders for Chieftain tanks, machine tools, ships, ammunition, building materials, and civil engineering works revolving around the operations of Millbank Technical Services, wholly owned by the Crown Agents and which works with the Ministry of Defence on many sensitive overseas defence contracts. Companies said to be involved in the affair are the Royal Ordnance (now a separate trading entity but linked to the MoD's procurement executive), John Laing, George Wimpey, and the shipbuilders Yarrow, Vickers and Vosper Thorneycroft. A multitude of suppliers of ancillary equipment are concerned, too." To secure payment in oil, the government brings in Shell, not BNOC: "work on building a huge armaments factory in Iran—the first phase of an even bigger project -has been suspended pending urgent Ministry of Defence approaches to British Petroleum and Shell for their help [Shell has] recently agreed to accept oil to enable the British Aircraft Corporation to fulfil a big Rapier missiles contract, is understood to be initially reluctant to engage in any further barter deals.... British

Petroleum... is already a major purchaser of Iranian oil. ('Iran wants oil barter for £2,000m UK exports')

- 3 December 1976: Bath's Hot Springs Treatment Centre, closes after Health Secretary Ennals rejects appeals for jobs to safeguarded and for it to be taken over by NHS.
- 2 December 1976: Isteia, a single female horse is sold for 142,000 guineas, an enormous record sum.
- 2 December 1976: <u>Daily Mirror</u> front-page headline 'The Filth and the fury': "A pop group shocked millions of viewers last night with the filthiest language heard on British television. The Sex Pistols, leaders of the new "punk rock" cult, hurled a string of four-letter obscenities at interviewer Bill Grundy on Thames TV's family teatime programme "Today". The Thames switchboard was flooded with protests from angry viewers. Nearly 200 telephoned the Mirror. One man was so furious that he kicked in the screen of his £380 colour TV...."
- 2 December 1976: Another Daily Mirror article 'Kings of the punk cult' "They're obnoxious, arrogant, outrageous": "They wear torn and ragged clothes held together with safely pins. They are boorish, ill-mannered, loud-mouthed, dirty, obnoxious and arrogant. They like to be disliked. They use names like Johnny Rotten, Steve Havoc, Sid Vicious, Rat Scabies and Dee Generate. They are the teenage punks of the Punk Rock bands, nervously hailed in some quarters as perhaps the meat exciting development in rock music for a decade.... A few months ago no one had heard of it. Today three punk rock groups are in the charts and one band, the Sex Pistols have signed a £40,000 contract with EMI.... punk rock groups have been banned from most London clubs — but the music industry has decided the punk bandwagon is one it cannot afford to miss. 'As a record company we are very much involved in what is new and so it was natural we should sign the group in the forefront of the movement." Paul Watts manager of EMI's pop division explained. "It is true they may not be very proficient musically bit we don't think that is a major consideration. What is important is that they create excitement."
- 2 December 1976: Sir Brian Flowers, gives a speech at the British Nuclear Energy Society urging the continuation of subsidies for the nuclear industry even though "on the issue of the possible effects of illicit activities directed towards the nuclear programme and the threat to civil liberties of security arrangements, the Royal Commission was given very little help by official bodies".
- 2 December 1976: Cabinet, including Benn, agrees to the IMF cuts package £1.5bn cut from 1977-78 total and £2bn cut from 1978-79, sale of £500m of government shares in BP. Crosland sums up

- the anti-cuts-pro-cuts line: "I shall say I think you're wrong, but I also think that Cabinet must support you."
- 3 December 1976: <u>Daily Mail</u> reports the Labour Left is using 'anti-democratic' means in Merseyside, South Yorkshire and London constituencies to disrupt democracy. It lists at 13 MPs in trouble from constituency infiltrators.
- 3 December 1976: President-Elect Carter says he will not ask Congress to impose price controls.
- 4 December 1976: Negotiations with the IMF reopen. Cabinet begins to negotiate the manner of cuts. Cabinet agrees Healey's privatisation of government stakes in industry to the tune of £500mil (mostly British Petroleum, which is making healthy profits now). £1 billion cuts for 1977-8 and £1.5 billion cuts for 1978-9.
- 5 December 1976: Michael Foot addresses the Spanish Socialist Party PSOE. He joins Francois Mitterrand and Willy Brandt, SPD hero, former Chancellor, expeller of Turkish trade unionists, he warns that without "a great Socialist party" Spain will not have political and social stability and declares "Europe [EEC] is waiting for you."
- 7 December 1976: European Court gives its judgement in case brought by the publisher of 'The Little Red Schoolbook' affair (Handyside v United Kingdom, 1972). It concludes that pulping the book does not breach any Articles in the Convention.
- 7 December 1976: "The industrial case for nationalising ship repairing is that the badly-needed improvements in investment, productivity and industrial relations are unlikely to come about otherwise."
- 7 December 1976: Sir Richard Dobson, Chairman of British Leyland, attends a discussion titled "The Morality and Management of Design" that discusses how industrial design and engineers can assist productivity by reducing labour requirements (for the benefit of management, naturally).
- 8 December 1976: Mauritius and Britain agree to amendments to bilateral treaties, aiming to better identify the duties and loyalties of British officials in the service of private organisations in and the government of Mauritian.
- 9 December 1976: Army Minister Robert Brown announces SAS operations will be extended in northern Ireland: "the [SAS]

regiment's skills and the experience gained will be used where appropriate in other similarly troubled areas."

9 December 1976: After a year's worth of deliberation and effort Foreign Secretary Crosland finally synthesises Foreign Office recommendations, stating his "firm advice" to Prince Charles is "against going to Botswana next year" because of Rhodesian army and guerrilla activity. A hostage situation is possible in exchange for prisoners in South Africa or Rhodesia. Moreover "to take what amounts to a holiday in Southern Africa" would expose Britain to greater pressure from Black Africa and its governments and the feeling of Britain "taking the aspirations and suffering of the African people too lightly." (FCO to Checketts, 9 Dec 1976)

The plan had been for a 7-week long adventure, to be turned into a BBC documentary film or series, showing Laurens van der Post and Prince Charles trekking through the Kalahari Desert.

- 10 December 1976: Chiefs of Staff, General Sir Roland Gibbs, Chief of the General Staff, Marshal of the RAF Sir Andrew Humphrey, Chief of the Defence Staff Air Chief Marshal Sir Neil Cameron, Chief of the Air Staff; Admiral Sir Edward Ashmore, First Sea Lord meet Callaghan directly in 10 Downing Street exercising a constitutional right unused since the end of the second world war. They finalise the exempting of military forces from the cuts, even though Defence Secretary Mulley has earlier explained criticism "about Britain's defence capability are long on emotion and short on fact".
- 10 December 1976: Warsaw Pact proposals for a new East-West Treaty to ban the first use of nuclear weapons and freeze membership of the respective military alliances is rejected out of hand by NATO Foreign Ministers.
- 10 December 1976: The council of the Newspaper Publishers Association held an emergency m\$etihgVla\$t night to discuss the" grave situation" at The Sim after the. loss of last Wednesday's.. issue, and production troubles since.

The NPA said Sirj/Richard Marsh, its chairman, was asking the general secretaries of the printing unions to- meet the council for urgent discussion of u threats to the continuity of production in the industry\*.

- 10 December 1976: <u>The Times</u> reports psychiatrist Hugh Freeman, teaching at Salford and Manchester Universities, notes improper Marxist bias in Open University courses on 'Language and Social Reality', and on 'Politics, Work and Occupation'.
- 10 December 1976: Agriculture Secretary Fred Peaart announces the price of a milk pint will rise by 1p on 2 Jan 1977, the second rise in under 3 months.

- 11 December 1976: Treasury, headed by Healey, and the IMF delegation jointly form the 'letter of intent' agreement.
- 12 December 1976: A Peace People rally of 10,000 takes place at the Boyne, Drogheda.
- 12 December 1976: Len Murray, General Secretary of the TUC, makes a visit to Brent Trades Hall, but offers nothing specific for the Grunwick's struggle beyond his faith in ACAS.
- 12 December 1976: <u>Sunday Times</u> is blocked in large parts of the country as a result of unofficial SOGAT action in support of guaranteed payments for 72-page newspapers.

A spokesman at "10 Downing Street .said yesterday: " We never v comment on security matters " .'

According to an unofficial source,. every Prime Minister for the ipast 28 years, as, head of the security services, has received \* reports on any union leaders suspected of associating to a greater or less extent with the .Communist Party . or communist-linked organizations.

13 December 1976: University of Chicago Economics chief Milton Friedman, trainer of the various Chicago Boys, quotes from Callaghan, in his tough Nobel Prize acceptance speech. The "apparent positive relation between inflation and unemployment has been a source of great concern to government policy makers. Let me quote from a recent speech by Prime Minister Callaghan of Great Britain: 'We used to think that you could just spend your way out of a recession and increase employment by cutting taxes and boosting Government spending. I tell you, in all candour, that that option no longer exists, and that insofar as it ever did exist, it only worked by injecting bigger doses of inflation into the economy followed by higher levels of unemployment as the next step. That is the history of the past 20 years'.

The same view is expressed in a Canadian government white paper: 'Continuing inflation, particularly in North America, has been accompanied by an increase in measured unemployment rates'. These are remarkable statements, running as they do directly counter to the policies adopted by almost every Western government throughout the postwar period."

He uses Callaghan's Labour Party Conference speech to stress of Western economies "the present situation cannot last. It will either degenerate into hyperinflation and radical change; or institutions will adjust to a situation of chronic inflation; or governments will adopt policies that will produce a low rate of inflation and less government intervention into the fixing of prices."

- 14 December 1976: Cabinet accepts IMF Letter of Intent.
- 14 December 1976: Michael Blumenthal, head of US multinational firm Bendix Corp, that has caused severe retrenchment in Fisher-Bendix plants across Britain, is named Carter's Treasury Secretary.
- 15 December 1976: SAIRR press statement reveals 433 arrested as a result of the disturbances over the regressive reform of secondary school education (Soweto riots), and have not yet been charged or processed.
- 15 December 1976: 9 members of SASO are found guilty of antiapartheid offences.
- 15 December 1976: Officers on the HMS Bonnington organise a habitual farewell for the end of Prince Charles's captaincy, they "slung a black lavatory seat around his neck and carried him ashore in a wheelchair. As the crews of the other ships at Rosyth joined in cheering, the wheelchair was trundled along the quay while the Prince waved farewell" The aim being to prove that the monarchy is an ordinary part of military life.
- 15 December 1976: 9<sup>th</sup> Budget. IMF Letter of Intent is read to Parliament meaning *massive cuts* over £2.5bn.

For a \$3.9bn (£2.35bn) loan, government will cut construction of public buildings, education, health, social services, housing, transport facilities, public and and civil service employment conditions, increase food prices, gas prices, electricity prices. Planned cuts of £450million will cover the construction industry. Chancellor Healey celebrates "the measures now taken by the Government give assurance that private business decisions can be taken against the background of a clearly defined policy"

This full-scale assault is later celebrated by 'new realist' Labour historians. One example Prof Peter Hennessy: "In reality, Callaghan had no choice but to acknowledge the expectations of the IMF and the markets. It was his misfortune - almost his tragedy - that such a formidable battery of skills were, in the end, largely devoted to holding the line, to buying time rather than to the constructive purposes to which he had hoped to devote himself"

Bernard Donoughue's commending Gordon Brown to cut in 2008 commends these efforts, urging "various bureaucratic extravagances, such as 'regional development', could be abolished and others, such as 'health and safety', seriously trimmed. They were created for symbolic reasons, are costly and often offer little to the public good. The bureaucracy in the NHS might benefit likewise. Abolishing future child benefit beyond the third child... The Prime Minister should urgently conduct some cabinets to cut bloated

- expenditure by the required amount. Jim Callaghan did that in 1976-78 and the resulting savings of more than £6bn would, in today's money, produce much [for gimmicks]" (New Statesman, 22 Sep 2008, p52)
- 15 December 1976: Ian Winterbottom, Labour Spokesman in the Lords explains the triumph of the HMS Invincible class: "the 'Invincible' class of anti-submarine warfare cruiser has a much wider range of facilities than the 'Harrier Carrier' .... it seems a very splendid weapons system."
- 15 December 1976: Tony Benn is committed to avoiding a scare: "I have demanded that all nuclear incidents be reported to me, I realise I shall be swamped by them. I have to find a way of revealing them without causing a scare." (Tony Benn's diary)
- 15 December 1976: President Kenyatta opens the Leyland Kenya, subsidiary of British Leyland, plant in Thika, Nairobi.
- 15 December 1976: 90 engineering workers occupying the plant of Kitson's Insulations in Drumchapel, Glasgow, who were sacked by letter, but refused to pay them legal compensations, state they will bring their families in for Christmas rather than leave the plant.
- 16 December 1976: TUC General Secretary Len Murray says TUC will stay loyal and critical, celebrating the fact that the government "has fought to minimise the cuts and their deflationary Impact" Lord Watkinson, chief of CBI states the level of the cuts is about right, but urges a rescue operation for the construction sector hard hit by at least £405mil cuts in house-building and road building.
- 16 December 1976: <u>Financial Times</u> in editorial 'Another Bite at the Cherry' states the cuts are at the right level: "It is the very least the IMF would accept as a condition for allowing the government the first instalment of the loan for which it has asked"
- <u>The Times</u> editorial urges more cuts: "Always too little. Mr Healey's measures... were the third time he has done too little this year."
- <u>Daily Mail</u> blusters: "There has been no change of course... The drift to disaster continues... there is no strategy here for the renewal and regeneration of Britain's economy, only the usual grudging tokens of retrenchment."
- <u>The Mirror</u> urges public to accept pain like "adults" on behalf of the "country": "The whole country was yesterday geared up to make real sacrifices... people don't want cheering up they want to take the medicine like adults and get it over with."
- 16 December 1976: In Cabinet, **Benn declares "We shall need nuclear energy** and what we need is confidence... We need pause for candour; I was shaken frankly by the Windscale seepage being kept from me and the tritium incident. We can't proceed without a

restoration of public confidence." (Tony Benn's diary). Benn later becomes an opponent of nuclear energy when he, as a committed constitutionalist, has zero constitutional power to effect any decision on energy.

- 16 December 1976: President-Elect Carter names Charles Schultze, Johnson administration's budget director as chairman of Council of Economic Advisers.
- 16 December 1976: Santiago Carrillo, Chairman of PCE, writes of the "Eurocommunist road to power" in <u>Mundo Obrero</u>. The official Eurocommunist position is set out in Britain in a translation of Carrillo's Euro-communism and the State published in mid-1977. It stresses producing a programme that is "neither vote-catching nor revolutionary but based upon an assessment of modern capitalism". This is a shift from in Jun 1976, at the Berlin Conference of the Communist Parties of Europe, Carrillo declared Eurocommunism "a most unfortunate term. There is no such thing as Eurocommunism." It will lead to significant division with the CPGB, culminating in a rancorous 1977 split.
- 17 December 1976: Straits Times perceptive about the shortcomings of other nations warns in its editorial 'The born loser': "For millions this Christmas will be a not so merry one, and the unemployed will need more than good wishes to see them through next year. And not just the unemployed. The standard of living will drop for everyone in the United Kingdom because Mr. Healey's measures will bite deeper than people can perhaps appreciate. The cuts in public expenditure, demanded and so beloved by those financiers who do not live in Britain, will hit every family in the land; but they will hit hardest in those areas that are already deprived. Needed schools and hospitals will not be built, and urgent repairs will be put back - thus the waiting lists for hospital beds will lengthen and already over-crowded schools will have worse problems squeezing in children. Nationalised industries - railways, electricity, waterworks, gas, steel etc - many of which are already in financial trouble, will have to struggle through, which is a euphemism for saying that their charges will increase as probably will the number of redundancies among workers."
- 17 December 1976: Peter Jenkins in <u>The Guardian</u> calls for the removal of Left figures from Labour Party positions. Maynard, Jeger and Hart should be removed from the NEC, Benn from the Cabinet.
- 17 December 1976: Government announces special category status can be revoked, when necessary "When a special category prisoner commits a criminal offence during the currency of his sentence or

while at large after 1.3.76 (e.g. escapes or attempts to escape, fails to return from home leave ... the case should be referred to Headquarters for decision on classification" (Circular to the Governors of HM Prisons, guidance on classification of Special Category Prisoners)

- 18 December 1976: Army's Parachute Regiment shoot dead a 17-year-old driving a car in Ardoyne.
- 19 December 1976: Rhodesian Selous Scouts massacre 27 black tea plantation villagers near Melsetter, as a warning to others since they have earlier failed to give information about guerrillas to security forces. It receives virtually zero press comment.
- 19-20 December 1976: The Guardian reports CIA funding for activities of key NAFF figures. Brian Crozier, Institute for the Study of Conflict (ISC) director. Crozier's news service until 1974, Forum World Features (FWF) is funded by the CIA via an intermediary 'front' company in the USA. FWF is replaced by another company, Rossiter publications, which continues to receive funds from the same source. For many decades Crozier has worked as an effective CIA asset as commentator for BBC's World Service and The Economist's reporter in South East Asia. With these credentials as 'respected journalist' he has authored a 1967 biography of Franco whose introduction openly states that it is a work of "grudging admiration", and a 1966 entitled South-East Asia in Turmoil urging Western resistance (ie continued invasion) in Vietnam). Springing from these area-specific studies is A Theory of Conflict asserting popular struggles in Britain and elsewhere are an elaborate Kremlinist death march, later endlessly expounded.

Another council member of the ISC is Robert Moss, who has been a journalist for Forum World Features, and author of pamphlets for ISC and the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS). He is The Economist correspondent on African and guerrilla warfare, editor of The Economist's confidential subscribers-only 'Foreign Report', and Thatcher speechwriter. In 1970-3 he was reporter for The Economist in Chile and slandered Unidad Popular government at every opportunity. "In 1971, the CIA's Station Related Mission Directives for Chile specified under priority "B" that friction be created between the socialist regime in Chile and the military dictatorship in Argentina by planting "black propaganda" to the effect that Allende was encouraging the establishment of a communist guerrilla training camp on the border. Instructions were given to the CIA station in Santiago to plant this story in several key media in order to launder it for replay in Chile. One of the most influential was the Economist of London. The correspondent for the Economist in Chile was Robert Moss. He found an agronomy

student, Jose Gregorio Liendo, working in a remote are bordering Argentina, elevated him into the Che Guevara of Chile, and bestowed upon him the title of "Commander Pepe." (Fred Landis, "Moscow Rules Moss's Mind", Covert Action Information Bulletin, summer 1985, No24, pp36–8) The story was a fabrication nonetheless it is faithfully reported by centre-right El Mercurio in Chile and from there into the Argentina press. Lliendo, in fact. is working to support mostly Mapuche landless peasants forced to work for landlords in Neltume, Chile. He is later executed by firing squad on 11 Oct 1973 allowing the military to slay a subversive dragon to 'repair relations' with Argentina.

His book Chile's Marxist Experiment has been published in a series indirectly funded by the CIA, the 'World Realities' series. Its introduction states that Washington has played no role in 11 Sep 1973 coup. Chilean ambassador in London has negotiated a new order of 10,000 copies, double the original print run. 8,500 of these are distributed via the Chilean Embassy in Washington and 1,500 via the Chilean Embassy in London. Both Embassies attempt to convince business-people and journalists in the UK and USA as part of "a package of glossy Government publications defending the junta's record on human rights and development." The Chilean Embassy in London has stated: "Mr Moss is a very good friend of ours...We give the book away because it is an objective study and it is also good for us."' Sent by Chilean state "bewildered academics in America have received as many as three copies of the book." (Peter Chippindale and Martin Walker, 'Tory's book funded by CIA', 'Only the views we want you to read', The Guardian, 20 Dec 1976)

- 21 December 1976: Reg Prentice urges some form of cuts toi pensions "we have to grasp the nettle of seeking at least a reduced upgrading during the next two months in terms of all national insurance benefits, including pensions and also public service pensions."
- 21 December 1976: Tony Benn argues in favour of Bullock Report, received by Cabinet members: "I said we must also be careful not to be too much affected by the CBI view because working management was quite different, it was quite sympathetic, and managers were joining trade unions in quite large numbers now." (Tony Benn's diary)

Bullock Majority Report envisions a voluntary scheme where a system of representation is confined to firms with 2,000 or more employees, operable after a secret ballot of full-time employees – possibly with a minimum of six months service – is held. For the vote to be successful at least 33% of those eligible must vote positively and a majority of votes must be in favour. Firms of over 2,000 cover 738 major films and a total workforce of around 7

million, under three tenths of the whole workforce. Union density among private sector manufacturing firms with 2,000 employees or more is already above 70% hence there is general big business support for further incorporation of trade unions into management decisions. But explaining investment decisions and keeping inventories of capital movements are seen as dangerous and opposed. The Cabinet wrangling is so effective at delaying any moves that white paper (Industrial Democracy, Cmnd. 7231) is published only in May, 1978, killing it dead, under the pressure of legislative time.

- 21 December 1976: Callaghan states: "the TUC called on employers to make as positive a response to the future of the country as that already undertaken by trade unionists, who have given 100% support to the £6 policy and the 5% policy. The CBI welcomed the new measures. As the TUC said, we need to see that translated practically in terms of expansion in investment, in output and in jobs.... my understanding is that the leaders of the CBI are as intent on securing an increase in investment as are the Government and everyone in the country"
- 21 December 1976: Ted Rowlands announces in Parliament that Britain will not relinquish sovereignty in the Falklands when it continues discussions over cooperation with Argentina in the South Atlantic.
- 21 December 1976: IMF's 'Group of 10' leading industrial countries meet to consider and tentatively approve after Healey's massacre budget funds for Britain under the General Arrangement to Borrow facility.
- 21 December 1976: SASO Nine trial ends, convicting all defendants to heavy terms in Robben Island detention centre.
- 22 December 1976: In response to a number of emergency pay restrictions, a railways workers strike develops across the nation. It later spreads to dockers, bus drivers, clerical workers and other sivil servants.
- 23 December 1976: British Leyland announces an agreement to set up a joint venture in Japan in order to reach car sales of £36mil a year within 5 years. Leyland Japan Limited is incorporated in Tokyo early in 1977.
- 23 December 1976: Sir Derek Ezra, head of NCB, writes on the reality of competition from other energy industries to Scottish coal

industry: "After a record coal burn in 1975-76 coal consumption is now on the decline as a consequence of the commissioning of the first set at Hunterston B nuclear power station at a time of near stagnant growth in electricity demand. With the imminent commissioning of the second set at Hunterston B followed in 1977-78 by Inverkip oil-fired power station and then by Peterhead oil-gas station in the years 1978 and 1979, prospects for coal are not good unless there is a very considerable surge in demand for electricity coupled with a minimal use of fossil fuels other than coal."

- 24 December 1976: Tony Benn talks to a former MI6 operative Mark Arnold Forster "he drank whisky and we talked until about 1.45 Christmas morning... I said "I fully understand the need to spy against the Russians. They spy against us and so do the French and so does everybody, everyone knows that. The only anxiety I have is that the Americans might destabilise us." (Tony Benn's diary) 24 December 1976: A worker on the oil rig Sednerh 701. A sheriff returns a formal finding at an inquiry in Aberdeen of inadequate training and the standby vessel being unsuitable for rescue purposes.
- 25 December 1976: Queen's Christmas Message praises the Peace People: "I met in my home a group of people who are working for better understanding between people of different colour, different faiths and different philosophies and who are trying to solve the very real problems of community relations. Another shining example is the peace movement in Northern Ireland. Here Roman Catholics and Protestants have joined together in a crusade of reconciliation to bring peace to the Province."
- 27 December 1976: BP's Piper field sees its first flow of oil begin.
- 28 December 1976: "Jim is a much better Prime Minister than Wilson. He is more candid and open with people and he does not try to double talk them as Wilson once did." (Tony Benn's diary)
- 29 December 1976: Sterling rises to £1:\$1.71 on news of the confirmation of cuts.
- 29 December 1976: <u>Financial Times</u> reports a new initiative launched by Eric Varley, Hugh Scanlon, Jack Jones and the managers of four major motor firms to increase productivity in the motor industry.
- 29 December 1976: ACAS publicly criticise Grunwick's for failing to cooperate in a ballot of the workforce over trade union recognition.
- 30 December 1976: Wilson's IMF agreement, begun on December 31 1975, is officially renewed.

- 31 December 1976: Sir John Bunting, former Secretary to the Cabinet and Secretary to the Prime Minister's Department for Robert Menzies' 1960s war cabinet forcing Australian troops into Vietnam alongside the US and Borneo alongside Britain, is appointed a full Knight Commander of the British Empire in the New Year's Honour's List.
- 31 December 1976: Militant centrist Financial Times columnist Joe Rogaly's 'Parliament for the People: A Handbook of Electoral Reform' is published. It revives the arguments for national-coalition government: "like so much else in our political life the way we choose Parliaments could almost have been designed by hostile forces, whose single purpose was to divide the British people, set them at one another's throats, and so weaken the nation. The present system, with firmly established national parties trying their luck in single-member constituencies, was introduced in 1885; it is a curious coincidence that the period since the turn of the century has been one of almost continuous economic decline (relative to our main competitors) and increasing internal instability. The main periods of unity and greatness: have been in wartime, when the effects of childish winner-takes-all voting have been temporarily set aside in Parliament, in the interest of fighting a common enemy." He argues in favour of PR in order that it produce open coalitions which "would be better than the submerged coalitions we now get under the labels "Conservative" or "Labour" where "party factions do their secret deals behind the scenes. leaving the voters in ignorance and therefore relatively defenceless". He states "here we can now see how a move to fairer voting might make it easier to tackle some of our many other problems, while removing some of the particular problems caused by sham two-fisted two-party scrapping."

1976 Round-up: Iran has exceeded Saudi Arabia in financial volume as the source of oil imports into Britain. £1049.3mil from Iran, £978.5mil from Saudi Arabia, £597mil from Kuwait.

1976 Round-up: HSE figures record 109 workers on British farms have been killed in accidents over the year. Machinery faults and poorly maintained tractors are examined as the main causes of deaths by the May 1977 published report.

1976 Round-up: Over the year Britain's part-subsidiary Barclays South Africa has bought \$13mil of SADF bonds. Barclays South Africa, 63% owned by Barclays, the British bank, has close links with the giant Anglo-American Corporation, that dominates South

Africa's economy. Anglo-American's chairman, Harry Oppenheimer remains on the board of Barclays International.

1976 Round-up: SIPRI's report "In 1976 the world devoted some US \$334bn" to military defence equivalent to 1.3 times the total GDP of Third World countries in Asia, excluding the Middle East. It states over 400,000 scientists and engineers are engaged in direct military R&D; expenditures absorb annually US\$25 billion, i.e. over 40% of total world R&D.

1976 Round-up: Chancellor Healey has "over the year of 1976 alone... introduced four packages cutting public spending by a total of £4 $\frac{1}{2}$  billion" (Socialist Review, Notes of the Month, Feb 1977)

1976 Round-up: Private security services are expanded massively. "A labour force in these services of 100,000 in early 1975 has doubled to an acknowledged 220,000 in mid-1976... still growing — often with official compliance — as when Securicor is contracted to guard Commonwealth citizens at Heathrow while they were held until their admission or exclusion was decided. (Mar 25 1977, Tribune)

1976 Round-up: A detailed academic study of 2,112 people arrested by police under the sus laws reveals 42% are black. (Benyon, Spiral of decline in Race, Government and politics in Britain, 1986)

1976 Round-up: 38 railway workers have been killed in accidents an increasing proportion of the total of those killed (91) on the railways in the year. (Annual report of the Chief Inspecting Officer of Railways, 1976-7)

1976 Round-up: <u>Financial Times</u> survey of company profits from 465 industrial firms finds that in spite of the 10% celling on dividends under the incomes policy, dividends from companies whose financial year ended between January 15 and April 14 [1976] have risen by 14.6%. Profits in the survey have risen by 10,4% while the average rate of return for industrial companies (that is, trading profits as a percentage of capital employed) is 22.3%.

January 1977: Market information organisation <u>Incomes Data</u> reports on wages. The real value of wages has dropped by around £10 a week since the social contract has introduced. In Apr 1975, when the social contract is introduced, the average male wage stands at £60.80 a week. Then a £6 rise under phase one by Apr 1976. The rise estimated for Apr 1977 April under phase 2 would is £3.34, giving a new total wage of £70.14. When inflation is taken into account, the wage will actually be worth only £51.30 a week in Apr 1975 purchasing power, a fall of £9.50 a week, a drop in income of 15% over 2 years.

January 1977: Home Defence Circular (77)/1 is issued to local authorities: "A single attack destroy the greater part of a Health Authority's resources or could render them temporarily inaccessible

because of radioactivity or the blocking of roads." It proposes regional plans for moving consultants and doctors, but not the whole population, into rural areas if an imminent nuclear bomb's arrival is detected. It recommends that, after an attack, hospitals should then only accept casualties "likely to be alive after seven days with a fair chance of actual recovery".

January 1977: Private Roger Surch of the King's Regiment admits in court to raping a woman while on patrol in Strabane in summer 1976. He is given a two-year suspended sentence and allowed to return to his regiment, along with two other privates who admit indecently assaulting the same woman and who receive 9-month suspended sentences.

January 1977: Hospital managements are instructed by the Department of Health not to employ newly-qualified overseas pupil nurses where there are British applicants for the jobs. It is an attempt to quell frustration over redundancies and cutbacks in the N.H.S. 20.5% per cent of all pupil/student nurses were immigrants in 1975. About half are in Britain as a result direct recruitment by British hospitals, the other half are on the newer SEN courses. SEN courses are supplementary training courses for overseas nurses, over and above the requirements for British student nurses. They extend the period of 'cheap nursing labour' which the NHS, as custom, extracts from all nurses at the start of their career. SEN nurses, over 9,000 in all, from Malaysia and Philippines principally over, are blocked from the British labour market and have laboured an extended period for a worthless British qualification. Most have endured estrangement from the wider nursing body and extra training period in the hope of 'career prospects' to no end.

January 1977: <u>Lloyds Bank Review</u> praises the Swedish model as a potential way forward: "The freedom of employees to strike without the support of their union is limited in Sweden. Such strikes are illegal and the same applies to official strikes after a union has agreed to enter negotiations. Employers have had a prerogative to fix the manning of new machines. In practice, managers of German companies have similar powers, but in the UK employees often demand the right to negotiate the manning of new machinery and/or a substantial pay increase to operate it. More generally, the equivalents of the TUC in Sweden and Germany have more influence and authority in relation to member unions than has the TUC; and, overseas, the central authorities of trade unions have more influence and power relative to branches than in Britain." It finds that, comparing output in British and Swedish companies, output per employee is 50% higher in Swedish firms.

January 1977: Duke of Edinburgh in an interview in the month's <u>The Director</u>, journal of the Institute of Directors, states lets rip against the state welfare "You need not try to provide for your

children because the state says, "No, we are better able to educate them". You need not try to provide for your health because the state says "No, we can do it for you". You need not try to provide for your old age, because you have got to be taxed too to provide social benefits and anyway there is a national pension scheme... You must not accumulate wealth, it is arranged that you should not. We have turned the whole thing upside down. It is a complete reversal of what I would have thought was normal human nature and inclination in this country." This is a favourite theme stating "Life should be interesting. There should be challenge, the risk of both loss and gain" opposing welfare measures. In 1971 he has declared taxation should be imposed on all prospective parents "because at the moment they are being subsidised to breed", although presumably exempting the Royal Family since it is liable for no taxation and all expenses are covered, with even phone lines at Buckingham Palace rendered gratis.

January 1977: In the month's Encounter Former Reith Lecturer and economics editor of The Observer, current director of Royal Institute of International Affairs, future senior professor of economics at European University Institute, Florence, Andrew Shonfield, writes of how happy he is with the general flow of things: "My own feeling is ... having in the past three or four years tended to discount the prospects for the 1970s, regarding this decade moreover as only the prelude to worse things to come, we are now quite likely to be pleasantly, and excessively, surprised by our economic performance in the Western world in the run-up to the 1980s. There was a guite extraordinary advance in publicly-provided social welfare from the middle of the 1960s onwards; and this was accompanied in the late 1960s and early 1970s by an equally extraordinary advance in the wage claims made by and conceded to organised labour. We are now seeing a reaction on both fronts. Looking around the Western world in the second half of the 1970s one finds in one country after another—almost as if they had communicated the same impulse to each other—a systematic effort to reduce the share taken by wage incomes and by publicly-financed social services from the national product.... It is a matter of indifference whether a government of the Right or the Left or the Centre is in charge. At the moment the job is being done most prominently in Britain and in Germany, under the impulse of two Social Democratic governments.... In 1975/76 productivity in several countries with powerful trade unions will have gone up significantly faster than wages—and the chief beneficiary, with the assent of the trade unions, will be profits. At the same time as the share of social expenditure in GNP is being cut back, production throughout the West looks as if it is set for a big advance. A careful examination of the possible impediments to economic growth in Western societies (the best analysis that I have seen to date) was conducted by the OECD last summer. It came to the conclusion that there was no identifiable factor, technological or economic, that would cause a slowdown in the period immediately ahead. On the contrary, the economic circumstances provided an exceptional opportunity for an acceleration in the rate of increase in output in the West between now and 1980, beyond the level achieved in the high prosperity of the decade before the slump. Of course, always with the proviso of "politics permitting."" (Can Capitalism Survive Till 1999?, Andrew Shonfield, 10-18)

eJanuary 1977: During a time where government warnings repeat demands to save energy ('Save It!', 'Is your journey essential?' etc) Callaghan authorises a RAF VC-10 fly to Florida and bring back to his country estate in Wiltshire, Anthony Eden. He dies in peace amongst his family in the countryside he has always enjoyed, with the best paintings from his own Impressionists collection brought into his room from his cellar downstairs. This right to die in one's home or even on home soil is not accorded to elderly prisoners or Irish republicans. Eden's greatest hits include ordering the bombing the people of Port Said in 1956 and success in turning Cairo International, Egypt's only civilian airport, into a fireball.

Answering a question on the use of VC10s for serving officers when they are ill abroad to be ferried back to Britain: "The additional cost to the Exchequer of providing the RAF VC10 and the medical team was £17,850." (13 Jan 1977)

- \*January 1977: Britain signs the Council of Europe's Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism that requires members of the Council of Europe to extradite those accused of "terrorist" crimes or try them for such crimes.
- 1 January 1977: NME reports Procol Harum singer Gary Brooker has bought a pub to run in Weybridge called The Parrot. It also notes Jo-Jo Laine, partner of Moody Blues singer Denny Laine, has opened a shop in the same area.
- 1 January 1977: Britain and Ireland both extends their exclusive economic zone (EEZ) to 200 nautical miles from the coast, in response to the 1976 action by Iceland. Britain's zone includes a 200 mile radius from marine rock Rockall, giving it a considerably larger area. This legal use of Rockall continues until July 1997 when Britain finally accepts limits on economic zones cannot use inhabitable rocks as a land baseline.
- 1 January 1977: Britain begins flying RAF Nimrod aircraft to enforce its 200 mile EEZ against northern competitors.

- 2 January 1977: British Rail fares increase by around 12.5% on average. In 1976 an increase of 12.5%, 1975 an increase of 51%, 1974 an increase of 16%.
- 2 January 1977: <u>Sunday Times</u> reports Callaghan's comments. Continuing the social contract is "the bedrock of the government's very existence and the best guarantee of the nation's recovery".
- 3 January 1977: Roy Jenkins begins his post as unelected EEC Commissioner with a salary reportedly in the region of £80,000.
  3 January 1977: IMF officially grants 3,360million SDRs, \$3.9billion to the government. This agreement lasts until Jan 2, 1979.
- 3 January 1977: Jack Jones says 1977 will be "the year of the beaver" relentless hard work without pauses (ie strikes).
- 5 January 1977: Government announces it agreement on plans to sell a control system for jet engines to the Soviet Union. It is a multi-million contract between Lucas Aerospace and the Soviet government, to design and develop an electronic control system for the Kuznetsov NK144 turbofan jet engine, an upgraded version of which is used on twin-engine Backfire military aircraft. The NK144 is also used for TU144 supersonic transport aircraft. Lucas Aerospace had announced the deal on 23 December 1976.
- 5 January 1977: <u>The Sun</u> replies in an editorial over criticisms of its race reporting: "In the reporting of racial matters there is one safe guideline, the good old fashioned one of news value. We stand by that."
- 6 January 1977: Chairman of the Geneva Conference, Ivor Richard, visits Maputo. President Machel pledges all support and cooperation necessary to achieve a negotiated settlement in Rhodesia.
- 6 January 1977: Kenya's Attorney General Charles Njonjo tells a visiting Austrian delegation that detention orders (without charge) must remain in Kenya "in the interests of defence, public safety and public order... although it causes concern to Amnesty International and the International Commission of Jurists".
- 8-9 January 1977: US, Japan, Federal Germany agree in Basel to provide Britain a \$3bn safety net in case of withdrawals from sterling by foreign companies.
- 10 January 1977: Government draws on its IMF facility of \$676 million to cover loans. Bank of International Settlements, with the support of banks from eleven countries, provides Britain with a \$3

billion medium-term facility - called the 'Safety Net'. Bank of England reserves are thoroughly replenished.

- 11 January 1977: Amnesty International announces the death under torture of Mohammed Bushieri and Said Alaw'ianati in prison arrested in a mass sweep of Nov 1976.
- 11 January 1977: Trade Minister Edmund Dell meets the Shah. AP report: "A massive loan promised lo Britain may become one of the first victims of Iran's economic pinch. The British, fighting their own financial problems, so far have received only \$400million of the \$2 billion loan.... Majidi said the revenue loss [in oil as a result of the Saudi-UAE undercutting split] will necessitate revisions in the Iranian national budget, including cutbacks in a foreign aid program that has provided more than \$2 billion ... since 1974. British Trade Minister Edmund Dell met with Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi ... to discuss possible expansion of British trade with Iran. Dell reportedly was also negotiating for payment of the second and third instalments of the \$1.2billion loan.... imports by the government will be obtained through a barter system — oil for imported commodities or manufactured goods.... it recently announced a similar agreement with the British Aircraft Corp. BAC is to provide \$660 million in Rapier missiles in exchange for oil."
- 11 January 1977: Investors from across the world, and Louisiana and Texas in particular, in the Occidental-led group arrive for the opening ceremony of Piper field and Flotta oil terminal, which is conducted by Tony Benn. The event is filmed and forms part of a documentary shown in Britain and Europe called <u>The Billion Dollar Bonanza</u>. This follows the Piper field from discovery to construction, and paints a picture of a firm financing benevolent technological progress. (Kirkwall Airport is stacked with many private jets and helicopters.)

"Dr Armand Hammer and his third wife were at Heathrow, having flown in on their personal jet [from USA]...Armand's father became a socialist under the influence of Daniel De Leon. He also imported food and became close friends with Lenin. Hammer said that Lenin had told him that communism was no good, that the Soviet Union would need to start again with capitalism, and asked Hammer if he would be the first business concessionaire [for a pencil firm in the USSR]. ..[Later in USA] he bought up a little oil company for \$50,000 and built it up into Occidental. ....

I also talked to an Air Vice-Marshal, a naval captain from Rosyth and one or two people about the physical security of the oil. One of them said to me, 'Well I understand that every single person who works on the oil installations is regularly monitored by the police."

(Tony Benn's Diary) The reason for Benn's question is presumably guerrilla attacks on pipelines by Scottish nationalists or others.

"All multinationals, but especially oil companies, move cash and technology across the world in a way that has considerable impact on the rate of world development. However, unlike the sheikhs of forty years ago, we were not prepared to allow them free rein without safeguarding our interests. The treaty arrangements... were the method we adopted.... We did not – and no British government would – adopt the rule of confiscation or damage the legitimate interests arising from a round of licenses already agreed. ... In 1977... we wanted to ensure that as far as we could that orders for such equipment were brought to the UK in order to create jobs [in Britain]." (Tony Benn's Diary)

- January 1977: Northern Ireland Office 11 plans greater 'Ulsterisation' of security: "It was encouraging that the Secretary of state's firm style and stance had found acceptance in the House" [full of UUP, DUP VUP MPs] It envisions a long-term victory over the idea of political status: "on special category status... it was the intention to treat the issue as a long haul It was not in the Government's interests to try to stimulate immediate resolution of the issue ... those who already held it, the PUS said that the numbers would soon be reduced from 900 to 200; a plateau would then be reached after which point no further major reductions could be expected for a long time, since those remaining would have very long sentences" ('Note of a meeting between PUS and of the Northern Ireland Office and NICS Permanent Secretaries, 11 January 1977)
- 12 January 1977: Benn votes against a Labour Left motion supporting "arms expenditure should be reduced not increased... far from the illusion that arms spending has been seriously reduced, there has been a real increase since 1974....
- (a) carry out its election commitment to reduce the proportion of Great Britain's resources devoted to arms to that of the major European NATO powers;
- (b) devote the savings to housing, health, education, social service, overseas aid and the re-equipment of British industry;
- (c) draw up immediate plans for the redeployment of workers and resources away from arms production to socially useful purposes along the lines of the suggestions made by the Lucas Aerospace Shop Stewards Combine Committee and the Vickers Shop Stewards Combine Committee."
- 12 January 1977: <u>Financial Times</u> reports on trade union leadership attitudes to worker participation/industrial democracy. Hugh

Scanlon and the AUEW leadership opposes the "blurring of class distinctions" in private sector firms but is in support participation in nationalised industries. Jack Jones of TGWU and Clive Jenkins of ASTMS help draw up the Bullock majority report for worker directors equal in number to shareholder directors with a complex scheme of arbitration in the case of deadlock (X + Y + 2)

- 13 January 1977: Tony Benn again fails to defend Labour Left rebels who vote in favour of significant cuts to defence programmes, against the government: "I didn't say anything because I was in some difficulty over Brian Sedgemore, Jim having tried to stop me appointing him as my new PPS."
- 13 January 1977: Government announces full-power ahead for military naval expenditure: "At the present time the Royal Navy has two ASW cruisers, three nuclear-powered submarines, six Type 42 destroyers, four Type 21 and three Type 22 frigates, and a mine countermeasures vessel under construction in United Kingdom shipyards, in addition to a number of smaller vessels."
- 13 January 1977: UPW Executive votes to confirm its international obligations as decreed by ICFTU in 1976, to institute a week-long delay on processing mail to apartheid South Africa to begin at 00hrs 17 Jan. General Secretary Tom Jackson states the legality of the proposed action is untested but is confident that since the laws relating to it date from Queen Anne's era, they will succeed. POEU Post Office Engineering Union has already stated it is instructing members not to provide or maintain circuits to South Africa except in a matter of "life and death."
- 13 January 1977: Bandaranaike warns Communists and trade unionists they cannot support nationwide strikes in Sri Lanka and remain in government posts. It is received warmly in \*\*.
- 13 January 1977: Brookings Institute figure, former senior staff under Pres. Johnson's Council of Economic Advisers, Prof Lawrence B Krause urges immediate Keynesian stimulus measures to avoid recession, declaring at a Senate Budget Committee: "The world is faced with substantial risk of a premature recession starting later this year or early in 1978." He urges coordinated reflation and production expansion programmes by the all Western powers. Lawrence Veil, international economist at Wall Street finance firm Brown Brothers Hartman Co. and Frank Schiff, former senior staff economist with Johnson's Council of Economic Advisers and South Vietnam government adviser on creation of a central bank, chief economist for the Committee for Economic Development echo the same desire for coordinated Keynesianism from petrodollar allies.

- 13 January 1977: PCI announces a record 698mil lire deficit in its books, in spite of its organisation of dozens of ticket-only folk-music based festivals.
- 13 January 1977: <u>The Times</u> is not published in response to an article printing outright false information printed about NATSOPA and SOGAT.
- 13 January 1977: National Trainers Federation announces anabolic steroids for racehorses have been the standard practice since thea early 1970s after the Jockey Club
- 12-14 January 1977: Commonwealth Secretariat hosts in London its conference on development as agreed in 1976. It is peopled by 'industrial specialists' and representatives of operations and manpower studies, and no demands from actual Third World social movements are heard.
- 14 January 1977: Sam Silkin, Attorney General, refuses to give his support for an injunction against two Post Office unions that support the blacking of certain services to South Africa. He is fairly uniformly condemned in the media for interference in "freedom".
- 15 January 1977: Malaysia and Thailand launch a massive joint armed forces operation 'Daoyai Musnah' (Big Star) against CPT and CPM guerrillas. Thai helicopter gunships followed by RMAF aircraft bombard border areas before Malaysian troops in armoured vehicles, artillery and specialist engineers with RMAF air cover storm into southern Thailand.
- Malaysia operations commander Major Gen. Datuk Mahmood Sulaiman tells a press conference the operation will last for at least 3 weeks. The RMAF is largely a British creation. A sample aircraft pilot: "Until my retirement ... I had flown more than 300 operation details as an air gunner in Sarawak, Perak, Kedah, Pahang and Kelantan. Among the operations I was involved in were Ops Seri Aman Sibu, Sarawak; Ops Indera Bentong, Pahang; Ops Gonzales Ipoh, Lasah and Sungai Siput, Perak; Ops Bulan (night intercept) Kelantan; Ops Doyai Musnah, Padang Besar; Ops Selamat Sawadee Padang Besar and Kroh, Perak and Bertam, Kelantan; Ops Jala Emas Sungai Siput; Ops Caya Bina Kroh and Thailand and both Ops Ukor and Ops Kota Ekor along the Malaysian-Thai border. Prior to this I had also served with the British Royal Air Force (M) from 1961-1966."
- 15 January 1977: At a specially convened hearing the Court of Appeal grants a temporary injunction to prevent trade unions boycotting mail to South Africa and leave to try for a permanent injunction at the House of Lords. However even if trade unions defy the temporary injunction, they may be sequestered. *Gouriet v.*

Union of Post Office Workers (1977) sees John Gouriet argue the case on the basis of the Post Office Act 1953. He asserts his interest as being the interest of every citizen in obedience of the law. He does not assert any claim for "special damage" in the shape of interference with specific business in South Africa, so as to avoid a UPW defence on the basis of available alternatives to South Africa. Gouriet uses a statement made by Lord Denning in an earlier case (brought by Ross McWhirter against the Independent Broadcasting Authority) that Denning would favour hearing a private appeal if the Attorney-General ever refused his consent for an injunction or legal decision in "a proper case".

Special dispensations have been given to ensure the correct outcome John Gouriet, arrives at the Lord Justices of Appeal Clerks' Room at 5.30 on a Friday afternoon, requesting a hearing for the very next day. Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, immediately accede to this request to ensure the injunction is out in the necessary time.

16 January 1977: Undercover SAS, concealed in surrounding fields, open fire upon and shoot dead 20-year-old Seamus Harvey, an IRA operative, while he is examining an abandoned car, set up as an SAS trap.

16-17 January 1977: 80 white mercenaries, led by Colonel Bob Denard, mostly French "in thick Parisian accents", a few English-first language British Commonwealth, financed by Omar Bongo's Gabon and King Hassan's Morocco launch an armed attack upon Cotonou airport, Benin, and proceed to occupy 'strategic points' in the capital before they are repulsed and arrested. The mercenary attack provides opportunities for further Kerekou repression.

17 January 1977: "very interesting meeting on refinery policy. The Department was trying to get me to abandon our objective that 66% of refining must be carried out in the UK.... I said it must be to our advantage to have the refining here, and they said 'Well BP would make more profits if it put its refinery in Rotterdam'" (Tony Benn's Diary)

17 January 1977: "Tribune's fortieth birthday party at Number 10 – it was immense fun.... [Callaghan] made a little speech saying he read Tribune and had done for years, and yearned for the day when he would agree with it.... We all stood there – all the wives and Dick Clements, the editor of Tribune, and his staff." (Tony Benn's Diary) 17 January 1977: Financial Times reports the new effort to raise productivity in the motor industry by attacking shop-floor organisation: "Leyland Cars' 90,000 manual workers are being urged by their trade union leaders to accept a large package of fringe benefits which would make them pacesetters for industry."

Mobility of labour within the plant, more flexibility in terms of job definitions and an end to unofficial, instant strike action (which cannot be easily compensated for) are sought. The new British Leyland deal for British employees offers a large package of fringe benefits such as injury and sick pay, lay-off and redundancy benefits, in return for "co-operation in substantially reducing unauthorised absence and unconstitutional industrial action". Penalty for unofficial action which lasts for half a shift or a total of eight hours starts from a loss of three months benefits.

- 17 January 1977: Gabon President and Mauritanian President hold talks with King Hassan in Morocco to conclude a 3-way cooperation agreement.
- 18-19 January 1977: Protests in Egypt against the imposition of price increases culminate in the deaths of over 800 and the injuring of thousands more.
- 18 January 1977: Strangled by a general investment squeeze and limited assistance from the Soviet Union, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam welcomes the first World Bank economic survey mission on its arrival.
- 18 January 1977: Direct criticism of the Royal Family is, once again, prohibited in parliament: "not to be hindered by the impudent and ill-advised speech of the Duke of Edinburgh, who appeared to be clambering on to the bandwagon—
- Speaker: Order. It is the long-established custom in this House to speak with respect of members of the Royal Family."
- 18 January 1977: Callaghan gives advice to the centre-right to deal with the trade unions: "The Opposition do not do ... their own prospects any good by constantly attacking the TUC on these matters... the day may come when they will have to deal with them."
- 18 January 1977: "I must admit that the standard of living of, for example, the Ambassador a Rolls Royce, luxurious house, marvellous furniture, silver plate at dinner is indefensible." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 19 January 1977: Paris Britain's Embassy "At 7 in came the butler and the sub-butler with the silver salver and silver teapot and China tea" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 19 January 1977: "We flew off to Brussels... a lunch with the Belgians given by Sir David Muirhead, our Ambassador to the Brussels Government, who lives in another of these great fancy houses with a butler, sub-butler, a log fire and God knows what." (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 19 January 1977: <u>Financial Times</u> reports on IMF efforts against Egyptian subsidies for the poor: "At the heart of the matter is the political pressure being brought on Egypt by the Gulf states, Washington, and the IMF to move the Egyptian economy move into line with principles of supply and demand. Subsidy cuts and reduction of borrowing for current expenditures are an integral part of IMF policy. Saudi Arabia and Kuwait have seen fit to link extended aid to Egypt to the application of IMF approved measures. The demonstrations underline the urgent need for President Sadat to, maintain the momentum of his current effort for peace, and to reach an agreement with Israel which will allow him, eventually, to divert a large part of the crippling cost of defence..."
- 20 January 1977: Bullock Committee's Reports on Industrial Democracy are discussed in Cabinet. "Jim said that this was an explosive issue. It could be like the Tory Industrial Relations Act. He was afraid it would cause polarisation. ... I feel my relations with Jim are improving. I think maybe he needs me on the industrial democracy front, and now that Sedgemore is appointed I feel more cheerful." Callaghan at the Cabinet endorses the idea of taking the Majority proposals and abandoning the Minority ones, but with a plan for a 15-month period to consult and finalise details before a Bill is prepared, with the government interest in all forms of extended employee involvement, including supervisory or two-tier boards encompassing union and non-union worker representatives. Edmund Dell, Trade Secretary, later secures a reversal of Callaghan's insistence that the Bullock Minority proposals be set aside. At the Cabinet meeting he has reminded "multinationals must be allowed to control their own investment and if they couldn't (because of interference from employees) they would stop investment here and move money out." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 20 January 1977: In an announcement of 'total victory', Iranian armed forces are withdrawn from Oman, some of whom have been trained by British officers.
- 21 January 1977: "the little Hawker Siddeley 125 to Rome... greeted by the British Ambassador, Sir Alan Campbell, with the inevitable Rolls Royce, and a police escort driving at speed through the streets of Rome to the Department of Industry ... no women, and lots of soldiers saluting with guns" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 21 January 1977: Northern Ireland Secretary Roy Mason in a speech to the Northern Ireland Chamber of Commerce says withdrawal will not occur: "The troops will stay... we will continue to tighten the net around those who organize and carry out these plans. The problems that you face in industry and business cannot be divorced from the criminal activities of the terrorists and

- gangsters; whose distorted thinking leads them to attack the commercial foundations of our society."
- 21 January 1977: Mobutu arrives in Brussels to meet with EEC finance figures and then sign a joint EEC-Zaire financial deal, easing financial conditions for the brutal Zairean military single-party regime on the understanding of continuing favourable trade deals with the EEC. Over the period as a whole EEC credit and development aid for Tanzania becomes increasingly scarce, with very stringent conditions.
- 21 January 1977: John Biggs-Davison, Conservative spokesman on Ulster, at Birmingham University criticizes a recent tour of the province by a few Labour Left MPs that inspects the damage cause by military units and RUC and Army interrogations, as aiding IRA terrorism.
- 22 January 1977: "All day policy conference of Bristol Labour Party... speeches about the immorality of evicting families: seven families have been evicted in Bristol, they said. One was an old man dying of cancer, another was an old man with asthma, another a battered wife with two children." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 22 January 1977: Jason Moyo, ZAPU second vice-president is killed in a parcel bomb attack in exile in Lusaka.
- 23 January 1977: Enoch Powell gives a speech to Young Conservatives in Manchester warning that "civil war" is approaching because of the race problem, he calls for "wholly new policy initiatives" financed repatriation to solve the problem.
- 24 January 1977: "Helmut Schmidt, who had come in by helicopter to Battersea heliport and was being brought by car" to Number 10, says "whereas co-determination in industry... worked easily when there was growth, in a recession it made the unions more defensive and there were dangers of communists, Maoists and Trotskyists among the rank and file wrecking it all" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 24 January 1977: "Crosland remarked ... the trouble with Japan was that their aid levels and their defence spending were so low [hence more competitive compared to Western European states]... lunch ... at a table between Herr Gunther van Well [Deputy Foreign Minister] and Georg Leber [Defence Minister]" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 24 January 1977: Nepal's Law Ministry announces former Nepali Congress prime minister B.P. Koirala, fellow cabinet minister Ganesh Man Singh and several others will be charged "perpetrating undesirable and illegal activities in different parts of Nepal" after having returned from an 8-year exile.
- 24 January 1977: Triple A attack sees 5 shot dead and 4 severely injured in am armed raid on a trade union law office of the PCE-

aligned CCOO confederation, in Atocha street, Madrid. It is the most blatant example of the benefits of a 'black international' that has emerged amongst rightist elements in France and Italy that assists operatives in Spain and Portugal.

- 25 January 1977: Callaghan explains: "The presence of British troops in Central Europe as they are today is not only a source of stability to Central Europe but a means of an extended protection of our own islands." Acceptance of this central point means that the way is always open for backlash charges against the idea of 'failing to secure our national defence'
- 25 January 1977: UK and foreign banks raise a medium-term loan of \$1.5billion on behalf of the government, which draws a sixth of this total over the next three weeks.
- 25 January 1977: <u>Al Ahram</u> reports IMF have concluded a \$140million loan for Egypt after several days of negotiations in Cairo.
- 25 January 1977: Thai Prime Minuter Thanin in stunning speech to 1,000 US, British, Japanese and other chambers of commerce representatives and businessmen, promises a strike-free country, including immediate action against wildcat strikes. "Strikes will not bother you any more" he pledges price controls will only be imposed "only on necessities" of a limited number. He also promises in the new investment law initial income tax exemptions from 3-8 years, with further 5-year extensions, tariff exemptions of up to 90% for produced goods, 100% exemption for imported raw materials, an exemption of up to 90% for 10 years for expenses on promotions, guarantee of no nationalisation of investments. "We are seeking foreign capital and technology" he states and offers as a major attraction a "one-stop centre" for investors, to be set up by Thailand's Board of Investment, where the Prime Minister is chairman.
- 25 January 1977: The Clash sign to CBS Records in a £100,000 deal. Maurice 'Obie' Oberstein, head of CBS Britain, has declared his interest early in 1976, having stated "Punk rock is perfectly harmless". "One of the things I've found out in recent years, that I wasn't aware of at the time, was that one of the reasons that Malcolm and Bernie fell out was that Bernie had been offered this deal by Maurice Oberstein at CBS to set up his own label and a radio station and Malcolm didn't want to know. That's why Bernie went off to form the Clash." (Glen Matlock in Punk Rock: An Oral History, John Robb, 192) Oberstein has earlier summed up his philosophy as "art is for artists. Running a record company is all about shifting black viny!"

Several large firms EMI UK, CBS UK, WEA-Kinney, Philips-Polydor increasingly dominate popular music production in Britain. The

capture of punk music early on is an important point in the revival of record sales.

24-25 January 1977: A recently resigned British officer writes of his serving in the six counties: "The big guns are back in force, against a seemingly intractable opponent. Perhaps, after three centuries of colonial experiences, throughout which Ireland has remained as a constantly unravelling thread, we can legitimately ask ourselves, 'What have we learnt from it all?' If General Sir Walter Walker - the doyen of the fighting soldier and late Deputy Commander of NATO - is to be believed, then the answer is depressingly nothing. As he himself said: "I have engaged in campaigns against blacks, yellows and slant eyes. Why should we have one rule for whites and one for coloureds? We have to decide if Northern Ireland is part of Britain or not - and if so, act accordingly."

...Might is still right. To the army, the solution of the Irish Problem is the same as it always was. It is identical to the approach we adopted in Cyprus and employed again in Aden. A man who should know, Lieut. Col. Colin Mitchell, put it very succinctly when he said: 'What I'd like to do is to have a machine gun built into every television camera and then say to the IRA, come out and let's talk ... and then shoot the lot.'

... the comparison with de Gaulle's Algeria is all too clear: we have settlers, natives and now of course, the army. Sadly, the campaign in the North is also one which is becoming increasingly racialist in character... this sense of frustration towards an enemy who just won't admit defeat is not confined to the army. For the past few years, the English mainland has been swamped with a deluge of 'Irish' jokes, all of which are designed to show the stupidity of the native. It has been an almost national exercise of mind: a therapeutic attempt to exorcise a bogey-man by yells, book and candle. ... Paddy remains obstinately beyond the Pale. It can't be that the weapons he chooses to fight with are all that repugnant to us. Didn't we train and subsequently glory in the guerrilla tactics of the Chindits: didn't we help the French Maguis, who were none too scrupulous in the methods they used? Isn't the SAS trained for equally ruthless work? No! It goes much deeper than this. It is a dark animal hatred within us, nurtured over hundreds of years of fear, superiority and contempt towards the race across the water ... How, then, does all this affect the British army in Northern Ireland? In the days when we had a proper Empire, the army saw to it that when the lesser breeds were revolting, they were summarily dealt with. The world has changed since then. And yet, after all these years of colonial withdrawal, we don't seem to have learnt anything from the recent past. Our approach is as uncompromisingly arrogant as it ever was

...More State-educated boys than ever before are being commissioned - though still not into the smartest of regiments, of course. What is so disturbing however, is the way in which all this new blood is so quickly tainted with the social mores and opinions of the past ... most of the new entry take to the rigid distinctions... like a duck to water.

At this very moment, there are British regiments training in England and in Western Germany exercising in elaborate 'mock-ups' of Irish ghettos, complete with custom built houses, pubs and shops. A local population culled from the ranks of the unit being tested is assumed to be totally hostile, and is instructed to behave accordingly. Even the feminine touch is not forgotten. Members of the Women's Royal Army Corps are specially imported to hurl abuse at the soldiers, presumably to condition them for life in the raw, Creggan or Turf Lodge fashion. There is no doubt that from a military standpoint, the training is effective. It does instil alertness and aggression. It also takes little account of the finer points of dealing with the bulk of a terrified population who actually have to live in the ghettos - for real."

- 25 January 1977: Callaghan announces Deryk Van der Weyer, deputy chairman of Barclay's Bank as a Commissioner in the Royal Commission on the Distribution of Income and Wealth. He is also deputy head of the Institute of Bankers.
- 25 January 1977: Foreign Secretary Crosland warns of the real dangers of an internal settlement continuing: "if Mr. Smith attempted to reach some kind of internal settlement with a collection of chiefs, that would carry no credibility outside. No settlement to the Rhodesian problem that does not carry credibility outside has any hope of being durable. ... if this is now [Smith's] break in negotiations it hugely increases the possibility of Marxists participating in the conflict, and they will be armed and not necessarily from Africa."
- 26 January 1977: Los Angeles magazine reports Rupert Murdoch in a bid to purchase the <u>Los Angeles Herald-Examiner</u>.
- 26 January 1977: Joint Research Council-NASA-ESA Ultraviolet Explorer satellite is launched.
- 26 January 1977: Sadat's Attorney-General Ibrahim Kalyoubi announces in a statement for Al Ahram, that members of the Egyptian Communist Party, the Egyptian Workers Communist Party, Revolutionary Current and January 8<sup>th</sup>, arrested in the wake of the bread riots of 18-19 Jan 1979, will face charges of subversion, that carries the death penalty. "All four are banned and their aim is to overthrow the legitimate government by illegitimate methods... to alter the basic social and economic systems of the state... The mere

setting up of these organisations which have these aims even if they are not realised — is a crime in itself... These people will be charged with carrying out anti-state activities, with the aim of overthrowing the current social and economic systems, as a step toward seizing power." At least 200 have been arrested after the riots away from events as part of round ups of leftists and subversives.

- 26 January 1977: <u>Financial Times</u> reports the growth of firm-wide participation/'industrial democracy' schemes. The Post Office, many parts of transport Harland & Wolff shipyards have all introduced such schemes to smooth productivity requirements.
- 26 January 1977: Labour's NEC votes 16-10 to set up a subcommittee to examine a document on Militant entryism as produced by Labour's national organiser Labour Left Reg Underbill
- 27 January 1977: Grunwick's strikers picket chemist shops working with Grunwick's.
- 27 January 1977: Court of Appeal rejects the Attorney General's argument over the government Attorney General's ability to influence laws. Lord Denning states: [Attorney General] "has no prerogative to suspend or dispense with the laws of England" unlike law judges. Denning decrees he and 2 other appeal judges remain legally justified in ordering the UPW to comply with the NAFF call to end the week-long IFCTU boycott of South African mail. He makes the backlash statement "the law must be obeyed, even by the moat powerful and by the trade unions" to suggest the Attorney-General is somehow infringing the law by asserting UPW's legal rights.
- 27 January 1977: First part of a new White Paper (Cmnd. No 6761) on public expenditure cuts is published.
- 27 January 1977: "Cabinet. Albert Booth [gives official statistics]... Eight workers a day are killed in industry, there are 3,000 accidents a day, 23 million man days lost by accidents which is four times as many as by strikes at a cost of £200million a year in industrial injury benefit. Albert said the number of people employed was dropping but the number of accidents was not, and therefore the rate of accidents was increasing." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 27 January 1977: "evening to Copenhagen... first British woman Ambassador, Anne Warburton. She is an economist, was in America during the war, went to Somerville, joined NATO as an economic analyst, then to the United Nations and in 1960 joined the Foreign Service lives a life entirely remote.. beautiful eighteenth century house... beautiful paintings... beautiful ballroom. I was put in the royal suite." (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 27 January 1977: In <u>The Times</u>, the British Institute of Management, the Engineering Employers' Federation and the Industrial Society, join the CBI and the Institute of Directors in collectively attacking possible proposals for workplace democracy
- 28 January 1977: <u>New Statesman</u> reports the new Police Complaints Board chaired by militant centrist Lord Plowden, has been unable to treat complaints seriously or air wider grievances over police operations. This is in part because the Police Federation organise funds for any accused police officer to sue or threaten to sue plaintiffs who make a complaint about them. ("Fuzzy Board" 28 Jan 1977 New Statesman)
- 28 January 1977: <u>Time Out</u>'s Duncan Campbell vigorously defends Hosenball in another article 'Hosenball: The Ex -Directory Evidence', that marks him out further as a figure for the government to distract and divert with an OSA prosecution.
- 29 January 1977: Buzzcocks release a four-song record called Spiral Scratch without any capital from a recording firm the first 'punk' self-release. It is self-distributed to Manchester record shops. In its wake the Buzzcocks attract enough attention and radio play to join record firm United Artists.
- 29 January 1977: Students at Fourah Bay College, Freetown, stage a demonstration during the university convocation, accusing dictatorial President Sir Siaka Stevens of corruption and arbitrary arrests. They call for the disbandment of the Internal Security Unit, increases in wages and elections without intimidation. Sierra Leone is facing economic crisis. Two-thirds of the fishing industry remains in foreign hands, much 'rarer' fish is exported to Britain. An ongoing duel between De Beers and the NDMC has left the diamond workers poor: In an attempt to outmanoeuvre De Beers, Siaka Stevens has nationalised, step by step key mines from De Beers paying compensation, to form the National Diamond Mining Co. De Beers, though HQed in South Africa has its most important agency the Central Selling Organization, its marketing wing, based in London, controlling perhaps 80% of the diamond trade. It still dominates the diamond industry and to squeeze the effect of independent producers, De Beers buys up diamonds-in-the-rough from NDMC, but refuses to allow it access to refiners, polishers and world market it controls from London. De Beers acts as buyer of last resort, it removes the market surplus of rough stones, and then resells to its chosen cutters and refiners when the value of particular subsets of diamonds increases (similar to the operation of large property firms with enormous land banks in various fields, selling when the price is right). De Beers carries a huge stockpile of billions-worth of

diamonds, built up over the colonial era. It can undercut trades and deals being made by independent producers where necessary, forcing them out of business, before returning to higher standard prices. The <u>Financial Times</u> reports later in the 1990s looking back on the period: "The buyer-of-last-resort strategy worked brilliantly in times of high inflation when diamond prices were high and the value of the stockpile rose."

So De Beers is well placed, with deep financial reserves to overcome any threat from NDMC. It blocks access to the highly specialist refiners and cutters within its network unless De Beers can buy them first. De Beers will simply not allow NDMC diamonds to be sold via London and the De Beers Central Selling Organisation. NDMC ends up selling to De Beers meaning it has gained only the least profitable link in the economic chain. The other course NDMC adopts is the 'illegal route' – diamonds-in-therough passed on without payment of taxation or import duties. De Beers also buys NDMC diamonds in this fashion on illegal i.e. smuggled markets to maintain its stockpile and effective monopoly. Drawn into competition with De Beers, NDMC moves to extract profit from where it can, by weakening the safety and working conditions in the mines themselves.

Stevens's strategy has deflated into corrupt practices to uphold power. Using revenue from non-De Beers illicit diamond sales at the NDMC, he becomes increasingly keen on providing 'benefits' to coopt the leaders of social movements, trade unions and teachers' associations as well as army officers. A hundred imported 50kg rice sacks are given every month to every officer above the rank of captain to allow them to pay their way in the economy to comfort.

- 30 January 1977: Governor General Sir Denis Blundell announces 'God Save The Queen' will remain as New Zealand's national anthem and not be replaced by 'God Defend New Zealand'.
  30 January 1977: NUJ gives notice it will begin a BBC-wide strike on 3 Feb 1977 in support of BBC local news journalists on strike in Sheffield since Dec 1976.
- 30 January 1977: <u>Sunday Times</u> reports the updated research into asbestos cancers by Julian Peto. It follows the Rochdale plant of Turner Bros. at the safe limit (2 fibres per cm3) that is meant to allow 1 in 100 workers to contract asbestos illnesses. It discovers an ongoing rate of close to 6 in 100 workers contracting asbestos related diseases from the factory.
- 30 January-20 February 1977: <u>Sunday Telegraph</u> 4-part detailed account of Angola's conflict by Robert Moss, again relying on BOSS and MI6 assertions, accusations of MPLA's anti-white racism etc.

- 31 January 1977: Announcing themselves as "chairmen of some of the country's largest companies, which include some of its most successful earners of foreign exchange", executives of major British firms issue a careful letter to Callaghan over the Bullock Report. It predicts grave economic and industrial consequences (severe contraction of future investment) if the proposals "more unrealistic and rigid than anything we could possibly have visualised' are implemented. In contrast to the CBI's straightforward opposition, the group opposes the full application of the Bullock Report partly because its proposals threaten to crowd out or show in a bad light a variety of participation schemes that some of these firms are already developing. Their such for a more inclusive capitalism can be explained almost entirely by the drive to secure productivity gains in exchange for worker participation. The authors are Sir Arthur Knight, Courtaulds Limited, Sir Rowland Wright, ICI Limited; Peter Baxendell, Shell UK; Brian Kellett, Tube Investments; Hector Laing, United Biscuits (also Chairman of the Food and Drink Industries Council); Sir David Orr, Unilever. (PREM 16/1321, 31 Jan 1977)
- 31 January 1977: "PM and the Chairman of GEC, Arnold Weinstock and the Deputy Chairman... to discuss nuclear power... I said 'Look, the fact is we are the strongest energy country in Europe. We don't need as much nuclear power as the French or the Germans or the Italians" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 31 January 1977: Archibald Fife, chief of Glasgow Council works committee says it has underspent its budget by £4.1m to make savings in projects and made £2.3m of maintenance work cuts. He states there have been speed ups, more stringent use of materials, rolling buck overtime payments and tightened security.
- 31 January 1977: APC supporters and loyal police and army units invade Mount Aureol in a massacre later dubbed 'All Thugs Day'. Alongside the dead of Sierra Leone students are an exile nationalist from UDI Rhodesia and an exiled Nigerian at Fourah Bay College.
- 31 January 1977: Sir Ivor Richard, British UN Ambassador and Chairman of the Geneva Conference on Rhodesia says he has no knowledge of boycott-breaking by British oil firms in a meeting with Zambia's President Kaunda. The site of the conference is ironic since British firms have used Swiss-based companies to sustain the Rhodesian military regime. Many foreign companies unable to trade directly with Rhodesia because of their own Governments' legal restrictions have Instead used a Swiss company as a go-between in what are known as triangle deals.

Eventually the government is to give way and appoint chartered accountants Dixon Wilson & Co. to conduct the Rhodesian Oil Enquiry into the widespread allegations.

31 January 1977: 28 leading Southern Sudanese political figures are arrested for a supposedly "criminal plot aimed at committing chaos in South Sudan". It leads to the outright mutinous rebellion of armed forces in Juba province on 3 Feb 1977, leading to the death of 8 soldiers and a foreigner at Juba airport. This incident blamed by Nimieri on the Southern opposition leads to many arrests, such that by Apr 1977, it is announced that 105, military and civilian will stand trial over the events.

February 1977: An unofficial strike at British Leyland Coventry erupts over management practices.

February 1977: NUPE officials bring an end to various unofficial industrial actions with Labour-run Strathclyde Region Council over cuts to cleaning and maintenance workers. "These proposals ... will involve a drop in earnings" says Hugh Brannan Labour councillor, head of the manpower services committee. He says that at the end of the month, there is little difference between the council and the unions now. Over £2.6m of cuts in cleaning and maintenance are being made.

February 1977: Housebuilding firm representatives on the Building EDC of the NEDC leak a report with proposals for cutting back substantially on the level of council housing subsidies and new forms renting tenure in the privately rented sector. This becomes an opportunity for centre-right forces to launch a vigorous backlash campaign in favour of private housebuilding. Union representatives have not participated the report and when they do so, the final report in Oct 1977 is denounced as an 'unfair concession' to union friends for arguing against cuts to council housing subsidies.

"The tenants are already voting with their feet against the council house ghettos of the inner city... they may also vote with their ballots against those who seem so determined to prevent them getting the sort of housing they want, the sort of housing incidentally, which all of us pay for as rate and tax-payers." (Evening Standard, 3 Feb 1997)

1 February 1977: Schoolchildren and university students across Sierra Leone begin the 'No college, No school' movement – an indefinite strike in protest at the brutality in Freetown. Internal Security Unit (ISU), which has the distinction of being trained by Western advisers as well as a small number of Cuban officers, begins its raids and round ups.

- 2 February 1977: Executive of the Australian Workers Union (AWU) approves unanimously 35-0 the mining, enrichment, transportation and export abroad of uranium in all its forms, at its national convention. It also votes against any boycotts being placed on the mining and milling of similar radioactive ores at the request of other trade unions. AWU represents uranium miners in Mary Kathleen Uranium Ltd. 70% owned by Rio Tinto Mining subsidiary of British multinational firm Rio Tinto Zinc.
- 2 February 1977: Hector Laing, chairman of United Biscuits (McVitie & Price) and food industry employers' chief as leader of the Food and Drink Industries Council on the board of the Bank of England, lobbies Thatcher against worker directors, even in a minority, even on advisory boards, even if staggered over time, even in a 2-tier structure, parts of which softer business leaders are happy to concede. He explains government-enforced workplace democracy would ruin individual firms' own carefully arranged participation mechanisms. (MRC, MSS.200/C/3/DG3/96, Hector Laing to Margaret Thatcher, 2 Feb 1977)
- 2 February 1977: Jim Sillars of breakaway leftist pro-Scottish devolution Scottish Labour Party argues for a coal export strategy: "even if a good agreement is reached between the SSEB, the NCB and the Government, we in Ayrshire will remain exposed and vulnerable because it is possible, even with the best will in the world, that we could end up with about 1 million to 1¼ million tons surplus to market requirements by around 1978–79. ... Market availability is critical in sustaining the Ayrshire coalfield and the economy. If there are question marks over market outlets in the Scottish economy, we are entitled to look for outlets in the wider economy of which we are now part the EEC."
- 2 February 1977: Tony Benn does not publicise the Urenco deal. "Three hour long meeting with David Owen and Ruud Lubbers, Dutch Economic Affairs Minister, and Hans Matthoffer, the German Technology Minister, and officials, about Urenco... the German deal with Brazil... Brazilians would get equipment to reprocess their own fuel elements and create weapons grade plutonium. I think it is a most revolting deal but I was heavily briefed against publicising it publicly." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 3 February 1977: Nyerere announces a new joint party, CCM Chama Cha Mapinduzi (Revolutionary Party) to combine TANU and Zanzibar's ASP. Nyerere later announces that under Tanzania's new constitution Zanzibar will retain its non-elective Zanzibar Revolutionary Council and Islam-based judicial system. It is inaugurated on 5 Feb 1977 marking further unity of effort against the Zanzibar and mainland opposition.

- 4 February 1977: Italian government announces an significant 1,400mil lire increase in indirect taxation and VAT to finance the reduction of employers' social security contributions (reduction in labour costs, increase in profitability). The basic rate of VAT is increased from 12-14%.
- 4 February 1977: Prince Charles in a press Conference in Cardiff announces that the target for the Queen's Silver Jubilee Appeal is £5mil.
- 4 February 1977: <u>Times Educational Supplement</u> reports Julius Gould, Nottingham University Professor of Sociology, identifying Marxist bias in another Open University course 'Schooling and Capitalism' describing it as particularly sensitive since it allows the formation of future generation's viewpoints. The Open University announces it will act not Julius Gould for attempting to denigrate work that examines social and class discrimination in education, but will launch an investigation into teachers responsible for its language, arts, sociology and education courses.
- 4 February 1977: "Amoco Europe.. had declined to accept the form of words that Shell and Esso had accepted: namely that they would conduct their trade in a way that would maximise the benefit to the United Kingdom.... They claimed it would commit them legally to a £100million investment in a MilfordHaven refinery and they werer not prepared to do that.... [Amoco Europe executives] said that the board of directors would never yield their powers over investment.... 'This hundred million clause' 'I never mentioned a hundred million. You invented it and then you say it is a barrier" (Tony Benn's Diary)

7 February 1977: Tanzania-Zanzibar's Afro-Shirazi Supreme Council delivers its verdict on the 1972 assassination trial confirming death penalties on 7 people (4 detained in mainland Tanzania), commuting 17 other death penalties to 30-35 years' life imprisonment, confirming 6 life prison sentences, reducing 13 other imprisonment terms, acquitting 1 person and ordering the release of 5 because their sentences have been served.

7 February 1977: Poet Laureate Sir John Betjeman's official 24-line Jubilee hymn is sung at a Jubilee Concert, Royal Albert Hall.

Conservative MP Nicholas Fairbairn, claiming he can do better in 3 hours compared to 3 months, attacks it as "most banal, absolutely pathetic, a ninth-rate piece of child's verse — just crude vin ordinaire plonk". Labour MP Tom Pendry also attacks the poem as being not up to standard.

Fairbairn writes an 18-line rival hymn in 90 minutes. Poet Roy Fuller attacks both on poetic grounds: "Frankly they're both non-runners

by today's standards. People expect more sophistication of language, not the old fashioned, Victorian simple rhyming technique." Rhodes Boyson, Black Papers contributor, praises the patriotic poems including the Jubilee hymn as opposed to "modern nonsense".

7 February 1977: EEC Commission imposes an extra 20% penal duty on import of Japanese ball-bearings from Japan as the latest move in the running trade dispute between the two sides.

7 February 1977: Roy Hattersley defends the record in the baking sector, where thousands of jobs are destroyed: "I allowed the forces of the market to operate. That must mean that the industry—bakers, retailers and consumers—determines the price in the end. ... A week ago it settled down in the way that I had said it would."

7 February 1977: Government announces outline agreement on North Sea oil has been reached with ICI. It covers ICI's 18% share of the oil from the Ninian field, north-east of Shetland. BNOC is to increase its quota to 51%, and ICI will be able to re-acquire its oil share by proving the oil will be used in its petro-chemical production within Britain.

7 February 1977: Government explains its purchase of laser systems for the RAF: "The Laser Guidance System that we intend to procure for the RAF is the United States Pave Way/Pave Spike combination. To meet the urgent NATO requirement, we shall buy the basic equipments from the USA, but their integration into British aircraft and bombs will be carried out by United Kingdom contractors. Work on target designators and on laser guidance systems continues in this country." They are first used on the mainland and in BOAR in effect in 1979

7 February 1977: The Guardian reports on the elderly in Leicester, a 77 year old widow, so ill "that all she could do is sit in a chair, not even feed herself but who had been refused hospital admission for 18 months". An Age Concern spokesman declares: "social services departments and the hospitals just pass the buck backwards and forwards and its getting worse because of the cutbacks" – a standard way of reducing burdens. These and similar cases are exploited for backlash arguments against the NHS, describing it as a bureaucrat's paradise, full of jobsworths, needing "trimming" etc.

7 February 1977: <u>Daily Mirror</u> begins serialisation of Joe Haines's, (Wilson's former press secretary) <u>The Politics of Power</u>. Wilson, Lady Falkender and others refute the allegations of corruption. The truth is still unknown but it means either a. a top Labour appointee lies repeatedly. or b. A Labour prime minister gives a peerage to a

centre-right Conservative MP and other rightist business figures in exchange for internal Conservative secrets.

- 8 February 1977: "I want to preserve the investment programme for the mining industry but don't want to price it out of the market. Barnett wants high prices to ensure that there isn't a claim on the contingency fund and Roy Hattersley wants to keep prices down [by reducing labour costs]" (Tony Benn's diary)
- 8 February 1977: Labour Government wins, 196-22, a vote to increase to £500m, if necessary, state support available to BNFL. 8 February 1977: In an answer to a Commons written question, government gives figures for members of armed forces of ASEAN (Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, states Singapore Thailand) attending training courses at British establishments within the United Kingdom: 901 in 1974, 640 in 1975, 537 in 1976. A handful of British armed forces members are serving, in 1977, in Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore.
- 8 February 1977: <u>The Guardian</u> reports that operating theatres in Queen Mary Hospital, Roehampton are so old that cross-infection is a constant danger because sterilising becomes so difficult.
- 9 February 1977: A not untypical, random day of PS action against organised labour in Portugal. Soares' cabinet meeting declares the proposed strike by civil servants in a fortnight's time will be considered illegal meaning arrests of associated stewards and retrenchments for participants. Police announce they will begin commandeering fishing boats if fishermen on strike for 2 weeks do not return to work within 48 hours. Textile unions engaged in strike action are declared treacherous, acting in bad faith against the nation.
- 9 February 1977: Anguillan police fire tear gas to disperse a demonstration of 60 outside the Assembly calling for a new election after Emile Gumbs has been appointed Prime Minister directly without elections following the loss of a confidence vote by Ronald Webster. The following day a Royal Marines-loaded warship is moved close to the island.
- 9 February 1977: "after a brief talk with Bernard Ingham [Benn's press secretary]... TV interview with BBC's Michael Charlton about nuclear power. He was very pro-nuclear, pro-American" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 9 February 1977: "went to a dinner which [Foreign Secretary] Tony and Susan Crosland were giving for the US ambassador, Anne Armstrong. Henry Moore, the sculptor... Hugh Trevor Roper, Daniel Bell (professor of Sociology at Harvard), Harold Lever, [later Sir]

Michael Palliser, David Basnett, Roderick MacFarquhar." (Tony Benn's Diary) Anne Armstrong has previously been political adviser to Nixon 1972-1974 in favour of continuing military assistance to Saigon. She has also spearheaded with Vice-President Agnew a propaganda assault as US feminist movement. At this point she establishes the Office of Women's Programs to help co-opt suitable female figures into federal government. She has been counsellor under Nixon and Ford, and was a member of the Council on Wage and Price Stability, that fights to crush the wave of labour militancy in 1970s USA against the recession.

10 February 1977: Liberal Christian magazine Third Way continues its careful propaganda for corporatism with a human face in its three-article issue on trades unionism. Sir Frederick Catherwood, Director of the British Overseas Trade Hoard and recent chair of the British Institute of Management writes: "Shortly after the Trades Union Congress agreed to press for industrial democracy with boards elected half by workers and half by owners, Len Murray and I had a public debate at a meeting called by the chaplain of London Airport. In the interval we wandered round talking to the managers and shop stewards. The experienced shop stewards were for it: they thought it would bring a common-sense approach and less strife. The younger ones seemed mostly to be against it. They did not want their representatives compromised by the management at board meetings. ... The Cotton report recommended the principle of [some form of]worker participation and this [principle] was eventually accepted by the CBI. But around the country there is still fierce opposition to the very idea of workers on hoards: "What do they know about it?" "paralysis of management"; "if they're anygood they should get there by promotion." As a result, the publication of the Bullock report has produced something of a backlash on the management side.... [There is] the overwhelming stake of the worker in the success of the company. ... almost always it must pay the worker to treat capital seriously. So I find myself, as a Christian, in sympathy with the general trend towards industrial democracy. I also find that it seems to work. For several years I sat in the tripartite (Government, management, unions) National Economic Development Council and I was responsible for setting up most of the Economic Development Committees for individual industries, chairing for a time two of the most difficult. Motors and Printing simply because I could not find a Chairman to take them on! There is no doubt that at national and industry level, the tripartite structure was worth it for its educational value alone. ... More recently I have run a dozen conferences all round the country and I have asked companies to bring a representative of the shop floor. I get a few predictable replies from the small companies who see this as an abject concession to union power, but over half ask the steward or convener to come. From such a small gesture the results are quite surprising and extremely positive. The stewards accept that 'Exports equal jobs' and that late deliveries can be very damaging to future orders. Since everyone is represented we don't spend valuable time blaming 'the other side' and the stewards often make eloquent speeches — often in defence of management! We have a mixed reception in the evening and the managing director's wife gets to know the convener's wife sometimes for the first time.

...there is no 'Bullock report': there are two separate reports. One is signed by Lord Bullock, the three TUC representatives, two academics, and a solicitor who adds a 'note of dissent'. The other is signed by the three CBI representatives. It would no doubt have been signed by four had John Methven not had to drop off the committee on becoming Director-General of the CBI. ... [explanation of the impasse] ... I favour a unitary board with a concession by the TUC on numbers to calm the genuine anxiety of managers and preserve a unitary board which 1 think necessary to genuine participation. Christians in management and trade unions should do their best to bring colleagues out of entrenched positions and into genuine participation. The company is a powerful institution in today's society. Its power needs legitimisation. This cannot be done by private ownership alone. It cannot be done by-more manageable national monopolies. Society can no longer stand off and see major employers mismanaged into redundancy and bankruptcy. Consent can only be given by bringing together workers, owners and managers in a forum where they can develop some common purpose and strategy in service to the community. There is a need for a soundly based 'third way' and hopefully this will now emerge in the detailed consultations conducted by Government." (The Bullock Report: Industrial democracy or Trade Union power?)

10 February 1977: Tom Chapman, Secretary-General of the European Christian Industrial Movement, argues against closed shop agreements: in "Opening the closed shop"

10 February 1977: Arguing in favour of the right to a closed shop is John Boyd, General Secretary of AUEW: "as General Secretary of a union with a million and a quarter membership... we have a share of the greedy as well as the needy. We have some people who only join the union to get the maximum benefit for themselves rather than making a valuable contribution to society, and I think this is where the Christian faith can be projected in quite a militant manner. Being part of a small trading nation like Britain. I feel we should try to instil into each other the understanding that the world does not owe us a living and that, every time somebody gets 'something for nothing', somebody else is getting nothing for something. ... From a time when their reputation was that of greed,

oppression and inhumanity, employers have become a reasonable and respectable section of society, concerned with creating real wealth in a humane manner and thus enriching our nation."

He defends the current government legislation: "the law as it stands permits individuals, on the grounds of religious conscience, to decline to join a trade union. Since this law was passed, in the majority of the cases where the individual Christian's appeal has been upheld, the court's decisions have been honoured by all concerned.... The law must be respected by all citizens. Christian and non-Christian, employers and employees and no useful purpose is served by anyone buying themselves out of their responsibilities to abide by the law." (John Boyd, Praise the Lord and pay the contribution)

- 10 February 1977: Braniff International applies to US Civil Aeronautics Board to let the firm operate a 6-day-a-week Concorde service between Washington DC and Dallas using British Airways and Air France Concorde aircraft.
- 10 February 1977: Cabinet discusses presents for the monarch for the jubilee. Tony Benn states: "I think we should perhaps give her something that comes out of the labour movement. I have got in my office a vase, given me by the Polish Minister of Mines, carved out of coal by a Polish miner."
- 10 February 1977: Q: "if [Judd] will reduce the aid given to Indonesia in the light of that country's invasion of East Timor. Overseas Development Minister Frank Judd: No."
- 10 February 1977: Bandaranaike suspends Sri Lanka's parliament until 19 May 1977, with the parliamentary session to end on 22 May 1977. It succeeds in avoiding the censure debate agreed for 17 Feb 1977, which would have involved oppositional forces criticising the government over its brutal crackdown on a series of national strikes.
- 10 February 1977: Joe Gormley, explains that more wage restraint could drive Labour out of office.
- 10 February 1977: British press expecting England, by its very virtue of being English, to be a top-rate football side bemoans defeat by the Holland team of Johan Cruyff. Frank Clough in <a href="#">The Sun</a> expresses anger at "the sterile and orthodox labourers who were Don Revie's latest England team." Jeff Power in <a href="#">Daily Mail</a> "England joined the rest of the second-raters in the gutter of world football as the last dregs of self-respect drained away"

- 11 February 1977: A small number of British Royal Marines land surreptitiously in Anguilla, St. Christopher-Nevis-Anguilla, the majority remaining aboard, to discuss plans on how to reinforce the regiment there, in case of further rallies calling for elections against Emile Gumbs' appointed premiership.
- 11 February 1977: British Airways announces its profits from Apr-Dec 1976 are £106mil, an increase of £83mil on the same period the previous year.
- 11 February 1977: Blanca Zapata and husband Enrique Cortassa are detained then disappeared by Argentinian security forces.
- 11 February 1977: Egypt's General Nabawi announces that 99.5% of voters in Egypt have endorsed Sadat's referendum that threatens severe prison terms and possible death sentences for those who participate in illegal strikes or 'riots'.
- 11 February 1977: Industry minister Eric Varley together with Jack Jones and Hugh Scanlon visits Longbridge as part of a tour to promote greater productivity at British Leyland. 6,000 protest against the social contract.
- 11 February 1977: Hugh Scanlon urges 6,000 toolmakers in Longbridge not to go ahead with a national 20-plant-wide strike. It goes ahead on 18 Feb 1977 despite these and other appeals. Over 30,000 British Leyland workers are laid off as a result of the strike.
- 11 February 1977: In protest at Scotland's manager and SFA deputy chief Bernie Walker flying to Latin America and Chile to arrange the details for the Scotland v Chile match, 3 British prisoners at the National Stadium for a week in 1973, write to the SFA to reconsider: "This fixture in the stadium is not just another sporting event. The regime is being presented by the SFA, no doubt unintentionally, with the chance of a considerable propaganda victory."
- 12 February 1977: Economist notes that Japanese labour costs per unit of steel output are 35-40 per cent of America's and half of West Germany's or Britain's. This means inexpensive Japanese steel is the preferred product in China's rapid industrialisation programme requiring specialist steel.
- 12 February 1977: Thailand Border Police Commissioner Major-General Chardenrit Chamratromran announces will increase its anti-CPT village guards movement from 1.5million members to 2.5million.

- 12 February 1977: Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's *Don't Cry for me Argentina*, released by Julie Covington reaches the top of the singles chart, eventually selling a million copies. The similar success of the Evita concept album, which the single is taken from, eventually engenders Evita, the musical.
- 13 February 1977: A 9 year old girl is stabbed to death by a 12-year-old in her home in Tulse Hill Estate, Brixton.
- 13 February 1977: Michael Foot accuses Tony Benn of disloyalty in talking about a need for open government: "Michael blazed with anger 'What do you mean open it up? We are fighting for our lives, we have got to defend ourselves. Do you want Thatcher in for a generation? Have the Daily Mail sitting in on the cabinet... Aren't you prepared to defend the government' " (Tony Benn's Diary) Open government is not introduced, yet Thatcher comes in and stays in for a generation.
- 14 February 1977: Former close allies of President Banda, Muwalo Ngumayo and Focus Martin Gwede are sentenced to death, following a trial at a 'traditional court', courts which have been powered to hear treason cases a few weeks previously.
- 14 February 1977: "I think the miners realise I have done a good job for them" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 14 February 1977: Robin Day interviews Joe Haines for Newsnight. He is not questioned on Labour's efforts on behalf of the rich, but asked about feuds within Wilson's staff. "Politics" as sport.
- 14 February 1977: EETPU holds a one-day strike for its 35,000 members in telecommunication in protest against Post Office cuts. Its executive has agreed the decision under pressure from rank and file organisation, which is steadily growing and asserts itself in unofficial power strikes in Oct-Nov 1977.
- 15 February 1977: Ian Smith thanks Portadown DUP for its message of support for Rhodesia. The DUP branch has commended Rhodesia on the lines of its continued firm anti-terrorism and loyalism to a Britain whose traitorous governments treat with the anti-British.
- 16 February 1977: At the London HQ of TGWU Esso tanker drivers' representatives vote to accept another sub-inflation offer by 30-7 and end their overtime ban and work-to-rule.
- 16 February 1977: Government reasserts its firm support of British Leyland's decision to close its Speke, Liverpool plant, ending 3,000

jobs there to begin production of TR7 vehicles in Coventry with a reduced number of jobs.

- 16 February 1977: Chancellor Healey explains the economic situation "Creditors fix the value of our money. The Labour Conference [supporting anti-cuts resolutions] pushed the pound down. Shirley did all she could on prices, and so, now is Roy Hattersley. Don't bleat to the Government about things we can't control... The alternative strategy would be to abandon the international approach in favour of the siege economy. Jack Jones and Hugh Scanlon are helping the government; why can't the [Labour Party] Executive?"
- 16 February 1977: "Robin Day came to lunch... I have known him for years since 1945... Apparently he applied for the job of Director-General of the IBA and of the BBC and was turned down... I asked him if he would like to go into the House of Lords, an idea which excited him very much. ... He didn't think there was a shift to the right [in government policy] at all, and of course he is the great architect of the notion of 'left-wing extremists' and all that. In all his broadcasts it is always the left-wing, the left-wing, the left-wing." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 16 February 1977: Benn attempts to restrict nuclear cooperation with Iran: "Nuclear policy does have its own foreign policy; it makes you do deals with Brazil, with Iran, with South West Africa on uranium. It is something that moves you to the right on everything." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 16 February 1977, Rhodesia establishes a vast militarised barbed wire border zone along the border with Mozambique.
- 17 February 1977: A confidential report leaked to <u>Construction News</u> on Liverpool Teaching Hospital notes it is full of fire risks due to corner-cutting to keep down expenditure.
- 17 February 1977: APEX accepts recognition as laid out in a draft ACAS report. This will involve a vote of as many Grunwick's as can be reached being consulted in a ballot.
- 18 February 1977: Having been Given a warrant (agreed by Home Secretary Rees) for bugging telephones of NCCL and the Agee-Hosenball Defence Campaign, Met Police's Special Branch, swoops on its precise information to arrest 'ABC' at a private home address meeting under sec 2 of the Official Secrets Act. The 3 are kept solitary incommunicado for 2 days in HMP Brixton, whilst their homes are raided by police in the hunt for evidence.

"It is clear [Special Branch] were acting only in their accustomed role as fetchers and carriers for the secret agencies who lack police

powers, either MI5 or the security and intelligence overlords, the Cabinet Office's Joint Intelligence Staff." (Duncan Campbell,Official Secrecy and British Libertarianism, Socialist Register 1979)

NCCL is a major target for MI5 according to former senior MI5 officer Cathy Massiter and considered a "subversive organisation" throughout the 1970s because of its criticisms of police forces and other state agencies. (MI5's Official Secrets, 20/20 Vision documentary, 8 Mar 1985)

- 18 February 1977: Merlyn Rees defends his deportation decision in Cabinet: "'Well, I'm afraid I can't say more than I've said, namely that I looked into it very carefully, it was a matter for me alone'" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 19 February 1977: Editorial in <u>The Economist</u> argues the government should abolish price controls and use "the tightest control on money supply" to push up unemployment if the social contract, due for renewal in July, is not achieved and trade unions organise action to recover earnings lost over the past three years. This is the monetarist solution.
- 19 February 1977: Campaign for a Labour Victory (CLV) is formed in a London hotel as a counterweight to the <u>Tribune</u> group.
- 1977: 20 February, Sunday Telegraph publishes warped misinformation in support of Rhodesia, written by collaborator NAFF member Robert Moss: 'Moscow's next target for Africa. Paying the price for Angola': warning of a Soviet "assault on Rhodesia and South-West Africa.... The Nigerians are said to be heavily involved in Angola. Western intelligence sources report that Nigerian troops were present at battalion strength when the MPLA and the Cubans pushed south last year....The Tanzanians have also moved into the region... 1,400... into northern Mozambique to help the FRELIMO Government to suppress the major revolt of the Makonde tribes led by Lazaro Kavandame. Mozambique's army is largely recruited from the warlike Makonde. ... Somali troops are said to be quietly moving into Mozambique. Rhodesian guerrillas in Maputo have bragged to Portuguese correspondents that Somali tanks will be used in future operations against Ian Smith's forces.... Somalia, like Cuba, is a Soviet satellite whose armed forces and intelligence services operate under the direct supervision of Russian officers. ... The black expeditionary forces' task may be to free the Cubans for a future offensive against Rhodesia, South-West Africa or Zaire... In Somalia, at least 600 Cuban instructors are attached to the Somali army and the pro-Somali guerrillas from Djibouti"

Cuba is active "in the Middle East (where 150 Cuban instructors are training international terrorists in Iraqi camps), not to mention the Cubans' efforts to take control of the non-aligned countries' news pool and the role of the Cuban intelligence service, the DGI, in orchestrating the activities of Latin American exile groups and transnational terrorists in Western Europe."

...it might well be possible for UNITA and the other anti-Soviet groups to inflict a serious humiliation on the Cubans and the MPLA - if they could count on effective outside support. But no Western Power is disposed to play the part of armourer and adviser to UNITA... backing UNITA has become diplomatically tricky - although some Western Governments are more strait-laced than others. The French were ahead of the stampede to recognise the MPLA back in February, 1976 (much to the annoyance of their EEC partners, who had expected to be consulted) but this did not inhibit them from remaining deeply involved with UNITA and the FNLA...Ironically, if any outside power is ready to adopt a "forward policy" in Angola, it could still prove to be China"

Moss announces the problem with Soviet control, denial of material resources and opportunities to exploit Third World populations for the right side: "the most important thing to grasp about the Soviet design for southern Africa is that it is essentially negative; it has been accurately described, in an admirable paper from the Institute for the Study of Conflict [David Rees, Soviet Strategic Penetration of Africa, 1976] as "a strategy of denial" - denial, that is, of raw materials and communications."

White racialist regimes must be defended at all costs: "By giving up in Angola, the Western Powers threw away a unique opportunity to hold the line against Soviet expansion in southern Africa. ... the only hope of a civilised solution lies in an agreement between Ian Smith and more representative black leaders such as Bishop Muzorewa. ... Now Britain and America say that they will not accept a settlement worked out between blacks [tribalist puppets supported by Smith's regimes] and whites inside Rhodesia - or, for that matter, South-West Africa... it seems that it does not matter over-much to either Western government if the whites have any say... the ultimate target: South Africa."

The whole article stems from the falsification that the West has given up on Angola, Western oil firms are busy concluding deals to wrest power away from the Angolan population, and are also active covertly in assisting UNITA forces in the periphery. Raw materials are not 'denied' since Gulf Oil, amongst others, has access to them. Within the space of a few months Somalia's intelligence and armed forces are left with not a single Soviet and the Soviet embassy is closed down, without any single political change. Siad Barre's Somalia a "Soviet satellite" proscribing entry for any Soviet. The Telegraph fails to publish any retraction or apology whatsoever.

- 20 February 1977: "I felt a twinge of jealousy at the guy [David Owen] who was going to be appointed to the Foreign office tomorrow. I suppose like everyone else I am ambitious and feel it is a bit hard to take if others are jumped above me." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 21 February 1977: Benn considers the importance of the Foreign office role given to Owen aged 38. "the Foreign Secretary has got an absolutely crucial job to do in setting our relationship with the Common Market. Are we to be a major nation or are we going to be submerged into a federation?"(Tony Benn's Diary)
- 22-23 February 1977: British and Argentine representativeS meet in secret at the British Embassy in Buenos Aires.
- 22 February 1977: <u>Theology</u> contains Benn's review of Milan Machovec's *A Marxist looks at Jesus*: "I am trying to introduce Marxism into the mainstream of the British Labour Party debate because, frankly, without it I believe the Party has no political future." (Tony Benn's Diary) Benn also introduces Marxism by voting for Labour government cuts.
- 22 February 1977: RAF Minister Wellbeloved: "Nimrod has carried out effectively and excellently its requirement for fishery protection. This is not just my view; it is also the view of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland.... I was interested to note that Nimrod is seen not only as a flying surveillance aircraft but as a significant deterrent to those who fish without authority."
- 23 February 1977: Tony Benn's Labour Left allies Francis Cripps and Frances Morrell warn Benn against any action to support the struggle against the centre-right: "I had said that the middle ground had faded away and there was a choice between monetarism and the manifesto, and she [Morrell] thought that I was scaring the centre of the party".
- "He [Cripps] thought people were getting nervous; they didn't like the feeling there was a stark choice ... told me I mustn't use language which was frightening... you must use your skill in order to meet this middle-class anxiety. He was worried about the book review as well [as Morrell]" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 23 February 1977: Another business meeting with Callaghan warning against 'industrial democracy'. David Orr, Unilever chief, Sir Arthur Knight, chief of Courtaulds, Jack Callard and Rowland Wright of ICI, Peter Baxendell, chief of Shell UK, Hector Laing, chief of United Biscuits and Food and Drink Industries Council and Sir John

Methven send themselves or their representatives (PREM 16/1321, Meeting in Cabinet Room at 1530 on 23 Feb 1977 to discuss Industrial Democracy)

- 24 February 1977: Sir Keith Joseph in <u>The Times</u> writes of "incomes policy and the social contract...these arrangements, far from helping the economy, are a root cause of the inflation, unemployment, stagnation and balance of payments crises which have plagued us over the past two years. If these measures are continued, the ills will be intensified." Employers and financial lending firms have done their action to allow these voices to become increasingly strident. It of course entirely ignores the stagnation, unemployment and balance of payments imbalance in the years 1972-4, before incomes policy and the social contract.
- 24 February 1977: Sir Robert Mark, Chief of the Metropolitan Police, publishes <u>Policing a Perplexed Society</u>. He states of police forces in Britain: "The fact that the British police are answerable to the law, that we act on behalf of the community and not under the mantle of government makes us the least powerful, the most accountable and therefore the most acceptable police in the world."
- Sir Robert Mark at the same time is also an advertising figure for tyre firm Goodyear with a campaign masterminded by account director Hugh Burkitt. Sir Robert Mark receives payment for his advert: "Remember your driving test and your first emergency stop? Well remember this- not every tyre puts this much tread on the road in the rain. I'm glad to see this young lady is starting off on the right foot by driving on Goodyear Grand Prix S. I'm convinced that it's a major contribution to road safety"
- 24 February 1977: "Broadcasting House... a programme with Keith Joseph. Lunch first with Greville Havenhand the producer of Analysis and Sir Keith Joseph and his researcher." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 25 February 1977: Nick Bradley explains Militant's ongoing support for Labour: "We have never criticised the Tribune Group for not bringing down the Government. [Tribune Labour Left Ian Mikardo] tries to smear Militant supporters with the actions of the ultra-Left sects on the outskirts of the Labour movement. To our knowledge, no Militant supporter disrupted the meeting in High Wycombe. If any had done so we would publicly, repudiate them"
- 25 February 1977: William Benyon's restrictive Abortion Amendment Bill receives a successful second reading with a majority of 38. 50 Labour MPs vote for the Bill. It passes into the Committee stage, where it allows more backlash activity.

Archbishop Dwyer, president of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales: "We welcome any and every step which, however inadequately, helps to preserve the sanctity of this life... the Catholic Church is committed to the struggle for a totally humane and caring society. The Catholic Church in England and Wales has been in the forefront of those who provide unqualified [sic] support for mothers under stress from difficult or unwanted pregnancies." Phyllis Bowman, the director of SPUC, Society for the Protection of Unborn Children: "Some of our MPs did not turn up... we need all the support" Dr Graham Leonard, the chairman of the Church of England's Board for Social Responsibility, welcomes the result and says if passed the Bill will improve the law on abortion. (Catholic Herald 4 Mar 1977)

At the Committee stage the 2 Labour Left MPs Rene Short and Maureen Colquhoun fail to make any stand in changing its restrictions. Later in 1977, David Ennals, Minister of Health, holds a 'secret' meeting with hardline antiabortion MPs William Benyon, James White and Leo Abse, to discuss the possibility of the government putting its own restrictive bill.

25 February 1977: Second part of the public expenditure White Paper is published - more cuts.

25 February 1977: Tribune reports 'Coal Board productivity may mean 80,000 fewer jobs': "Pit manpower will be cut by up to onethird over the next decade if productivity targets mapped out by the National Coal Board are met. As many as 80,000 mineworkers' jobs will go, perhaps even more. ... if the board is right about how much coal it will be getting from new and existing pits by the end of the century, and if its productivity predictions prove even partially correct, then we will need fewer than 200,000 miners by the year 2000. At present, the pit-workforce stands at around 247,000. If the NCB targets are met the number looks like having to be slashed to between 165,000 and 195,000. ... The key projections are on productivity in the new generation of ultra-modern pits planned or likely, for example Selby, and in those existing pits that will still be operating in 20 years' time. The plan's figures suggest that: In the new generation of pits, fewer than 80,000 miners will be required. In those still not worked out by the end of the century a maximum of 109,000 miners will be required, even if there is no productivity improvement whatsoever between now and then — an unlikely event. The target originally laid own three years ago, and reffirmed last week in the latest report, is 150 million tons of deep mined coal annually by the end of the century. Two thirds of it is to be from new mines like Selby, the rest from existing long-life pits. At present, annual production — excluding open cast coal — is running at about 112 million tons. ... According to the report, productivity in the new pits will be at least three times as high per man as it is

now. On that basis, output per man-shift will be more than seven tons, or between 1,200 and 1,300 tons a year. With that kind of output, the new generation of pits will need between 75,000 and 80,000 workers. And some of the new generation will have even higher productivity. In Selby the prediction is that it will need only 4,000 men to mine 10 million tons of coal a year. As for the existing pits, if there were no increase in productivity whatsoever, the total manpower requirement at the end of the century to produce 50 million tons of coal would be just under 110,000. In fact it will be regarded as a disaster if productivity in existing pits does not rise dramatically, which of course would mean that manpower requirements in 20 years' time would be that much lower. The NCB aim is a 4% increase in productivity a year ... the manpower requirements of the existing long-life pits could well turn out to be nearer 90,000, giving a total in Britain's pits of some 170,000 miners within a couple of decades. Should the productivity projections come true, redundancies could presumably be avoided by "natural wastage" and early retirement. Indeed the figures put the fears expressed about the manpower consequences of early retirement into something of a new light... mineworkers aren't likely to be complacent over the implications of another sweeping reduction in their numbers. The suspicion that "productivity" arrangements lead to premature pit closures is deep in the mind of most pitworkers who recall all too bitterly the closures of the sixties."

- 27 February 1977: William Ratcliffe, retired assistant Chief Constable of Glasgow is elected Chairman of Glasgow District Labour Party.
- 27 February 1977: Michael Foot: "Merlyn is very decent, I've got no complaints about Merlyn" in relation to the deportation of the author of <u>Inside the Company</u> Philip Agee and <u>Time Out</u> journalist Mark Hosenball.
- 27 February 1977: Lawrence Daly at a <u>Tribune</u> group rally to mark its 40<sup>th</sup> year says he is proud the NUM took the initiative in supporting the TUC-Labour Party policies that have become the social contract."I believe the majority of trade unionists will take the same view of the next and more flexible phase of the policy which begins in August"
- 28 February 1977: IMF agrees over \$600million in credit facilities over the next 4 years for Egypt, Middle east News Agency reports. The move is in response to the Sadat government quietly agreeing slower and more subtle measures to implement subsidy reductions
- 28 February 1977: Clark Clifford, US special envoy to bring 'peace' to Cyprus, accompanied by Ronald Spiers, Minister at the U.S.

Embassy, holds talks with David Owen and Frank Judd. Clark states that since Turkish US bases are out of action due to the Congressional embargo after the invasion, SBAs in Cyprus are "very useful at present" in gathering intelligence and offers "some economic arrangement" to assist Britain. (Meeting between Owen (SoS FO) and Clifford, London, 28.02.77, AIR8/2747)

28 February 1977: Benn discusses the 5-week Windscale strike: "changing room attendants were fed up with staff coming in and throwing their radioactive white coats and gloves on the floor instead of putting them in bins provided. They raised it more than once with management and nothing happened, so they went on a token one-day strike. As a result a wide range of staff and manual workers were laid off at a few minutes' notice, with an hour's pay for the manuals and full pay for the staff. The manuals wouldn't have this and went on strike the changing room attendants put in for an increase, which was outside pay policy, and the manuals put in a similar bid for a pay increase ... the national union officials led by Gavin Laird went to see BNFL management, said it was an unofficial dispute and wouldn't talk to the workers."

"changing room conditions were intolerable, men had organised a four-shift withdrawal of labour, as a result of which the company had laid off a thousand people 24 hours later. Those who were laid off asked for payment for the lay-off and later a wage claim was made. A claim of 30pan hour for those inside and 20p for those outside the radioactive area was put in. The company was given an hour to respond, then a strike notice was issued and 3000 went off. ... BNFL has offered an increase of 1p an hour." (Tony Benn's Diary 1 Mar 1977)

28 February 1977: 1977 Defence White Paper is issued.

It provides for increases in military budgets. Overseas military expenditure (a direct burden on the balance of payments) at £769mil. Military research and development at £823mil. Maintenance of the Polaris nuclear strike force at £96mil. A significant planned increase in Britain's overseas arms sales to rise to £850 million during the coming year.

The total Defence White Paper estimate for 1977-78 is £6,329million compared to 1976-77 (including large supplementary estimates introduced later during that financial year) £6,149million. The White Paper indicates that defence will take 5.5% of expected GNP in 1977-78, remaining at close to this level since 1974.

Major orders, intensive in capital and R&D such as the 385 Tornado multi-role combat aircraft and new generation multifunction airbase-warships are to continue.

28 February 1977: John Methven, head of CBI, is rapturously applauded by the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce when he says that middle and senior management in particular require a better deal from the taxation system.

28 February 1977: Export Credits Guarantee Department guarantees a £9.4m loan to finance a £10.4m contract for British Aircraft Corp. from Cyprus Air for 2 new BAC1-11 500 series aircraft and associated spares. Cyprus Air plans to increase its transport shares to the tourism industry.

March 1977: Industry figures state that 69 divers have been killed in accidents in the North Sea since major oil and gas activities began in 1970.

March 1977: Shanaz Begum is arrested at Heathrow Airport suspected of being below the age of 16 and detained at Harmondsworth Detention centre. She is given a hymen and vagina examination by two males, one white and the other Pakistani. He taunts her in Urdu that she will be sent back home on a flight. She is one of thousands the government subjects to 'age tests' and 'sexual health tests'.

March 1977: Unit of Manpower Studies releases its project report: 'The Role of Immigrants in the Labour Market'. It notes that in 1975 just over 35% of all doctors in Britain were immigrants born outside the country, of them around half are from the sub-continent and trained in Pakistan and India's elite medical institutions. They are used where there are bottlenecks or insufficient applications to `inferior' doctor roles particularly night shift accident emergency, locum work, on-call general practice, gerontology and psychiatry. Their regional distribution does not tally towards human need. The Sheffield region has a lower doctor:population ratio but higher numbers of immigrant doctors compared to the Merseyside region, which has a higher doctor:population ratio and fewer immigrant doctors. The report notes the trend toward restriction of immigrant doctors and recalls that last time in the wake of the 1968 Immigration Act: "reduction in the numbers of overseas doctors [1968-1971] resulted in serious problems in accident and emergency services, which were overcome by closure of a number of small accident and emergency units."

March 1977: Labour's Manifesto Group issues its policy document What We Must Do declaring "living standards achieved in most of the Western economies since the War is a practical demonstration ... of how effective the mixed economy has been in satisfying the needs of its citizens ... The only practicable alternative to a mixed economy of the Western kind is a command economy on the Soviet or East European model" (p10)

"The principal object of economic and industrial policy is to produce an atmosphere in which innovation thrives, risks are worth taking, profitability is satisfactory, and efficiency is a habit." (p17)

"The position of men and women in industrial management requires similar attention... they have had to put up with greater insecurity ... severe industrial problems, a difficult business climate, worsening salary and tax problems ... It is surprising that morale is as high as it is" (p19).

"The feeling that we are over-taxed is growing strongly. The sentiment is not confined to the Chairmen of large companies, it is shared increasingly by working people" (p23).

March 1977: Print union NATSOPA's leaders support management of <u>The Times</u> in trying to sack workers on unofficial strike, they expel the strikers from the union and offer to find other strikebreakers to do their jobs.

March 1977: Labour Prof. David Donnison notes over 250,000 pensioners in Britain are not claiming social security money they are due, far outweighing any 'abuse' of the system. (The Politics of Poverty, Donnison)

March 1977: <u>Leeds' Other Paper</u> reports Filey Infants School, North Yorkshire where the council are planning expenditure cuts of £3mil, parents have been asked to contribute to 'Queen's Jubilee Inside Lavatories'. Headteacher stating "so much time is consumed by children having to don coats and boots before going to the toilet across the yard." 2 chiefs of the Policy Finance Committee of Leeds City Council without any discussion in the Council Committee, authorise £33,000 on jubilee-patterned mugs to be handed out in schools. It is reported many schools will sell as many mugs as possible, to restore funds. Cuts in Leeds have meant, on average, 8 council workers being laid off each week.

March 1977: The month's <u>The Bush</u> newspaper of the Church of Scotland's Glasgow Presbytery features an article written by the Rev. David Urquhart: "Because a job is a vocation does not reduce the price of groceries, petrol, etc. Surely the time is long overdue when members must insist that proper care for the manse family is the first priority for the congregation and for the Church as a whole. Ministers [priests] would never endanger the bond of friendship and love that exists with the congregation by going on strike or by announcing they want a better deal."

1 March 1977: Foreign Secretary Owen plans for the Falklands: "I put to everyone absolutely straight what Tony Crosland saw and the Government see as the main issue: the development of potential resources and the investment which could be severely inhibited if a hostile political climate and relations persisted, punctuated periodically by mini-crises that have been a feature of the situation

not for just one or two years but over many years... I put forward that we should try to find a way forward to create a stable relationship that would encourage young islanders to stay—because they have been leaving—to see their future in and around the islands and not thousands of miles away and that would also ensure the continuation of a way of life which generations of kelpers have enjoyed. In all my meetings I made clear that any negotiations would have to include the issue of sovereignty, and that it would be a part of the negotiations on the twin themes of political and economic co-operation."

1 March 1977: Foreign Secretary Owen repeats Britain's main philosophy in NATO with fellow "free and democratic nations": "Membership of NATO is the foundation of British security... after 30 years of peace and profound economic and social changes the Atlantic Alliance—an association of 15 free and democratic nations should still be strongly united and confident in its common objectives. Over the last 10 years we have, all of us, become realistic about our influence in the world. Yet equally it is time to stop selling ourselves short. We need more self-confidence, more national buoyancy. We are in danger of exaggerating our weaknesses and of under-playing our potential... We play a leading part in the European Community. It is not just one of the wealthiest and potentially most economically powerful groups in the world. ... [EC] States are ... in practice prepared to forgo national advantage in return for longer-term Community advantage. We are a country which is unusually dependent on foreign trade with overseas investments second only to those of the United States and is still the financial centre of the world. So we have to be actively involved in the major international economic institutions—the OECD, the IMF and the GATT. We are a vital element in the Atlantic Alliance and the only European member State of NATO which contributes to the strategic, tactical nuclear and conventional forces Organisation. ... Europe's interests in the Middle East are enormous. The nations of the area have become Europe's major trading partners and we have strong links based on traditional friendship and history as well as commerce. ...

We have developed a way of life culturally and morally which is ... a long-standing source of influence on Europe and on the world. ... we in Britain find ourselves increasingly limited in our ability to protect our interests on our own. The industrialised democracies have a common interest in stable currencies [and] expansion of free trade..."

1 March 1977: The same day Owen is speaking NATO's GLADIO network of secretly funded anticommunist private need-to-know-basis armies, operating in Turkey again acts for 'freedom'. Neofascist provocateurs throw a bomb at 25 students in occupation of university premises on hunger strike against the closure of

student accommodation in Adana. The police, either in direct collusion or sensing an opportunity, drag the students out by their hair taking them handcuffed to a military hospital.

- 1 March 1977: At an Energy Ministry discussion on solving the Windscale strike. Peter Adams ETU fulltimer: "'As national representatives we are bound by the Social Contract' ... Would the Conciliation Advisory Service (ACAS) help? No said Adams." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 1 March 1977: "Rampton, my Permanent Secretary, had written on my brief... 'Why don't we have national service? We are the only country in the whole Community who don't have a year's national service'... the idea of dealing with the unemployment problem by rearmament" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 1 March 1977: British Nuclear Fuels (BNFL) announces plans for oxide fuel reprocessing (THORP) at Windscale (Sizewell) will continue. BNFL submits a new four-part THORP application. Full planning permission is granted for plant developments that allow receipt of oxide fuel from existing overseas contracts and conditional permission is granted for the outlined first phase of new reprocessing facilities.

The plan remains to reprocess spent fuel from overseas reactors and Britain's newest types of reactors. The (right wing LDP) Japanese government, BNF's main customer, accepts a year-long delay as a result of a likely public inquiry, since it can continue to move its spent fuel outside of Japan.

- 1 March 1977: Monty Finniston, former head of the British Steel Corporation, Britain's nationalised steel industry, current head of Sears Engineering, says the country's managers should receive greater rewards from the upcoming budget: "Management has lost heart in both a corporate sense and in a personal context. Corporate taxation and personal taxation are giving no incentive to get on".
- 1 March 1977: Scott Lithgow shipbuilding firm receives another £20m order from the MoD for a new vessel, cancelling a redundancy risk warning for the time being. Ferranti announces expansion at its plants, as the logical result of research and development contracts that were worked through the late 1960s and 1970s. These contracts, including work for the Ministry of Defence, are now coming into the production phase.
- 1 March 1977: Left Labour councillor, future MEP, Janey Buchan calls for more severe punishments for tampering with gas and electricity meters. She describes current fines as "ludicrously low" and explains when she was a magistrate in Glasgow she had been able to fine offenders only a maximum of £5 for by-passing electricity meters.

- 1 March 1977: NatWest announces pre-tax profits of £187.7m for the past year, an increase by 80% over last year. "The reasons for the profit upsurge last year are familiar enough. The average base lending rate was 11.12% as against 10.4% and the margin between lending and deposit rates was widened. So although domestic business remained sluggish, the fact that lending was more profitable, allied with buoyant overseas activities, sent profits soaring."
- 1 March 1977: Chemicals firm Rentokil announces record profits for at £7.2m. It explains its success has largely come from external markets, its housing and building services have been limited due to the basic halt in the home construction sector.
- 1 March 1977: Chairman of Lonrho, Sir Duncan Sandys, at its annual investor meeting, states the firm is now looking at expanding its operations in Asia with several projects under consideration. Its Sudanese sugar exporting project is now operational.
- 2 March 1977: "Q: whether there has been any change in the policy of Her Majesty's Government towards Hong Kong since they came to office. Foreign Office Under-Secretary: Her Majesty's Government's policy, like that of previous Governments, is to administer Hong Kong in the interests of those who live there."
- 2 March 1977: Over 30 British seaman wearing protective helmets, armed with sticks and iron bars, storm the oil tanker Globtik Venus in Le Havre. They successfully end a two-week strike and occupation by its Filippino crew over years' worth of unpaid wages. One Filipino is struck and injured by an axe handle, and the crew is effectively replaced by 'loyal' British seamen.
- 2 March 1977: Allan Stewart, head of CBI Scotland, gives a speech: "many of our 1200 member companies in Scotland have reported that the present iniquitous taxation system is managing to stifle initiative and enterprise among managers."
- 2 March 1977: Australia's <u>The Age</u> reports that Australian firms and subsidiaries of British firm ICI are among those that benefit from phosphate mined in apartheid conditions on Christmas Island. Asians are the slave workforce, white Australians the high-paid gangers. (The Age, Wages apartheid on a Christmas Paradise Lost) 2 March 1977: BBC broadcasts an interview with Bernard O'Connor, an Enniskillen teacher, on news programme <u>Tonight</u> about RUC plainclothes officials torturing him during interrogation at the Castlereagh centre. Keith Kyle, the interviewer, has been forced to do extensive checking and re-checking of details, whilst allegations about republicans are freely asserted across the BBC and elsewhere. A backlash campaign is carried out against the programme and the BBC. <u>Daily Telegraph</u> interviews an unnamed

officer declaring "terrorists will seize on this as a provocation to kill more policemen." When an RUC officer is killed in a separate a few weeks later, a not infrequent event in the troubles, RUC Police Federation declares: "the BBC has returned a guilty verdict against the Royal Ulster Constabulary. The sentence - a cowardly bullet in the back". Police Federation Chairman Jim Jardine blames Tonight specifically. The government has been pressuring the BBC to cancel screening of the report, but with Ireland's 'internationalisation' of the issue and its extension into the EC, BBC treatment has become legitimate.

- 3 March 1977: Home Secretary declares he will not intervene to put an end to the on-going brutality in HMP Hull: "I am aware of resentment among prison staff over allegations made against the prison service during the recent BBC 'Panorama'... allegations that certain prisoners were maltreated by Hull staff after the riot ended have been referred to the Humberside police for investigation."
- 3 March 1977: Samuel Brittan in <u>Financial Times</u> notes the general decline in profitability: "There has been an underlying long term decline in the amount of output per unit of capital in manufacturing ... This is a fairly general experience in the industrial countries... the industrial world as a whole."
- 3 March 1977: Foreign Office admits a British-built submarine ordered by Israel has used NATO facilities in Campbeltown and Loch Fyne, Scotland during pre-delivery trials. Vickers at Barrow-in-Furness is meeting a £75m order for three 500-ton submarines for the IDF and has used the Royal Navy's NATO facilities. The Vickers engineering team along with Israeli submariners arrive in Tarbert in February, staying separate hotels, and begin trials at Campbeltown. A car crash the previous week near Campbeltown Loch has exposed the presence of Israeli naval officers. Israel had insisted on secrecy over the deal with Vickers.
- 3 March 1977: It is announced that a sizeable number of those employed, including the disabled, at the Royal National Institute for the Blind, will be made redundant within the next few weeks.
- 4 March 1977: A mass meeting of 1,500 oil platform strikers decides to continue a strike at Nigg, Cromarty Firth. Local officials support the decision and continue picketing. National officials telephone to instruct workers to end the strike immediately and resume shifts.
- 4 March 1977: Under-secretary for Foreign Affairs stresses "the importance of our relationship with Nigeria. This is not only because of the close traditional ties which, though valuable in themselves, are essentially foundations on which to build a mature relationship between two sovereign states in the common interests of both, but also because of Nigeria's importance to us as a trading partner and

as one of the most important countries in Africa. There can be no doubt that Her Majesty's Government are anxious that nothing should mar this relationship. We are confident that the Nigerian Government as well as most Nigerians share this view. We obviously cannot expect to avoid occasional disagreements—these occur in the closest of friendships. ... Our relations with the Federal Military Government are very good. There are at present no misunderstandings between us. A new British High Commissioner has already taken up his appointment in Lagos. ... The Nigerian Military Government are made up of sensible and realistic men. It seems obvious from their recent pronouncements that they have no wish to solve Africa's problems by violence as long as other solutions offer hope. Nor, I am sure, are they anxious to see foreign Powers taking advantage of Africa's problems to pursue their own aims. ... Nigeria is clearly our largest market outside Europe and the United States, and last year it rated tenth in our overall trade relations. However, it is important to recognise that Britain cannot presume on its traditional ties with Nigeria to expect the Nigerians always to buy from Britain. ... We have to rely largely on the competitiveness and energy of British firms to convince the Nigerians that it is in their interests to trade with British companies. British investment in Nigeria is considerable, particularly in oil production and in insurance and banking. There are also important manufacturing, distributive and construction investments in industries, and companies with British shareholdings have shown themselves well able to adapt to the Nigerian Government's indigenisation measures. ... It is true that relations between our countries were somewhat strained last year. In February one of the leaders of an attempted coup d'état called on our High Commissioner in Lagos and asked him to send a message to the former Nigerian Head of State, General Gowon, who was at that time studying in this country. The High Commissioner quite properly refused this request, but the incident gave rise to suspicions that inside Britain there was somehow an involvement in an attempt to overthrow the Government. The Federal Military Government have now publicly confirmed that their investigations have revealed no such involvement."

5 March 1977: F1 successfully sustain apartheid normalcy with British drivers James Hunt, John Watson, Tom Pryce participating where Pryce is killed after a collision with the official's vehicle.

5 March 1977: Sir Mark Oliphant, Australia's pre-eminent physicist, contributor to the atomic bomb project, former Governor of South Australia, stresses the importance of monarchism in <a href="The Age">The Age</a> "It is noticeable that those who most vociferously demand a republican structure for our governments, State and Federal, are singularly

devoid of tolerance, decency, and care for the individual as taught...by the Founder of Christianity"

He urges Australia avoid the fate of a republican USA that "left [Britain] to rot, while building anew the economies of her enemies, Germany and Japan" by maintaining its monarchism.

"When the Labor Government threw away imperial honours as unsuitable, because of their titles, for a self-governing classless society, it realised rapidly that some alternative honours system was necessary. The British Monarch became Queen of Australia, and in her capacity as titular Head of State, it is she who awards the new Australian honours. It is difficult to reconcile this fact with the claim that the Labor Party wants a republic. Recently, too, a prominent member of that Party accepted a knighthood, leading one to speculate how many others would lay aside their republican convictions if offered such distinction. Those surviving Labor men who were knighted in the past have not abandoned their honours. Free men... can never be equal. Rightly, they demand equality of opportunity, but they recognise that equality of achievement is impossible."

He warns: "The greatest danger we face today arises not from the continued existence of the Monarchy, nor from a filial loyalty to Britain, but from the almost complete suppression of individual liberty among Party members elected to Parliament." and because of this "a referee, not answerable to either Party, must therefore exist [against placing party interest above 'national' interest]... Whatever the merit or otherwise of the action taken by the Queen's representative in dismissing the Labor Government, it resulted in the end in an election, the supreme democratic process."

- 6 March 1977: "letter from Number 10... Prime Minister insisted that all books written by Ministers had to be approved by Number 10" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 6 March 1977: Windscale unofficial dispute' strike committee allows CO2 gas into Windscale in the early evening by agreement with Energy Ministry officials. With the CO2 delivered, the next BNFL management safety deadline is March 12 to stop nitrogen supplies running out.
- 7 March 1977: Civil Contingencies Unit meets over the Windscale dispute under Merlyn Rees.
- 7 March 1977: <u>Daily Express</u> reports on the Windscale dispute. "I think probably the security services are tapping the phones of the strike committee and have a regular link to the Express" (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 7 8 March 1977: 8 British SAS operatives' trial on illegal firearms charges in Dublin. Each are fined I£100 for carrying firearms without a certificate.
- 8 March 1977: Armed forces serviceman, Thomas Holdsworth is sentenced to a 3-year term for the brutal sexual assault on 1 17-year-old Carol Maggs, that leaves her with serious internal injuries, broken ribs, earring-torn ear lobes. The defence, however, is given leave to appeal the decision.
- 8 March 1977: Bahrain executes 3 alleged members of the proscribed left-wing Popular Front for the Liberation of the Arabian Gulf (PFLOAG), charged with the assassination of media publisher-owner of the pro-regime conservative weekly magazine <u>Al Mawaltef</u>.
- 8 March 1977: Tony Benn understands that he has been misled by BNFL management and civil servants "It now turns out that the deadlines are totally different... [deadline to avoid an incident] is March 16. "Management of BNFL are... in cahoots with the Department and were pushing me to use the safety argument too early and then to put soldiers in. ... David Basnett was furious about it too" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 9 March 1977: Tony Benn orders the preparation of armed forces to use in the Windscale Dispute if necessary, telling the committee of Civil Contingencies Unit: "'At today's general meeting we shall have to prepare for the army but I don't want any helicopters.'" (Tony Benn's Diary) Merlyn Rees concludes "we will stay completely private until Sunday, completely private, and then we will go public, if we do go ahead, to prepare people." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 10 March 1977: Over 100 people mostly mothers, many with young children, from Whitecrook, Clydebank, invade council chamber of Clydebank District Council offices during a meeting of the town's environmental services committee. The protest, led by SNP councillor Ian Smith, is against the length of time refuse workers have taken to clean rubbish from their housing estate after a recent strike. A demonstrator explains: "We are living in muck... One woman in our street has found ... rats in her bed and another a rat in her baby's pram." Little extra overtime has been granted and the protest marks an easy method of organising anti-trade union backlash sentiment.
- 10 March 1977: Police arrest 4 pickets at Grunwick's.
- 10 March 1977: ACAS publishes its final report over Grunwick's recognition, and gives official recognition to the APEX branch.

- 10 March 1977: "Sheikh Yamani Oil Minister came to see me... I fixed up my visit to Saudi Arabia next month. I like Yamani and I often compliment him on his help." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 10 March 1977: Ronald Gaudsen, recently appointed H.M. Chief Inspector of Nuclear Installations at the Department of Employment, the top nuclear safety civil servant in the country states that the deadline is not 16 Mar with the supplies inside Windscale but 11 ie "the need for the army to get the cylinders from Air Products tomorrow"
- 10 March 1977: At the CCU meeting Tony Benn states: "I told them that ... I was to go to Windscale as a last attempt; if that failed the army was to be brought in, after a parliamentary statement. Basnett, Biggins and Len Murray all supported this. .... the question is: Can we together get out of it? Of course I can't offer more money, but the conciliation would have to be real." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 10 March 1977: Labour Left Brian Sedgemore: "This is the day that the panic button was pressed. The nuclear inspector brings forward the deadline, which previously was stretching out in the other direction, for getting nitrogen into Windscale. Decisions on whether to use troops have to be taken by Saturday [12 Mar 1977]. The Cabinet Contingencies Unit has been meeting, every day. Tony calls that nuclear inspector in for an explanation of the shifting deadline and gets an explanation of a sort. But everyone is suspicious by now." (Brian Sedgemore, The Secret Constitution, 1978)
- 10 March 1977: Callaghan visits President Carter. White House Lawn Carter: "I think it is not an exaggeration to say, nor is it any reflection on our other friends and allies to say, that we enjoy a special relationship with Great Britain, with the other countries of the United Kingdom. They are our closest allies and friends. We share security agreements with them, trade agreements with them, that are not shared with any other country. There has been an intimate relationship for decades and generations with the people of Great Britain that has carved out between us an unshakeable friendship and mutual commitment.... [Callaghan] is the President of the European Community.. we will .be talking about matters that are bilateral in nature, that involve our security based on the NATO interrelationships, and also he will represent the European Community itself, nine nations, there."

Callaghan: "what I can say on behalf of them all is that every member of the Community is desirous that there should be a close partnership and a strengthening of relations between the United States and Europe.... You have got an invigorating country here. You have problems, but your attitude is always how can we lick them? That is what I like to see. That is why it is such a pleasure to be back here with you, sir, at the beginning of your administration,

to wish you every success in the tasks that you are going to have to carry through and which you will have our great support in all that you endeavour to do, because we know that as leaders of the free world you will get plenty of criticism. But you also need support and encouragement."

11 March 1977: Financial Times Richard Mooney reports ' Move to cut speculation brings cocoa collapse': "Tough curbs on speculation staggered the London cocoa market yesterday, trimming nearly £500 off nearby [future sales of a commodity] delivery prices... It had been estimated recently that speculative long holding in the cocoa market amounted to around 50 per cent of the onen position... the fall in cocoa prices (by £484 to £2,105 a tonne — and since rumours about this action against speculation had been circulating for a few days before last Thursday it had fallen by a further £200 a tonne) led to falls on other key markets. Coffee and tin fell by £400 and £250 a tonne respectively and lead went down by £40."

According to Robin Stainer in The Guardian on Friday, there were a number of Interesting reasons for the rise and fail in commodity prices: "The extreme rise In commodity prices so far this year," he wrote, "until

yesterday'\* collapse, has in all cases been attributed to fundamental supply shortages. That Is the reason given for the increase of more than £1,000 in coffee since the beginning of the year. Fhat has been the Bank of England's response when dismissing rumours that it has been banning special Investigations nto various markets."

markets. John Edwards Commodity Editor of the Financial Timet/ writing last Friday, underlined this point: "Tne primary reaction to the news was that some speculators trading in cocoa might be forced to pull out of other commodities, including metals, in order to meet the vastly Increased margin calls on the cocoa market." That this is what happened is clear from the falls which took place on the metal markets as well.

The cocoa price " crash " has clearly worried the City. And in the City pages of the papers it was soon making its case. Robin Stainer wrote in The Guardian: " The trade arguments against greater outside interference has been that this would drive business from London, the world's major trading centre, thereby hitting the valuable foreign exchange earnings that these markets bring in every year." And according to John Edwards of the Financial Timet: " London commodity traders are worried that official intervention ... or even rumours of outside interference will discourage overseas users of the markets. It is claimed that overseas clients are

resentful of losses suffered on international markets from the actions of the Government." Am I wrong in thinking that these remarkably similar sentiments could. only have come from one source?

In fact the "crash" lasted only about a day. By Friday, the cocoa price had pEcked up by £200 a tonne and, throughout the market, the sensitive commodities were again putting on some of the price which they had lost. Why was this so? Well, basically the markets had regained the confidence "they lost on Wed

The Like the Lonrho scandal which revealed the tax-free havens in the Cayman islands, for a moment there was a further glimpse of the "unacceptable face of capitalism." The CHy is now busily applying cosmetics to cover it up.

Financial Times Tuesday, as cocoa prices once again shot up: "Dealers said the Cocoa Terminal Market Association's bid to shake some of the largest speculative holders of cocoa out of the market by imposing penal deposit requirements appeared to have failed."

- 11 March 1977: Students in Bologna hold a protest against a CeL rally inside the Anatomy Department of Bologna University. The departmental head calls the police to fire upon the students to disperse the crowd. Many are severely injured.
- 11 March 1977: Carter and Callaghan discuss signals intelligence and analysis network of AUSCANNZUKUS 'Five Eyes' as a result of the UK-USA Security Agreement and agree to its continuation, effectively licensing the ongoing tapping of 'opponent' nation diplomatic cables.
- 11 March 1977: Pam Kenneally, Don Concannon's private secretary, writes to Ken Stowe, Callaghan's private secretary to seek approval for Concannon's American tour: "Following Mr Agate's murder last month and the publicity given to the PIRA campaign against businessmen, a ministerial visit is needed to give reassurance to both potential and existing American investors.... Mr Concannon will take the opportunity to explain HMG's policies in Northern Ireland. You will be aware that IRA propagandists have been particularly active in New York"
- 11 March 1977: Labour Left Brian Sedgemore writes in his diary of the importance of not using troops to maintain nuclear energy production's credibility: "At the first meeting with the management and the local nuclear inspectorate it is clear that we have arrived with a mine of' misinformation on the safety aspect and have not been properly briefed on the dispute. Thackeray, the nuclear inspector, makes it clear there is no safety risk now and there is not an imminent risk... What we were discovering was that the

management had been using safety (as well as the workers) in a nuclear plant as a bargaining weapon. But now that the minister has stepped in to exercise his statutory responsibilities they are running scared. At last they've realised that the arrival of troops to break a picket line of some 500 pickets could damage nuclear development beyond repair." (Brian Sedgemore, The Secret Constitution, 1978).

- 11 March 1977: Sir Harold Wilson in a major speech at the Financial Times conference in Rome attacks Socialist International members who believe in electoral pacts and coalitions with Communist parties: "We are either talking about a Europe based on parliamentary democracy, or we are not. I shall be betraying a lifetime spent in the cause of Democratic Socialism if I do not make clear that that is exactly my message to this conference. I have always made a practice of never intervening in internal affairs of other countries, but I have to say what I have to say."
- 11 March 1977: Peter Griffiths, deputy managing director of Chrysler (UK) threatens the jobs of 6,000 unless an unofficial strike by TGWU members is not settled at the Chrysler Linwood plant: "I think the jobs of everyone will be in question. We cannot continue to tolerate this production loss. We welcome the inquiry asked for by the TGWU into alleged mismanagement. We will be pleased that they find out about us and will also be interested in the investigation about the affairs of the unions. I reject the TGWU suggestion of mismanagement or that every major decision has to be referred to the head office of Chrysler (UK). I don't believe the underlying problems at Linwood are due to mismanagement. I believe that during the past three months we have been facing a series of actions by the TGWU—in K block in particular—and also to a slightly lesser extent in the metal finishing area and in some sections of our trim and panel operations.... We have made it clear to trade union officials and employees that if we are going to stay in business we have to become much more efficient. I believe the present troubles are a reaction, particularly by the TGWU our insistence membership, to on better efficiency productivity."
- 11 March 1977: Barclay's Bank accounts chairman Sir Anthony Tuke states apartheid is "morally and economically indefensible" but it will not withdraw from profit-making in South Africa. He urges Britain's tax threshold to be raised to £2000 a year. He states the revenue loss can be made good, at least in part, by an increase in indirect taxation. He also asserts that employees in banking and shareholders of banks could be given a nationwide referendum to block any idea of bank nationalisation being implemented.

- 11-14 March 1977: Strikers at the St Fergus gas terminal, near Peterhead, enforce a total halt to production as office workers are blocked on 14 Mar 1977.
- 12 March 1977: Police attack demonstrations all across Italy in protest at police repression. Molotov cocktails are thrown at DC offices, banks and embassies in Rome. Bologna's city centre sees PCI-appointed police use tear gas over thousands of protesters. The demonstrations are prompted by the police shooting in Bologna of Pierfrancesco Lorusso, 26, medical student and spokesperson of Lotta Continua.
- 12 March 1977: Brinmex, a trust fund to help British firms set up joint-ventures and operations in Mexico and thus help British exports to Central America, begins its work. It has been organised by the Grindlay's group and the Mexican government's development bank.
- 12 March 1977: Citing a reduction of £I.4m in grants and reimbursement from Strathclyde Regional Council, Greater Glasgow Passenger Transport Executive announces bus fares will rise by on average 10%.
- 12 March 1977: Callaghan has dinner with Trudeau in Ottawa.\*
- 12 March 1977: <u>Financial Times</u> reports "[EEC] Commission predict that the United Kingdom deficit on current account this year will narrow to about \$1,500mil, thanks chiefly to increased North Sea oil production. This is appreciably lower than the Treasury's latest official forecast of a deficit of about \$2,500mil" It suggests Treasury civil servants have throughout 1976 have lied in order to urge on tougher cuts.
- 12 March 1977: Catholic priest Rutilio Grande, member of the priests' senate in El Salvador 1974-7, and workers at his mission, 72-year old Manuel Solorzano, 15-year old Nelson Rutilio Lemus are assassinated by militarists in Aguilares in El Salvador, as part of the military's efforts to restrict the efforts of popular forces in the 1977 general elections.
- 14 March 1977: Thatcher backs a backlash call for 'a kind of people's capitalism': "The revolt against excessive taxation, further nationalisation, waste, goes from strength to strength. The reaction against Socialism is based on moral considerations as well as economic ones. It is not confined to the realm of ideas alone. The economy itself is reacting to heal the wounds just as a body fights back against disease and creates new healthy tissue. For example, the great occupational pension and life insurance funds, together

with the building societies, a kind of people's capitalism, have been growing in strength in spite of burdens placed upon it. These great mutual activities, non-profit-making in themselves but dependent on profits in the private sector where their funds are invested, own a good half of all quoted securities, on behalf of their members. Eight families out of ten have a stake in stocks and shares through these funds and other non-governmental and charitable service organisations. As shareholders and employees, investors and workers have identity of interest. The class struggle is withering away—to adapt a well-known phrase of Marx and Engels. Thanks to this new development, which has gone on under our very eyes, capital and labour together can realise that their interests are the same."

- 14 March 1977: Greater Glasgow Passenger Transport Executive issues its 130 redundancy notices even as talks about job cuts are ongoing.
- 14 March 1977: Government announces British arms sales abroad will mean £670mil in receipts in 1976-77.
- 14 March 1977: David McNee begins his tenure as Met Police Chief with a press conference where he laughs and presents the image of a 'liberal' alternative to predecessor. He says he hopes for "a perpetuation of the excellent relationship with the media established by my predecessor" but that "like every good opening batsman I need to play myself in for a few overs before coming to any conclusions." He appeals also for a social reflex against juvenile crime "the area in which there is the greatest and most disturbing increase." He states "If parents would take on board their responsibility as parents and control their children in a proper manner, it would go a long way towards reducing crime."
- 14 March 1977: Henry Ford, chairman of Ford Motor Co, says Concorde should be authorised to land at New York, after a meeting with President Giscard d'Estaing.
- 14 March 1977: An unemployed 22- year old who shouts in Sydney against the Queen's procession: "No Queen for Australia, go home Pommy Queen" is arrested and charged with offensive behaviour although he does not swear and kept in police custody until 21 Mar 1977. Hundreds of plainclothes police help track him down. The Queen's devotion to democracy is such that she does not appeal for his release.
- 15 March 1977: Prince Charles completes a 10-day luxury safari holiday in Kenya holding talks at its end with Jomo and Ngina

- Kenyatta at the statehouse in Nakuru, Nairobi. He moves on to a 3-day visit to Ivory Coast.
- 15 March 1977 pm: 50 Edinburgh University students occupy the rector's office in Ponerrow and part of the William Robertson building in protest against fee increases.
- 16 March 1977: Bologna's PCI authorities having denied permission for the relatives and friends of murdered student Lorusso to hold a funeral in the city, hold a march against 'violence'. PCI and CGIL participate alongside the PSI and DC deprecating student self-defence.
- 16 March 1977: Representatives of Ulster Police Federation and its chairman Alan Wright meet Northern Ireland Secretary Mason to state the 5000-strong police force is insufficient. They also demand the return of the death penalty for anyone convicted of murder of a police officer or armed forces member.
- 17 March 1977: It is announced Queen Elizabeth, already the owner of four separate Rolls Royce vehicles, has been donated a Rolls-Royce Phantom. An anonymous anniversary enthusiast-royalist places an order with Rolls-Royce for the vehicle to be handed to the Queen.
- 17-26 March 1977: Prince Charles conducts an official 10 visit in Ghana.
- 18 March 1977: Home Office leaks to the press that Home Secretary, Merlyn Rees, will announce tighter immigration controls. Passport controls will be increased, removals of illegals will be stepped up. A new act to define who is a citizen and who is not (the Nationality Act) is planned. The tax allowance for immigrants supporting children that have been left behind in the home country will be ended about 500,000 children will be affected. The aim is something on the lines of allowing immigration of desired quantities of labour, retaining the sense of anxiety within immigrants whilst they are in Britain that they might be deported and at the same time allowing significant illegal working reducing the burden of state pensions.
- 18 March 1977: Moss Evans, TGWU full-timer explains "in my opinion it would be a tragedy if we did not have a solely-owned British volume car manufacturer."
- 19 March 1977: Ministry of Overseas Development announces British industry has received about £10.9mil in the month of Feb

- 1977 alone from orders following grants and loans made to developing countries as 'development aid'.
- 20 March 1977: Indonesian generals are amongst those who attend the final day of the PGA-accredited Indonesian Open golf championships.
- 21 March 1977: BBC's flagship news documentary *Panorama*, presented by David Dimbleby, broadcasts *Their Best Days?*, examining comprehensive education as part of Callaghan's Great Debate, on the basis of a visit to a school in London. A key segment of the programme shows a lesson in "an average third form" with an ineffectual and mild teacher and out-of-control pupils talking. Its editing is highly suspect condensing an 80-minute lesson into 5 minutes concentrating on the start and end of the lesson when pupils are least settled thinking about other things. "The content of the lesson made no sense. Then without any explanation offered within the film we see ... " (Teaching the Media Len Masterman, 2004) Staff at Faraday Comprehensive School demand BBC television programming time to put across their views and the case that the programme severely distorts the reality in the school. The BBC refuses.
- 21 March 1977: <u>Financial Times</u> reports US firms share 80-90% of the Saudi Arabia market for military goods and services. The rest is largely shared between Britain and France.
- 21 March 1977: Len Murray gives a green light to some form of accommodation with other parties: "The TUC wants this present government to stay in office to do the job that it has begun." (News Line, 22 Mar, 1977)
- 21 March 1977: Government announces "The Phantom and Buccaneer aircraft of HMS "Ark Royal" will continue to be employed in a maritime rôle from ashore. Moreover, land-based aircraft can operate in the former sea areas of NATO through which all the supply and reinforcement shipping from North America must pass. Apart from land-based aircraft, we are introducing a number of very effective air defence systems into the Fleet."
- 22 March 1977: Malaysia's king gives his king's speech in parliament: "I am happy that, under the leadership of Datuk Hussein Onn, my beloved Prime Minister and with the support of all the people, the country has continued to progress in all fields, especially in the field of development. ... The Third Malaysia Plan has now entered its second year. It is of utmost importance that everyone concerned should intensify his efforts so that the

objectives of the Plan can be fully realised. In the field of industry and trade, I am pleased to note that the investment climate in our country has improved. Nevertheless, my Government is still prepared to consider constructive criticisms to improve it further. However, investors must realise that the Government is compelled to exercise control over economic growth so as to obviate social and economic disparities which can threaten national stability.

... In the course of the previous year, the internal security situation has improved and rendered controllable as a result of the efforts and sacrifices of members of my Security Forces and also the increasingly active support of the people. ... In the maintenance of security, we receive good cooperation from our neighbours, namely, Indonesia, Singapore and Thailand. A new Malaysia-Thailand Border Cooperation Agreement has been concluded in Bangkok... With the existence of close cooperation between Thailand and Malaysia, joint operations at the border areas can be launched similar to those carried out recently. I take this opportunity to remind the people to faithfully adhere to religious tenets."

- 22 March 1977: Amended rules on the settlement of immigrant husbands to marry wives in Britain, come into effect. As a result, from April to Sep 1977, only 358 husbands from the Commonwealth settle in Britain, a far reduced figure.
- 23\* March 1977: Air Chief Marshal Sir Christopher Foxley-Norris writes a letter in <u>Daily Telegraph</u> attacking government defence plans: "Firstly, let us have no more of the claim that reductions in our national defence budget can still be made without damage either to our contribution to or our image in NATO. The truth is that such damage not only will be done but has already been done by previous reductions."
- 23 March 1977: London Industrial Tribunal, slams the door, ruling it has no jurisdiction in a case brought by 51 dismissed Grunwick's strikers over unfair dismissal.
- 23 March 1977: TUC General Council turns down APEX's first request for blacking of essential services to Grunwick.
- 23 March 1977: 13 Liberal MPs vote alongside Labour in a vote of confidence heralding the start of the Liberal-Labour Pact.

The Steel-Callaghan concordat states: "We agreed today the basis on which the Liberal Party would work with the government in pursuit of economic recovery. We will set up a joint consultative Committee under the Chairmanship of the Leader of the House, which will meet regularly. The Committee will examine government policy and other issues, prior to coming before the House, and Liberal policy proposals."

<u>Financial Times</u> declares: "many people who have no reason to sympathise with Labour policies ... might still wish, on short-term and tactical grounds, to see it remain in office for some months longer. However sceptical one may be about the success of Phase Three, it is at least arguable that Labour has a better chance of preventing a wage explosion that the Conservatives"

Labour also agrees to a 'Speaker's Conference' to examine and boost numbers of MPs for the six counties at Westminster, in order to neutralise UUP and VUP votes. These are gifted MP places for the culturally loyalist hardcore.

24 March 1977: Film director Roman Polanski is indicted in Los Angeles over sexual assault and rape against a 13-year-old. Counts against him include rape, rape by use of drugs, lewd or lascivious acts against a child under 14, furnishing a drug to a minor. He is nonetheless freed on bail of \$2,500, allowing his escape via London to Europe.

24 March 1977: One example of the clampdown hunting for illegals is described in Parliament. Questions asked at the Immigration Department's London Bridge office include: names of all persons staying in the same house, where each of these persons sleeps, where the couple sleep, what time they go to bed and wake up, who decorated the bedroom, what kind of decoration the walls have, whether anyone in the household drives a car, whether anyone smokes, whether anyone drinks and whether anyone visits cinemas. Questions are asked separately for Mr and Mrs H, in an elaborate version of the 'Mr. and Mrs. game' to catch out either party in order to annul the marriage and secure deportation. Police repeatedly visit and do searches on 'cohabitation' addresses; immigration officials and police ask questions about sleeping arrangements between partners, the extent and methods of birth control. Police ask the parties in the marriage why they have not married earlier. CBI says the budget is a step in the right direction but urges higher tax rates (ie tax upon the rich) to be cut more.

24 March 1977: An updated second edition of Robert Moss's <u>The collapse of democracy</u> is published after the first run is sold out.

24-26 March 1977: Queen visits Papua New Guinea.

25 March 1977: President of the American Chamber of Commerce in the UK protests in writing to the Prime Minister that the Bullock majority proposals would deprive US investors and shareholders of their 'decisive' influence in determining whether the proceeds of profits should be returned in dividends or re-invested. Many will boycott investment in Britain as a result he claims. (PREM 16/1325,

- Hugh Parker, President, American Chamber of Commerce (UK), to the Prime Minister, 25 Mar 1977)
- 25 March 1977: Labour Left <u>Tribune</u> declares "the enrolment of the police formally into the Labour movement, where they rightly belong, is overdue" (Mar 25 1977, Tribune) urging the TUC to make approaches to the Police Federation. However questions over why the Police Federation seeks to exempt police officers from any prosecution when they kill civilians during office hours, why the Police Federation has sided with management bodies in order that police forces are exempt from the Employment Acts and the Race Discrimination Act.
- 25 March 1977: Chancery Court under Lord Sir Robert Megarry rules in favour of government against pensioners' groups attempting to establish the DHSS has adopted the wrong (lower) formula for determining inflation increases for pension rises. (Metzger et al v Department of Health and Social Security)
- 25 March 1977: George Fernandes, trade union chief, former president of the Socialist Party, and Raj Narain, a Socialist Party leader, are further incorporated into the machinery of the state with Cabinet positions alongside Morarji Desai, Jagjivan Ram, A.B. Vajpayee and Ravindra Varma.
- 25 March 1977: A convoy of 300 tons of Uganda's coffee arrives in Mombasa, Kenya under armed military escort to stop it being raided, used and sold by the respective civilian populations. Product hijackings have become increasingly common as the economic depression in both countries continues. The coffee is destined largely for European markets.
- 25 March 1977: Foreign Office confirms Foreign Secretary Owen intends to meet Ian Smith and Vorster in South Africa in Apr 1977 and details are being arranged.
- 25 March 1977: Imperial War Museum's 'Women at War 1914-18' exhibition opens to the public as the first major exhibition on the theme to be held in the light of women's liberation. Nonetheless, it paints the supposedly 'apolitical' figure of Elsie Inglis ("The ordinary male disbelief in our capacity cannot be argued way it can only be worked away"), founder of the Scottish Women's Suffrage Federation and active nurse and leader of the Scottish Women's Hospital Units, providing military medicine for allies France, Serbia and Romania, in a positive light.
- 25-27 March 1977: Prince Charles conducts a visit to Abidjan, Ivory Coast.
- 26 March 1977: <u>The Economist</u> approves the Lib-Lab pact: "The key social issue next autumn will be confrontation with some public

sector trade unions ... This is the main reason for tentatively welcoming the fact that the Lib-Lab deal this week saved the country from an immediate general election which would probably have, brought an unready Thatcher government to office." It says a tight Phase Three deal cannot be enforced in the private sector. Instead, the government should hold the line against public sector workers by enforcing cuts to create unemployment and hold down wages. Sterling begins to come under pressure in anticipation of the Budget and trade union opposition. This pressure continues as government discussions with trade unions begin in April to renew the annual social contract in July.

26 March 1977: British firm African Lakes Corporation transfers its production and assets in Malawi to Mandala (Ngoni name of Blantyre, the nation's second largest city), its new wholly-owned local subsidiary. It owns many tobacco estates and most of the massive 3,500 hectare Vizara rubber estate in Malawi, where tax allowances have been granted for expansion of production. Mandala also takes over the network of general food and hardware stores that dominate the country. African Lakes Corporation also owns Amropa Motors in Ethiopia after posting losses as a result of the stresses, returns to profits in 1977.

27 March 1977: <u>Sunday Times</u> examines the Labour Left's inability to oppose the Lib-Lab deal: "no one called for a special party meeting before the vote. Most of them [Labour Left] were just happy to survive – and wait until afterwards to thicken the air with complaints about non-consultation"

27 March 1977: A fireman is killed trying to put out fire in a block of flats, Dover, Kent.

27 March 1977: 1400 trade unionists and supporters march through Willesden in support of Grunwick's strike.

28 March 1977: British and French officials meet the US Federal Court judge hearing the lawsuit Britain and France has brought against the Port of New York Authority over its opposition to Concorde flights.

28 March 1977: Tony Benn adopts a hard line in defence of his authorisation to BGC to increase gas prices by 10%.

"[Labour rightist] Eric Moonman: Will he confirm that it suggests that prices in the public sector are likely to increase for some time ahead? Has he tried to justify this decision to a trade union audience?

Benn: I think that any increase in prices is regrettable, but [Moonman] will know that this increase derived 4 from the necessity to reduce the public sector borrowing requirement in connection with the IMF loan.... if the choice was between a

reduction of investment in coal, gas, electricity or nuclear power and increases in the prices, the comparable figures show that electricity has increased in price by 119% in the last 3 years, coal and coke by 92% and gas by 57%."

Jack Cunningham helps him out: "[Labor Left] James Lamond: If this increase was a requirement of our obtaining the IMF loan, was this requirement imposed by the IMF or was it offered by the Chancellor of the Exchequer?

Jack Cunningham: The decision was part of a package of measures that were considered by the Government, agreed by the Cabinet and subsequently agreed between the Government and the International Monetary Fund."

Tony Benn explains no one is to blame: "This [gas price increases] derived from the necessity to reduce the public sector borrowing requirement. There was no suggestion of blame directly; it was a part of the package which involved a reduction of the PSBR. What flowed from that was the necessity to raise the price"

His Junior Minister adds "the Government also decided, because of conservation measures, to move towards the economic pricing of fuels."

Labour Lefts Heffer and Benn argue over procedure in imposing gas price increases: "[Labor Left] Eric Heffer: In view of the fact that I requested [Prices Minister Roy Hattersley] to ask the Cabinet to reconsider this matter, will [Benn] indicate whether he has been back to the Cabinet and what decision it took on the matter, because there is a strong feeling that even now that decision should be reconsidered so that there is not an increase that can put additional burdens on those who cannot afford them?

Tony Benn: [Refusal to discuss Cabinet contents] He knows that these are Cabinet decisions.

Tony Benn concludes evading responsibility: "It was not an energy policy decision, because the House knows that there has been a demand for a tax on gas from the other industries for a long time. I said there had been a demand and that it was not an energy policy decision... on budgetary matters—and the IMF package was thus regarded — pre-consultation is not possible."

29 March 1977: Journalist Mark Hosenball's deportation order is all but confirmed at the Appeal Court. Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, at the Appeal Court: "This is a case in which national security is involved." He is refused permission to appeal to the House of Lords.

29 March 1977: 10<sup>th</sup> Budget. Chancellor announces significant cuts in income taxes. The basic rate of income tax is to fall from 35% to 33%, provided agreement is reached with TUC on Stage III of Social Contract. There are increases in indirect flat taxation affecting ordinary citizens in vehicle excise duty (increased from

£40 to £50) and petrol taxation (raised by 5p/gallon). Tax giveaways are also announced for those who work abroad for more than 30 days in a year, whether continuous or staggered. He says it is important to improve the financial situation of "particularly those at the sharp end of exporting." Those with separate employment in an entirely foreign (in commercial law) firm for any length of time also receive the 25% tax exemption. The proposals are designed to boost those working abroad on business type trips.

The profit limit qualifying for the reduced rate of corporation tax is increased from £30,000 to £40,000, the limit for partial relief is increased from £50,000 to £65,000 allowing even more firms to protect investors more and shift costs onto the public.

The extension of the period of payment of the Temporary Employment Subsidy is announced but at a reduced rate, this allows firms to slowly phase out their use of TES workers, whilst still deriving a financial benefit.

Hugh Scanlon declares "Healey has done exactly what the unions have asked him not to do. We told him already we did not want to be in a position of trading a pay deal for a tax cut." Clive Jenkins states "our members will still be worse off". Ray Buckton says "there is going to be some hard bargaining to get the workforce of this country to accept further wage restraint." David Basnett says "making tax cuts conditional on pay negotiations is going to make these negotiations a lot more difficult."

29 March 1977: Chairman of Lloyd's Register of Shipping, R.A. Huskisson, says "three year period we are moving into is likely to have a lasting effect upon the structure of the shipbuilding industry." He explains only the very best shipping yards, with some competitive edge will be able to maintain export orders. He says the overwhelming trend will be for nations to commit to intervention and subsidies to cover the domestic shipping market. He notes the vigorous state assistance to Japanese shipbuilding consistently given since the Second world war renders it superior to other nations. "The Korean situation is perhaps, unique in that timing, circumstances, the ability to work hard and learn fast have all contributed". As a late starter with a workforce under effective military rule, high-technology innovations (funded by currency, unlike in India) have been introduced from scratch giving it an edge over competitors. Worldwide orders for ships are at 13 million tons' worth compared to orders for 73 million tons' worth in 1973. He asserts orders are expected to drop further.

30 March 1977: Chancellor's broadcast to the nation sees him trumpet the apparent confidence of world markets: "after all the agony we went through last year we have seen a transformation since the decisions I took last December... The most striking is the

confidence which the whole world has been showing in our present policies"

- 30 March 1977: The Queen in Australia: "The welcome we have received has given us great personal happiness. It has also encouraged me in the belief that the Crown can be of continuing service to Australia"
- 30 March 1977: Communist leadership-dominated CGIL labour confederation reaches agreement on changes to the escalator system of wage rises pegged to inflation levels. It comes after days of negotiation by telephone between Rome and IMF HQ in Washington. This agreement is then used as an example by Labour to keep its rabble the Labour Left in line 'even the Communists in Italy concede wages must be brought down'
- 30 March 1977: A mass meeting of 700 of production workers at Scottish and Newcastle Brewers in Edinburgh urges the firm to withdraw the £250000 sponsorship of the Scottish Cup if the Scottish Football Association does not cancel the football match between Scotland and Chile in Jun 1977. John Henrys, Edinburgh Trades Council secretary, states strike action has not been discussed. SFA secretary-elect says in response: "We are not impressed by threats of this nature about the Chile match or anything else. If the workers have any matters to raise they should do so with their employers and not with us. The Chile game is on."
- 31 March 1977: An ACAS ballot (under the trade union recognition section of the Employment Protection Act) of 13,000 workers employed at IBM (International Business Machines) factories throughout Britain is held. In the run up to the vote, management has used compulsory, paid sessions with video film sessions featuring recorded 'fake' Q-&-As to influence workers against unionisation. Questionnaires had then "to be filled in in the presence of managers in the viewing room." It has used security men under instruction to prevent union officials distributing leaflets at its plant car parks.

John Langan, national officer for ASTMS says: "We were compelled to fight IBM on a purely external basis which was most regrettable since it produced a public slogging match. It was a propaganda war with the union denied access to employees inside the plant. Our campaigning was done at meetings after working hours and with advertisement in local newspapers. No one could conceive of any election in this country where the people involved were deliberately denied access to one of the parties." Unsurprisingly ASTMS loses the ballot.

31 March 1977: RAF withdraws from its Omani bases at Masirah and Salalah. Both are handed over to the Sultan of Oman Air Force.

31 March 1977: Soviet Union and Mozambique sign a treaty of friendship. British press largely warn of another 'Angola' and urge cancellation of a small British development programme there strengthening the hand of the government. This minor ODI grant becomes the source of a strong backlash campaign on the lines of 'Money for Mozambican Marxist chieftains, nothing for our pensioner war veterans'

31 March 1977: Botswana's National Assembly passes a National Defence Bill, providing for the establishment of a new Botswana Defence Force (BDF), many officers are to begin training programmes from British Army sources.

April 1977: Black paper 4, 21 essays divided into 3 sections 'Informal Education', attacking inductive teaching, 'Comprehensive schools', attacking comprehensive education and 'Values', arguing for greater direct inculcation of national values. Unsubstantiated allegations that "standards" have fallen in comprehensive but not selective or grammar schools, are made.

In its introduction Rhodes Boyson notes that Callaghan's Ruskin College speech "attempted to steal our clothes". Its main proposal is for compulsory testing and a lower school leaving of 14 or 15 rather than 16: "the national monitoring of basic standards by examination for all children at the ages of 7, 11 and 14 or 15 should be introduced. The school results of these tests should be available to parents, school governors and the local community... parents have the right to know the comparative achievements of schools. Schools which fall below standard should be investigated. There is no moral justification for compulsory education without the state guaranteeing and enforcing minimum standards. The 14 plus or 15 plus examination could be used as a leaving examination, and should test basic literacy and numeracy and a body of knowledge we should expect all our citizens to acquire." (pp8-10)

Under the 'Informal Education' section, Dolly Walker-Wright, spearhead of middle-class backlash at the William Tyndale school, attacks all non-streamed informal education.

Patrick Moore makes a general plea in favour of "every attempt to provide smaller classes" and asserts: "Nobody in their senses will deny that, in state schools, the drop in English standards during the past 15 years or so has been disastrous." on the basis of the quality of written correspondence he receives. He does not analyse the fact that comprehensive education has given him a much larger pool of correspondents who would otherwise have been functionally illiterate or embarrassed of writing to MPs.

The editors attack Neville Bennett's riposte to the Black Papers 1-3, by stating: "Bennett's research does support our demand for the best of both formal and informal methods, for more structure and

teacher direction in school." Yet at no point in the Black Papers do writers argue in favour of informal education approaches of any sort. Neville Bennett's findings from detailed research of teachers in the North-West, published in 1976 points out most teachers cannot be fitted into categories of formal methods or informal methods, because both are used. The main point made by others that the school and wider social structure determine much of "education" is ignored. The Black Report's fixation is upon the teacher's teaching style with meaningless conclusions since what "the best" of "formal and informal methods" are never specified. The editors attack comprehensives, not private schools, for being "socially divisive" since "they vary enormously in quality." They ignore the social reality of pupils attending the schools of different quality, merely suggesting that traditional-teaching-based comprehensives offer better "quality" than 'trendy' or informal-teaching schools. Procomprehensive writer Maurice Peston is attacked for suggesting that comprehensives might be given a quota at universities to allow for the fact that some of their pupils have to overcome greater difficulties than their peers in the selective sector of secondary education, but no criticism is made of the present situation in which places are still reserved for certain public schools at Oxford and Cambridge.

Prof H.J. Eysenck, Professor of Psychology at the Institute of Psychiatry, Denmark Hill, who has attacked 'The Rise of the Mediocracy' in an earlier version, again attacks comprehensives for failing to support intelligence and knowledge.

In the section on 'Values' Dr Edward Norman, Dean of Peterhouse College, Cambridge argues for much greater "Christian instruction" because "England is not a pluralistic society" but a Christian one. He states ideally it should be "the values of the home" that triumph, but since so few parents are practising Christians, schools must return to didactic "Christian truth".

The rightist group of 3 senior North London Polytechnic academics again attack higher education wherever it comes into contact with 'Marxists' without blocking them off: "Nowadays in the academies of Britain - the institutions of higher education - there is continual and fundamental conflict... conflict now, especially among members of the teaching staff, is just as intense and more deeply grounded... Two groups are opposed in the conflict; we shall distinguish them as Academics and Marxists. 'Academics' because their way of thought and procedure (mode) has been gradually articulated and more or less established in the academies of Western Europe over a long period. 'Marxists' because they follow the doctrines of Karl Marx, and because many are members of Marxist political parties." No numbers are provided but it is claimed large numbers of Marxists are found in higher education. They are derided for supposedly

unfairly influencing or propagandising to 'capture' the future population.

April 1977: Gas Boards across the country announce average price increases to home unit customers of around 10%.

April 1977: British Army's official publication <u>Soldier</u> describes the difficulties for soldiers in Belfast, helping to assist the wider press campaign for more pay and investment in the forces: "The grey of the high corrugated iron which fences in Support Company of 2nd Battalion, the Parachute Regiment, is only marginally lighter in shade than the grey of the rendered walls of the houses outside in the dank gloom of a winter Sunday morning on Belfast's outskirts. The modern counterpart of a Wild West stockade, the 'wriggly tin' fortress is surrounded by the 'Indian country' of the notorious Ballymurphy estate with its fervent Republican sympathies."

April 1977: CBI joins in the centre-right backlash. Its report 'Standards in Numeracy and Literacy in Wales' (April 1977) features a sample of Welsh schoolchildren and shows "serious concern in that they show a standard of attainment far below that which such a large segment of the population represented by the sample should reasonably be expected to achieve."

April 1977: CIS report <u>Paying for the Crisis</u> is released. It reveals every large company that has reported results in the first 3 months of 1977 has exceed the government's wage restraint level under Phase Two.

"Nearly every large company that reported in the first three months of 1977 broke the pay code. Some or all of their senior executives received considerable salary increases, and in many cases the Chairmen awarded themselves substantial rises. CIS names Tate & Lyle, Imperial Metal Industries, Carrington Viyella, Fisons, Grand Metropolitan Ltd, Gestetner, and many more. Companies are making record profits, yet investment is lower than in any year since 1964. Companies are deceiving the public in their profits announcements. In the financial year 1975/6 the total amount of tax paid by companies was, according to the Treasury, negligible. This is hidden from the public by the Annual Report and Accounts. For example, BP says on p. 14 of its Annual Report that its UK tax bill is £ 196.7m. In fact the company only paid £20.2m. Many other companies are hiding how little tax they pay in the same way. ... In the last two years the government has given away well over £4,000m in tax relief to private business. This negligible tax contribution by companies is the single most important factor dictating cuts in public spending.... CIS estimates that spending power for ordinary workers has fallen by as much as a fifth. The worst fall since the end of the General Strike in Unemployment is the highest since 1938. Inflation is higher than at any time since the 17th century. The welfare state is being dismantled. There has been a massive shift of wealth into company profits and shareholders, and the burden of taxation has been transferred onto the wages of workers." (Jun 1977, Socialist Review)

Spring 1977: Issue of Welsh nationalist publication Y Saeth includes a recently resigned Welsh army officer describe some Army behaviour: "Although many men join the Army for defensible aims, such as preservation of one version of civilisation, or the defence of our society against attack, many join to obtain a legal licence for thuggery. These people, in Northern Ireland, take a delight in 'Paddy-bashing'... the landrover patrol that takes an air rifle and fires pellets at people in Catholic areas deliberately to provoke an angry response. Or the house search where furniture is deliberately wrecked, 'to teach these micks a lesson', the householder being forced to sign a disclaimer saying that the troops have been courteous and polite - on pain of the home being wrecked again. Or the spot vehicle search, in which a car's tyres are let down miles from anywhere in the dead of night with the owner left to cope as best he can. ... This war is much closer to home. The people are white, and cannot be dismissed in the shameful way we dismissed our other victims as coons, ayrabs or wogs. Their towns look just like Cardiff or Glasgow, not some pathetic collection of shanty huts that we can arrogantly despise. Their language is the same as ours, and they can tell us exactly what they think of us instead of babbling away in some incomprehensible native lingo while they lined up like sheep for the slaughter."

\*April 1977: Balvinder, Mohinder, Sukhvinder and Joginder Virk are attacked on a roadside repairing a car, outside where they live, by a group of 9 NF supporters, including NF members. The police are called to stop the attack. Instead they arrive to promptly arrest the Virks. They are denied bail and kept in police cells for 2 days and then charged with common assault and occasioning actual bodily harm, have their passports confiscated and are forced to report to a police station every day for the next 14 months.

- 1 April 1977: Home gas prices see a 10% increase.
- 1 April 1977: Representing the Callaghan-Owen line, Joan Lestor and, centre-right backlash, Leo Amery, are hosted on William F Buckley's Firing Line to discuss Rhodesia.
- 1 April 1977: Grunwick increases wages for its loyal workers by another 10%. In contrast to strikers, those strikebreakers who receive the benefits of others' poverty, endurance of police assaults

etc on strike, strikebreakers are broadly accorded respect a nd 'understanding', operating for their families and the nation etc.

1 April 1977: Hibernia reports on a soldier from Queen's Regiment, charged with assault on a teenager in Derry: "The DPP (NI) dropped the charge when he heard the squaddie would, when he finished his tour of duty, be starting a five year jail stretch, courtesy of the Old Bailey, for raping and assaulting a fifteen-year-old girl in England. Derry City Council marked the news of the dropping of the assault charge by passing a resolution deploring the presence on the streets of soldiers remanded on bail for serious offences, ... Five soldiers from the 1st. Batt. Queens Regiment all pleaded guilty in a Derry court recently to a total of 12 charges of theft, burglary and receiving, involving items like tape-recorders, cassettes, perfume and tools which were taken from houses in the city last year" 1 April 1977: Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) is established, under the powers of Decree No.33. It is a merger of NNOC (Nigerian National Oil Corporation) with various other functions and parts of the Federal Ministry of Mines and Power -

particularly its regulatory duties. In order to compete against the more profitable firms, regulation will be kept light. It is NNPC is given power over refining, petrochemicals, product transportation

and marketing to compete with the established firms.

- 2 April 1977: UNCTAD Conference on a worldwide development loans facility ends with a successful Western blocking and deferal. G77 describes it as "complete failure " noting "a lack of political will on the part of" Western powers. British delegate Gordon Burrows, representative of the Seven Industrial Powers at the summit records "significant progress broadening the areas of consensus concerning some elements of a common fund" even though no progress is achieved. US delegate Stephen Bosworth later states US has not committed itself to any future session. G77 nations expecting a session, delayed by Britain and others to Nov 1977.
- 3 April 1977: Iranian government announces 3 female and 1 male guerrilla have been shot dead by (undercover) security agents.
- 3 April 1977: British Airways announces that all domestic and European destination aircraft are grounded in Heathrow Airport after 4,000 ground engineers successful conduct the first day of a weekend overtime ban
- 4 April 1977: Zaire breaks off relations with Cuba, explaining that Cubans are in Shaba. The charge is a false one but the concept of

Soviet-Cuban aggression becomes a central theme of backlash calls for 'defence'.

- 6 April 1977: Head of world's biggest oil multinational Exxon Corporation talks to Callaghan and declares that the Bullock majority report tramples on "the basic right of shareholders". He threatens an eventual total pull-out should the measures go through. (PREM 16/1326, Wilks to Hutton, 6 Apr 1977)
- 6 April 1977: Fairey Aviation-produced Britten-Norman Turbo Islander light utility aircraft's first flight. Constructed in its Gosselies, Belgium plant the aircraft are prepared for the Paris Air Show, where international sales are secured. It is a specialist miniaircraft designed for passenger use, able to operate on short rough airstrips. It becomes something of a choice for Western business operatives dealing with the Third World.
- 6 April 1977: US State Department statement explains USA is not at all "indifferent" to the dangers of PCI and PCP effects, and prefers "clearly those parties with democratic credentials."
- 10 April 1977: Supreme court judge 'qadi', tribal leader and former chief of royalist North Yemen, Abdullah al Hajari, his wife and a minister from the north Yemen embassy are shot dead whilst they leave the Royal Lancaster Hotel, Westbourne Street, Bayswater, London entering their Mercedes-Benz saloon car. His premiership of north Yemen after returning form exile in Saudi Arabia after the Yemeni revolution, results in his hundred of executions and thousands of militants' torture. The al Hajaris had been in London for three weeks on a private visit, his wife receiving private medical treatment.
- 10 April 1977: Sunday Times reports on Thatcher's visit to PRC and BBC Radio 4's Woman's Hour following her in addition to the usual political correspondents: "Last Thursday morning the woman who wants to hold up half the Western sky winged out of it into Peking, preceded by her Russian reputation as Britain's Iron Maiden. The Chinese may have some difficulty pronouncing the phrase, but Margaret Thatcher is giving them every opportunity to believe it. Everywhere she goes, Mrs Thatcher is carefully making anti-Russian noises of the kind her hosts want to hear. Her manner, meanwhile, is not unlike that of the Queen on a royal visit. In conversation with vice-premier Li Hsien-Nin, she referred to "my people"... Her 23year-old daughter, Carol, who is along for the ride, also behaves remarkably like Princess Anne. The Chinese are clearly impressed. Mrs Thatcher's keynote speech in the Great Hall of the People, at a banquet in her honour ... was reprinted in full next morning in the People's Daily-an honour normally reserved for visiting heads of

state—and went down well with party chiefs present at ... the eight-course meal.

She ... toured the room raising a tiny glass of China's sickly-sweet red wine. She had, she told me, been into the protocol, and discovered to her relief that it is acceptable for ladies to sip from their glasses rather than toss each of the many toasts back in one gulp, as is the Chinese way. The journalists in the party, she noted, did not seem to be experiencing too much difficulty.

Mrs Thatcher has come to China with only two escorts— John Stanley, MP, her parliamentary private secretary, and Douglas Hurd, MP, the Tory Party's China expert... The Thatcher party are staying in a government guest house, complete with small lake, while the rest of us are installed in the comfortable Peking Hotel. Right from the airport, where she was met by Huang Hua, the foreign affairs minister, Mrs Thatcher has headed a 25-car motorcade, which in effect means we have a car each. The parade sweeps all before it, under the curious gaze of the bicycling masses.... Mrs Thatcher became the first Western politician to meet Chairman Hua, though he kept her waiting for an hour before they approached each other from opposite ends of a corridor in the Great Hall of the People. Also in town is an American Congressional delegation, including President Carter's son, and a deputation of Glasgow businessmen, led by the Lord Provost... Mrs Thatcher's first day here was consumed by extremely formal political talks. ... a two-hour session with Huang. "We expect and hope," she told him, "to be worked very hard whilst we are here." ...her pre-dinner chat with China's number two, vice-premier Li Hsien-Nin ...

Next morning, Mrs Thatcher had an audience with Chou En-lai's widow, Teng Ying-chiao, who is now vice-chairman of the standing committee of the People's National Congress.... she was out in a Peking market ... buying stocks of tea, chocolate and preserved fruit. Each session of talks is punctuated by a bit of sightseeing, during which she is an assiduously inquiring tourist. ... "We climbed right to the top [of the Great Wall of China]" she told Chairman Hua, proudly. "It was a lovely day." To which the Chairman replied with a quotation from Mao: "He who fails to reach the top of the Great Wall is no true man." Mrs Thatcher laughed and the translation was quickly changed to "no true leader." ...

... we toured the magnificent imperial palace [in Xian] Mrs Thatcher was stumping the Minister of Information with detailed questions about dates and styles. She also visited the neighbourhood committee of Fu Shiu Ching, where she asked a pointed question about female representation, to find that, 18 of the 27 committee members were women... [she] was instantly whisked off to a "typical" household which had been laid on. "I bet she goes for broke to get in the kitchen," said one of her escorts irreverently, just before she asked where the kitchen was. The family of nine,

she discovered, had one Calor-gas stove in their tiny, scrupulously clean kitchen, and two bedrooms between them. ... the neighbourhood kindergarten, where strictly disciplined rows of three-year-olds sang a song of welcome... six-year-old brothers and sisters laid on a song-and-dance show, which included a group of tiny armed pilots shooting down the form's non-dancer, who represented a Russian MiG. A pretty four-year-old girl sang in praise of Chairman Hua.

...Thatcher talked with Chairman Hua, flanked by Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nin and Huang Hua, for just over an hour. ... Chairman Hua said: "I hope there will be second, third and fourth visits." "I hope so too," replied Mrs Thatcher... Journalists and Mrs Thatcher's staff were then ushered out of the room, leaving the Tory leader and the British Ambassador, Sir Edward Youde, to continue the talks ...

Last night, she hosted a return banquet in the Great Hall, with invitations on Conservative Party cards saying the Opposition Leader would be "At home" in the Great Hall of the People. The Conservative leader and her guests are continually harangued with denunciations of the Gang of Four, who are currently undergoing "intensive interrogation and instruction." Nobody knows where they are.

... This year's April 5 celebrations—dedicated to the memory of the dead—were cancelled for the first time since the declaration of the Republic. This can only be because Hua feared demonstrations in favour of Teng, whom he accused of organising last year's unruly scenes in the Square of Heavenly Peace. At 73, Teng is 17 years Hua's senior, he has a massive following among the people, who cannot understand what rivalry there could be between them. This is all that can be gleaned from random encounters with Chinese, who cower with fear if you try to discuss such matters. ... Mrs Thatcher, meanwhile, is withholding all verdicts, intent merely on appearing as aware as the Chinese of the Soviet menace. As one "preparing to take part in the government of Britain," she told them, she shared their views on Europe as a crucial defence grouping. Vice-premier Li warmly guoted her previously voiced concerns about détente, and added a Chinese proverb: "As we say, there is great disorder under heaven, and the situation is excellent."

... Chinese are clearly fascinated, for instance, by Mrs Thatcher's wardrobe. In her first 48 hours here, I counted no fewer than six different outfits ... To hear her fulsome tributes to the Chinese revolution is worth a cable to Central Office. ... One of her many suitcases contains only Crown Derby china and House of Commons ashtrays, to be liberally distributed to her hosts. But this incongruity pales besides the greater irony it prompts. Mrs Thatcher was invited to China a year ago, before Mao's death... The recipients of her gifts

will not be those who invited her.... Is this trip a chore of statesman-like diplomacy, or the window-dressing of a would-be premier? For licence-payers interested in the strength of BBC representation: It totals six: Jim Biddulph, two camera crew, a China-watcher from the Overseas Service, and two ladies from Woman's Hour. All are going on with Mrs Thatcher to Tokyo and Hong Kong. With fares at £1,500 and hotel rooms about double that, the one-hour special looks like being Woman's Hour's most expensive."

10 April 1977: In order to transport hardened Moroccan combat forces to Zaire, France hands over long-range aricraft to the Moroccan government.

11 April 1977: The Times David Bonavia's article on Thatcher in PRC is titled 'Peking warning on danger of trade unions meddling in politics': "She landed at a military airfield on board a British-built Trident belonging to the Chinese national airline... At a press conference in Peking last night Mrs Thatcher said that she thought one of the reasons why the Chinese had invited her was that they as likely government leader. Chinese а accompanying her have shown intense interest in the British political scene and clearly hope that she will win the next election because of her tough stand against Soviet military expansion. ... the Chinese press has published during Mrs Thatcher's visit a warning about the danger of allowing trade unions to interfere in national politics. The Peking People's Daily has said that the so-called "Gang of Four" headed by Mrs Chiang Ching, Chairman Mao 's widow, tried to use the Chinese trade unions in their attempt for power last year. It said: "The international and domestic trade union movements' repeated experience proves that unions organized for the working class can only promote their liberating function under the leadership of a Marxist-Leninist governing party, the vanguard of the working class." As the Chinese do not consider pro-Soviet parties to be Marxist-Leninist, this could well be read as a criticism of elements in the British trade union movement which they see as weakening NATO and the European Community through their influence in the Labour Party... In a speech at a farewell banquet last night, she laid special emphasis on the importance of future Anglo-Chinese trade. Asked whether she agreed with the Chinese view that war between the West and the Soviet Union was virtually inevitable, she said that the leaders in Peking seemed to think it "much more inevitable than I do." She reiterated her view that peace could be maintained only through strength."

11 April 1977: Foreign Secretary Owen visits Maputo holding talks with President Machel.

- 11 13 April 1977: Defence Secretary visits Yugoslavia.
- 12 April 1977: Copeland Borough Council's Planning Officer's Report on Revised Application approves the extension of Windscale nuclear facilities.
- 12 April 1977: Bristow Helicopters dismisses a pilot contracted to work in Europe only, for refusing to accept a posting to Malaysia or Nigeria. It precipitates a strike in defence of basic employment contract rights.
- 13 April 1977: 20 are arrested in a mass raid connected with antigovernment leaflets prepared by a group of Togolese students in Lome.
- 14 April 1977: David Steel sums up the determination to continue wage restraint when Stage II ends on 31 Jul 1977 as being the key factor in acceding to the Lib-Lab Pact. It has little confidence that a Conservative-majority Commons will be able to enforce this restraint: "That is the motivation for the Liberal Party's agreement with the Government. We have simply got to get through the next few months with a new pay restraint deal" (Guardian, 14th April 1977)
- 14 April 1977: The Times lead editorial 'A Success is to be Exploited' urges "Cash limits ought to be imposed not merely in expectation of the likely level of wage settlements but as a definite statement of what the Government are prepared to accept. Only then will negotiators see clearly that cash limits are not just a mechanical conversion into real money of long-term expenditure plans but a positive tool for control of policy." The aim is to limit the total amount of wages expenditure in local government services.
- 14 April 1977: Thatcher interview with BBC. She states: "the Chinese people and their leaders in particular are very sensitive to the build up of arms in the Soviet Union, and they have a very long frontier with the Soviet Union, so naturally they share my views and my fears about what that build up is for".
- 14-18 April 1977: HMS Danae docks at Rio de Janeiro. Great Train Robber Ronnie Biggs visits on the evening of 15 April, drinks in the sailors' mess hall and is photographed with a beer can in his hand. Labour MPs later ask questions in the Commons of why he was not arrested on board the ship. Naval collaboration with Brazilian militarists is not probed.
- 15 April 1977: Milton Friedman attacks wage and price freezes as an attempt to restrain inflation, instead urging restrictions on the

money supply and wage cuts: "I have no doubts whatsoever about wage and price freezes, be they conducted over two days, two months, or two years. We have seen them tried for the past two thousand years, and we have yet to see one succeed. But countries seem reluctant to learn from these examples; they want to learn the lesson by trying it for themselves. It happened here [USA] in 1971, and failed. It has happened in Britain, I think, about three times; in Holland, and many other countries."

- 15 April 1977: Nomination period began for Sierra Leone parliament elections scheduled for 6 May. Regina James SLPP candidare is beaten and raped by 7 APC thugs, then later transferred to Pademba Prison, Freetown.
- 15 April 1977-6 May 1977: Large numbers of oppositional forces in Sierra Leone are arrested and killed, around 120 people are killed in Bo district, and 26 in a northern village are burnt to death as the settlement as APC government hired group sets fire to the settlement.
- 16 April 1977: Skrewdriver play their first ever concert at The Roxy, Neal Street, Covent Garden, a music venue business owned by Andrew Czezowski.
- 16 April 1977: Philip Agee in an article by Philip Kelly in <u>Time Out</u> reveals the names of 6 diplomats at the USA Embassy in Grosvenor Square that are CIA officers. Agee notes that the total number of CIA staff in Britain, identified to a high degree of certainty, is around 50, making the British contingent one of the largest in the world.
- 17 April 1977: The Times reports on action in Portugal attacking British firms: "Portugal's port wine industry has been hit by its first strike in living memory.... strikers were picketing the warehouses which line the southern banks of the Douro river... British companies like Sandeman, Cockburn, Croft, Dow, Warre and Taylor, all of which have been established in Oporto for generations, have closed their doors.... So far only the port wine industry, which employs about 4.000 people and is an important source of foreign revenue for Portugal, has been affected by the strike, which began on Tuesday. Attempts by militants at Sogrape, which produces sparkling rose wine, to force fellow employees to join the strike ended in violence yesterday. The strike is principally about pay, although members of the Association of Port Wine Shippers have hinted darkly that there are also political motives involved."

16-17 April 1977: Callaghan calls on the Soviet Union to assume "superpower responsibility" and end Cuban assistance to Angola. Government does not investigate firms or intelligence groupings that supply FNLA, South Africa's BOSS and UNITA that are still operating in Angola. Nor does it investigate David Sterling, former SAS operative, who is still recruiting 'mercenaries' from an office in London to supplement Zairean armed forces, in spite of the Luanda trials in 1976. Britain's prime ally USA has funded the transportation of 'FNLA mercenaries' into 32 Battalion, a fully-fledged unit of the SADF. They have been installed at Buffalo base in the Caprivi Strip, hence called the Buffalo Battalion. Headed by Colonel Jan Breytenbach it is officered by mercenaries - French veterans of Algeria, US veterans of Vietnam, British veterans of Confrontation, colonialist Portguese settler Angolans and Portuguese-speaking SADF regulars.

16 April 1977: Public inquiry begins into Windscale. BNFL are legally represented by Lord Silsoe QC and are backed by the AEA, the CEGB, the SSEB and the majority of Copeland Borough Council and Cumbria CC, each separately legally represented. Government Departments including the Department of Energy, Department of Environment, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food are represented and follow a neutral line.

BNFL begins its impeccable 'social contract' case for accepting foreign nuclear fuel and waste. It will lower the unit cost of British reprocessing, substantially reducing UK capital required (advance payments by overseas customers), and contribute £600m to Britain's balance of payments.

17 April 1977: Jack Jones bitterly attacks trade unions putting in pay claims above 10%. He says "unions attempting to win wads of confetti money" are the problem. "If the employer says. 'No\*, I wonder what Clive and his merry men will do? I really thought we had forgotten the days when we demanded £20 a week and settled for £5 or, as in the pre-war period in engineering, when we would settle for a shilling a week, or, less than we had, while asking for a rise of £2." He puts forward a 7-point plan to assist the social contract, stating: "Pay policy is separate from the social contract. Prices are a main feature in all this because if they are let up then how can the unions play their part effectively in ensuring a moderate and orderly return to voluntary collective bargaining?"

17 April 1977: Bill Canning, industrial relations officer of BALPA, states: "We shall be in touch with Norwegian helicopter pilots, who are members of the International Federation of Airline Pilots' Associations, to ask them not to take over Bristow contracts." The blacking by Norwegian pilots is successful but British strikebreakers

emerge causing BALPA to back down on its strike on 4 Jun 1977 in exchange for a judicial inquiry.

- 17 April 1977: Scott Lithgow and US oil firm Deep Oil Technology Inc. announce a joint venture to produce high-tension oil platforms largely developed by DOT, which will take a majority of the royalties.
- 17 April 1977: TUC Steel Committee of the 5 representaed unions in the steel sector explains the unofficial Port Talbot steel strike means job cuts at other plants are more likely. They urge an immediate end to the strike. "We are at present trying to save jobs at Ebbw Vale, Hartlepool, and West Central Scotland. A continuation of this strike will make prospects of success remote... Only 65% of the steel making capacity of our EEC partners is currently being used. About 20,000 French steel workers face early redundancy. Similar problems exist in Germany, Belgium, and Italy. Bankruptcies among European steelmakers are becoming inevitable. To secure its position as best it can, every steel company in the world is engaged in a struggle to sell its products into every market in the world. The UK is one of the prime targets.... Hundreds of millions of pounds of public money nevertheless continues to be poured into investment in the corporation in an unprecedented attempt to give it the competitive strength to survive. But at the same time imports continue to flood into the UK market, threatening and, indeed destroying the jobs of British steel-workers. Strikes like the present one at Port Talbot cripple the efforts which we and the corporation have jointly made, and are continuing to make, to help the British steel industry to survive."
- 18 April 1977: EEC's 9 Foreign Ministers meet in London. Whilst Britain competes against French industry, it is firm in its opposition to some EC efforts to rebuke French military intervention over its mineral industries in Shaba. French Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud declares that Britain, Federal Germany and Belgium were informed *before* the Franco-Moroccan-Senegalese airlift of troops and hence can have no cause for complaint. Britain opposes criticism of French actions, fearing such criticism might rebound on itself. The final statement only questions the "absence of consultation" within the EEC.
- 19 April 1977: Labour Minister notes the benefit of mass unemployment for sustaining armed forces: "We do not expect to have any difficulty in the coming year in achieving our targets for soldier recruiting with the exception of a few specialised technician employments. It will, in fact, be necessary... to apply a high degree of selectivity in accepting recruits... Because of the present buoyant

level of recruiting, we have been able to reduce considerably the expenditure on television and national Press advertising. A certain minimum level of advertising is, of course, necessary... we shall be concentrating effort in the coming months on those [specialised technician] areas where there is still room for improvement in the level of recruiting."

Hard-right MP Col Sir Harwood Harrison approves: "I have always thought that it is much better to get a man who is in the Army already to sign on for a further period than to have any raw recruit... information about recruiting is therefore a very good sign."

- 19 April 1977: Labour Minister stresses the effort in the six counties: "there has been no reduction at all in the Armed Forces in Northern Ireland... a total force level of 14 major units of the combat arms. There are also SAS, engineer, signals, aviation, transport, military police and administrative and logistic support units. Numerically, the total Army strength is about 14,000, excluding the UDR. The Government have no plans to reduce the present force level."
- 19 April 1977: Conservative MP Philip Goodhart congratulates the Labour government on "good news. Recruitment seems to be going well. In the early 1960s, the principal feature of Army debates centred on the question of whether we could get sufficient officers and men to match our commitments. We can now leave that particular subject in a few sentences, partly because our commitments have been cut [i.e. passed onto neocolonial allies]... partly because of unemployment." He states: "the high level of unemployment that affects so much of this country is concentrated with tragic force on the age groups from which the Army traditionally recruits most heavily. That has meant that the Army can afford to be highly selective in those it recruits."
- 20 April 1977: Amnesty International issues a report on human rights abuses in Turkey. It doesn't mention the detainees under art 141 of the Constitution in Diyarbakir prison, but details other significant repeated military and police terror. British media largely ignore details of the growing repression.
- 20 April 1977: As part of the British Aerospace-led Star consortium the magnetospheric research satellite, Geo, is launched on its first test.
- 22 April 1977: Britain grants independence to the Solomon Islands.
- 22-30 April 1977: Bravo oil rig in Norweigan Ekofisk region blowout leads to a week long uncontrolled oil spillage over the central North Sea.

- 23 April 1977: Ethiopia finally moves to close down CIA and Western intelligence gathering post Kagnew Bay.
- 23 April 1977: Thomas Passmore, Grand Master of the Orange Order in Belfast, attacks the UUAC and Paisley over plans for another loyalist lockout. He alleges a member of the UUAC had been involved in discussions with IRA, disrupting their organisation to fend off rumours. The VUP and UUP also oppose lockout action. since it is convinced. The centre ground of loyalist unionism remains pro-government unlike 1974, since it is clear the unionist veto is not in danger, power-sharing is very remote and there are no pronouncements even hinting that that the British state was considering withdrawal from Ireland. The action becomes one over a demand for stronger state security arrangements.
- 24 April 1977: Chancellor Healey addresses USDAW Conference: "A wages explosion would not only send up the price of good<; we produce at home, it would send the pound plummeting down again and send up the cost of goods we import from abroad... it would send interests rates once again through the roof with disastrous effects on industry, and on people with mortgages or hire-purchase commitments. He says the first objective in TUC-Government negotiations must be to see that the guidelines laid down for 1977 are stuck to, he claims it would be unfair and not correct to fight for higher pay whilst others have already settled well within limits. The second objective was to stick to the fundamental rule that there must be a 12-month interval between settlements. "It would be fatal if the idea got round that once July 31 is over everyone was free to re-open agreements already made... That would mean the father and mother of all wage explosions. Sticking to the existing rules about phase two is a pre-condition for getting back to collective bargaining without disaster." The objective for Phase 3, he claims must be what the TUC agreed to in 1976 TUC Conference and Feb 1977 TUC economic review - "a single figure pay/prices equation."
- 24 April 1977: Malaysia Grand Prix sees a race-car plough into spectators. 6 children are killed, others injured. International Automobile Federation conducts an investigation but does not recommend suspension of the race.
- 24 April 1977: Prince Charles makes a live TV appeal broadcast on BBC and ITV to encourage young people to serve their community (as unpaid volunteers). He offers some unknown sum from the Queen's Jubilee Appeal. He is interviewed by Noel Edmonds at Windsor Castle.

He states: "I feel there is some alternative to bashing each other up at football matches or whatever it is. It's just a question of getting them involved in more exciting things... The persons I would like to get through to are the ones who don't normally get involved in voluntary organisations or youth clubs. I happen to feel that you can involve more of the difficult type of young person whom one doesn't normally get through to through the medium of the existing youth organisations. These are the people I would particularly like to appeal to and to get at and to involved because I think a lot of them are looking for kicks in some way or another and the kicks can be directed in a useful way rather than perhaps a more destructive way."

He refers to his activities at Gordonstoun: "You can't force people to do it but at least it offers them an alternative. If one or two people went and did this sort of thing and found it was exciting and worthwhile they might convey their enthusiasm and the point of the whole thing to their colleagues.... I often feel that in urban areas there is a distinct lack of facilities for younger people."

He explains that from his education at Gordonstoun: "I am a hopeless individual because I happen to enjoy an element of adventure and danger. I think that if you occasionally live dangerously it helps you to appreciate life. Not only that you discover your own abilities which perhaps you did not know were there."

24 April 1977: Dutch pilots formalise their backing of the Bristow workers. President of the Dutch Helicopter Pilots' Association, Hans Gompelnan, phones the Aberdeen strike committee announces Dutch pilots have not been servicing any Bristow contracts and will not apply for work in the UK.

24 April 1977: Urging support for a Stage 3 policy in July 1977, Chancellor admits it is the key to tackle "the rise in inflation we have seen in recent months has meant a steady fall in living standards for the British people as a whole—a bigger fall than we have had to endure at any other time since the war" (USDAW Conference, 24 Apr 1977)

26 April 1977: Following an explosion that killed a worker in Oct 1976, 3 workers are seriously injured in a blast at the Nobel Explosives Company in Ardeer, Scotland. The following day workers in the propellent section refuse to work until assurances are given over safety. Trade union rep assures them to return to work. 8 workers leave the propellent section over May 1977, according to management figures.

27 April 1977: "Walter Patterson came with a group from Friends of the Earth and a photographer, to present a letter asking the government to give them money to prepare their case for the Planning Inquiry... They knew that I couldn't consent... I said the government did not give money to political parties or pressure groups... last March, I had authorised the go-ahead on technical grounds of the expansion at Windscale. Although I wasn't able to help them very much at least in this country nuclear protestors can come and talk to the Minister as friends instead of being beaten down by riot police as in Germany."

27 April 1977: The first official electoral announcement for the Spanish general elections in a British newspaper is made – precisely 39 days too late for any registrations. Only about 900 of London's 35,000 Spanish migrants have been registered to vote in time. Many of Spain's 1,500,000 migrant workers and refugees from the Franco era in Europe are entirely unable to participate. More generally avowedly republican parties remain proscribed and a shole host of action is brought to bear against half-republican regionalist parties.

27 April 1977: Police Federation Scotland warns of strike action to Scottish Under-Secretary Harry Ewing: "We are frustrated, we are angry, we are at the end of the road. Unless a solution is found, not in months, not in weeks but in days, I request you [Ewing] to inform the Secretary of State [Rees] that he will have on his bands in the police service an industrial situation of such dimensions that I cringe from the consequences."

9 out of the around 250 Police Fed delegates even walk out as Ewing arrives to address them, later issue a statement: "We intended no disrespect to Mr Ewing, but we feel we have been snubbed by the Government, who apparently consider they have other issues more important than the welfare and efficiency of the Scottish police, as is manifested by the absence of the Scottish Secretary."

28 April 1977: UPI travel reporter examines US tourists to Britain, US Travel Service predicting 23.8million Americans to travel abroad in 1977, a 3% increase compared to 1976: "Regardless of what happens here [in USA], all indications point to a boom in foreign travel despite increases in most travel-related expenditures... an informal survey of US travel agents in March showed that Great Britain, which is observing the Silver Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth's reign, will capture the lion's shore of American travellers... John Bertram, U.S. chairman of the 23-member European Travel Commission, predicted a record 4 million Americans will visit one or more of the West European countries before the end of 1977. The

previous high was in 1973, before the worldwide energy crisis, when 3.8 million Americans vacationed in the British Isles and on the continent. Bertram sold surveys indicated the big surge is based mainly on promotional fares of the scheduled airlines and the U.S. government's new liberal regulations on charters."

28-29 April 1977: IMF Interim Committee endorses the conclusions for harder re-adjustment plans as worked out by its Executive Board. It recommends changes to structures of economies as well as relatively short-term fiscal and monetary measures should be applied. main features. It also sets up a new facility to assist Thir World nations, since so many are facing collapse after sustained recession in the Western world, in meeting needs for supplementary assistance. (In non-OPEC Africa combined current account deficit increases from \$5 billion to \$6 billion from 1976 to 1977) It envisions stand-by arrangements covering periods longer than one year. It also urges the Managing Director [Witteveen] to complete discussions with potential lenders from the Middle East. (Communiqué of the Interim Committee, Apr 29 1977)

29 April 1977: British Aerospace BAe is formed. Unlike many other instances of nationalisation, the constituent firms were profitable beforehand. It secures over £1bn of export orders in 1977 alone.

29 April 1977: <u>Investor's Chronicle</u> reports "Although the chairman of Royal Worcester, Sir Ronald Fairfield, does not mention the phrase 'Silver Jubilee' in his latest report it is that event which should ensure another set of encouraging results for the group this year"

30 April 1977: A spill from a North Sea platform releases more than 20,000 metric tons of crude oil.

30 April 1977: Danny McCooey is brutally beaten by a British Army patrol, causing his death. His friend describes the beating: ""As we passed, a soldier said, 'Go on you Irish bastards!' He kept calling me an Irish bastard ... I saw another rifle butt getting swung but it missed me and must have hit Danny about the stomach because he fell to the ground, screaming, 'My stomach, my stomach!' I went to his aid... but they arrested me. The cops had arrived by now. I was put in the back of a jeep. Two [British soldiers] went to where Danny was lying, picked him up, half-dragged him to the jeep and then threw him in the back next to me. He was crying about his stomach. ... We were taken to the barracks at the Grand Central Hotel. Danny was dragged away. About ten minutes later I heard him screaming. I never saw Danny again."

He is taken unconscious from the barracks to the City Hospital and then to the Royal Victoria Hospital. He is bleeding internally, his stomach has collapsed and there is a lung puncture. He dies 20 days later. A soldier is later charged for manslaughter but acquitted, the judge declaring he "did what he instinctively thought was necessary in the moment" (An Phoblacht, 15 Jan 2004)

May 1977: <u>Midland Bank Review</u> declares of the partial growth figures as a result of pay restraint: "Economic miracles seem at a discount, and the prospect is for no more than a minor upturn in a long recession."

May 1977: A fairly routine experience in Bethnal Green that leads to the rise of limited forms of minority self-defence: "The family moved in a sofa and cooker to Tidey Street. On their return they found the entire flat daubed with racist slogans (\*NF. Black Bastards, monkeys', etc.) Within three weeks all the windows in the flat had been broken by outsiders. The family car was vandalised and bottles and stones were hurled at the family daily. The father was attacked by gangs of white youths on three to four occasions. The gang also threatened to kill the small children on the one occasion they were allowed out of the flat to play. Police phoned the family many times during this period, but, according to the family, took little action. They are believed to have advised the family to catch the culprits themselves, whereupon the Police would assist them in taking out a private summons. The family then complained to the local community relations officer who arranged for a senior Police officer to visit them. The officer duly visited the family and undertook to protect its members. The same evening the home was stoned by a gang of youths. The police arrived two hours after being called." (Bethnal Green and Stepney Trades Council, Blood on the Streets, pp66-7)

May 1977: British Housewives' League reflects harder-right opposition to the Common Market with chairwoman Joyce Mew's letter to Thatcher and its response printed in full in the month's Housewives Today: "Dear Madam, We note the interesting figures just released from Brussels showing a sharp decline in British enthusiasm for the Common Market. "Looking again at the pamphlet put out by the Government (and endorsed by the Conservatives and the Liberals) before the Referendum in 1975... The problems of the fishing industry did not receive so much as a mention.... the Common Market was eager for access to our more profitable zones. As matters stand at present, by 1982, other nationals will be able to fish right up to our very shores. None of this was made clear before the Referendum. ... There was also nothing - repeat, nothing - in the 'prospectus' to suggest that federalisation was imminent. We therefore demand that any

approach towards political integration with the Common Market, either by means of direct elections to the Community Assembly, or by any other more devious methods, be disallowed." (signed 7 Feb 1977)

Thatcher "and the Shadow Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr. John Davies, are pressing the Government to introduce direct elections to the European Parliament as soon as possible. When direct elections take place it will be easier for British representatives to monitor the activities of the Brussels bureaucracy in a more democratic manner and I would hope that many of the anxieties, which you express, would be allayed as a result. Mrs. Thatcher has never suggested that Britain's membership of the Community is a total panacea to our economic problems. These difficulties have been caused by an incompetent Socialist Government, and it is our view that the return of a Conservative Government will aid Britain's recovery. But I can give you no undertaking that Mrs. Thatcher, as Prime Minister, would urge for Britain's withdrawal from the European Community" (Private Office, 7 Mar 1977)

May 1977: Mary Whitehouse publishes Whatever happened to sex?' arguing for a return to a sense of guilt over sex: "Respect for women and for the family, lies at the heart of the Christian faith, so that when we destroy the one, the other dies too. Remove a sense of guilt and the consciousness of sin disappears. Without an awareness of sin, one feels no need for redemption. And without man's need of redemption, the Cross itself becomes meaningless and superfluous."

May 1977: Ministry of Defence sells equipment and services to the Shah in a deal estimated at over £200mil, part of this involves "anti-terrorist and counter-terrorist expertise and equipment" from northern Ireland. More generally "the personnel of half-a-dozen anti-terrorist agencies have been on liaison or 'secondment' tours of duty in the North, as have the boffins and the product-testers of a wide range of espionage equipment." (Irish Times 27 Apr 1978)

May 1977: The month's <u>Town and Country Planning</u> features Prof Robert Self: "The local authorities have been working to shore up the collapsed market in rented housing, through acquisition and rehabilitation, or improvement schemes and grants. Sometimes they have done particular projects reasonably well, but their resources, energies and bureaucratic methods have been quite unequal to coping with the massive dereliction and underuse of private properties... There are the numerous pieces of open land publicly acquired or awaiting acquisition but apparently doomed to dereliction until resources suffice for the housing, roads, open space or whatever else the plan eventually intends. Here again ... the responsibilities of local authorities have run well ahead of their resources and versatility ... "The fate of the inner city in this period

of transformation has turned almost exclusively upon the efforts of local authorities, which on the whole have lacked the resources, speed, understanding, flexibility and imagination to respond successfully; nor have they known how to help people to help themselves." The situation of dereliction and abandonment is so severe that centre-right forces mount an effective backlash campaign where "any investment is good investment" turning over land to private firms for private gain under 'development zones'.

May 1977: 43 TGWU members, including shop steward, Phil Gillett, employees of Sandersons (Fork-Lifts) in Skegness are sacked. Prior to the sacking TGWU has invoked sec.11 of the Employment Protection Act, bringing ACAS to gain recognition of the union. ACAS, having conducted а ballot among the recommends the company recognise the TGWU, its ballot showing a clear majority in favour of union membership. The firm has refused all ACAS offers and continues production with 22 strikebreaker antitrade unionists. Phil Gillett of the company states: "We earned £40 for a 40-hour week, while other firms in Skegness were paying £65."

May 1977: A shopsteward for NATTKE, National Association of Theatrical, Television and Kine Employees, is dismissed at the National Theatre. A strike covers most of the theatre's operation including forcing management, led by Peter Hall, to relent.

- 1 May 1977: PBS screens the Upstairs, Downstairs grand finale 2-hour live coast-to-coast telecast and telethon from Boston. It features Alistair Cooke, the Letter from America journalist, who has introduced the historical context for non-British viewers before each episode as the host. 'Upstairs. Downstairs Farewell: A Million Dollar Party' also features some of the actors pleading for telephone donations to raise contributions from viewers for PBS. It takes the form of a popularity contest to determine which cast the "Upstairs" or the "Downstairs" will win. Unsurprisingly, no explanation of the costs of purchasing the series is broadcast.
- 1 May 1977: In a May Day special, Prof Alan Day estimates in <u>The Observer</u> that after allowing for inflation, the take-home pay of an average male employee in 1977 is close to 10% below the level of 1973.
- 1 May 1977: 42 are killed, over 130 injured as a result of rightists opening fire, attempting to pick out DISK banners, on a mass 500,000-strong demonstration marking May Day in central Istanbul. (30 yıl sonra kanlı 1 Mayıs, Radikal, 2 May 2007, Ertugrul Mavioglu)

The shooters fire from the roof of the Intercontinental Hotel, owned by ITT, and disappear without ever facing justice. Leftists of various stripes 'anarchists' and 'Maoists' are blamed for the massacre leading to a swift round up of over 500 leftists. Around 98 are charged. In fact the documentary evidence is quite clear that police forces have been stationed on the top floor of the International Hotel. (1 Mayıs 1977 katliamı öncesinde The Marmara'ya polislerin yerleştirildiği belgelendi, Sol, 23 Apr 2012)

- 1 May 1977: After a year of constant military assault upon Sahrawi people, POLISARIO finally attacks neo-colonial Mauritanian target feeding the Franco-Mauritanian war machine, striking at the SNIM (Societe Nationale Industrielle et Miniere, that controls small arms production, explosives, mining, oil and metal industries in Mauritania) complex in Zouirat, taking 6 French technicians hostages, with 2 killed in a gunfight, to stop Western support of the war in West Sahara.
- 1 May 1977: Sadat's Egypt announces its provision of military supplies and technical assistance to Zaire.
- 2 May 1977: Organised by Tony Iveson, public relations officer at Grosvenor House, a dinner for over 700 Bomber Command air and ground crew is held featuring an 84-year old Bomber Harris.
- 2 May 1977: ACAS meets Alan Bristow, owner of Bristow helicopters, to examine employment conditions.
- 2 May 1977: RN's first anti-submarine warfare cruiser the 16000 tonne HMS Invincible, an aircraft carrier with 9 helicopters and 5 vertical take off jets on board, is launched by the Queen at Barrow-in-Furness, Lancashire. The ship contains 4 Rolls-Royce Olympus gas turbine engines similar to those used in Concorde. It is the largest ship the Royal Navy has commissioned since the 1950s.
- 2 May 1977: Gerry Gable, researcher at LWT writes a memorandum to producers suggesting he can retrieve intelligence information from several foreign intelligence agencies.
- 3 May 1977: Ian Paisley attacks "lewd, immoral, foul-mouthed, drunken MPs who are mouthing about Ulster" by opposing the DUP-UUUP-UDA lockout.
- 3 May 1977: Evening Standard reports, accidentally the Queen's recession and inflation proof capital stock: "The Queen owns the finest private collection of works of art to be found anywhere in the world"
- 4 May 1977: Police storm into Kenya's Parliament once again, to arrest and imprison George Anyona MP. His main crime is tabling

questions and documents in Parliament noting that the British High commissioner in collusion with Omolo-Okero, Njonjo and Bruce McKenzie work to suspend a Kenyan government Ksh200 million (US\$25million) tender for railway spare parts because its winner a Canadian firm is the wrong one from the British point of view.

- 4 May 1977: Indonesian Air Force Chief of Staff. Air Marshal Saleh Basareh announces it is considering the US Northrop F5E as a new fighter plane, maximum speed of Mach1.6, armed with cannon, rockets or bombs.
- 4 May 1977: UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim predicts a major global financial catastrophe if developing countries continue to borrow money on the present scale. "The developing countries cannot to on forever borrowing money in the developed countries became this will lead to a catastrophe, a disaster of incredible dimensions" at the biennial conference of the UN's Economic Commission for Latin America.
- 4 May 1977: Andy Tyrie, UDA leader and member of the UUAC, appeals for members of the UDA to 'cool it' after several bus drivers defying the loyalist lockout call are shot dead.
- 4 May 1977: Queen gives her Silver Jubilee address to Parliament: of progress, the problems complexities administration, the feeling that Metropolitan Government is too remote from the lives of ordinary men and women, these among other things have helped to revive an awareness of historic national identities in these Islands. They provide the background for the continuing and keen discussion of proposals for devolution to Scotland and Wales within the United Kingdom. I number Kings and Queens of England and of Scotland, and Princes of Wales among my ancestors and so I can readily understand these aspirations. But I cannot forget that I was crowned Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Perhaps this Jubilee is a time to remind ourselves of the benefits which Union has conferred, at home and in our international dealings, on the inhabitants of all parts of this United Kingdom." It is precisely crafted to pressure Scottish, Welsh and Irish republicans.
- 5 May 1977: President Carter arrives in Newcastle United Kingdom. Callaghan turns Carter's walkabout into a press opportunity.
- 6 May 1977: EMI releases a Buddy Holly tribute album Holly Days, recorded at Paul' McCartney's Rude Studios in Scotland, with Paul McCartney as sole producer. It is a means to boost profits to cover McCartney's purchase of Holly's back catalogue.

- 6 May 1977: Having been encouraged not to tarnish Zaire's reputation in the West, Mobutu orders the release of the 7 foreign journalists arrested in mid-April, a 4-man Spanish television crew, 2 <u>Die Stern</u> journalists and Colin Smith of <u>The Observer</u>.
- 6 May 1977: US President Carter continues talks with Callaghan, declaring at Woolsington Airport, Newcastle: "My only suggestion to Jim Callaghan for improving this visit is to bring the leaders of the other five nations up here to northern England instead of going back to London for the summit conference. ... I think to see here in the industrial region of England the quiet competence to produce goods that go around the world is a symbol of the strength of Great Britain."
- 6 May 1977: Ballylumford power workers are visited by Harry West, UUP anti-UUAC, and Ian Paisley, DUP pro-UUAC. They vote two thirds against halting power supply.
- 6 May 1977 pm: Roy Mason meets a delegation led by Harry West, UUP leader including representatives from the Orange Order, industrialists, large farmers and businessmen. They demand tougher 'security measures' and reveal afterwards the government will re-examine engagement and shoot-to-kill policies.
- 6 May 1977: British Leyland Cars Council the joint management-trade union structure issues a report <u>Cars Council: The Options for Leyland Cars</u>, noting that the work pace has dropped since the era of piece work and it proposes new forms of incentive tied to production in order to raise productivity: "Productivity must be improved now. Where people are not giving a reasonable level of performance they must do so. ... We have to see... that stoppages of work are virtually eliminated." (Inside Cowley: Trade Union Struggle in the 1970s, Alan Thornet p97)
- 7- 8 May 1977: Callaghan meets with Prime Ministers and Presidents of Canada, France, Federal Germany, Italy, Japan, and U.S.A and EEC Commissioner Jenkins. It is the first official meeting, meeting of the Seven Industrial Powers. It begins the set up of a common Western front for international negotiations over international aid facility negotiations:

Giscard: "The North-South dialogue had both an economic and a political character. It had first been broached in 1974, when the choice lay between a strategy of confrontation and a strategy of cooperation.... the more moderate ones like Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, had adopted a more reasonable posture.... He believed that it was important to encourage the more moderate oil producers, since if the North/South dialogue failed the more radical oil producers would rapidly gain the upper hand....

On development aid, President Giscard recalled that the central demand of the developing countries had been an automatic relief of the debt burden. It had also been right to reject this, and to put forward instead proposals for special aid designed to improve the situation on a case by case basis." [presumably to divide and hence weaken overall Third World opposition]...

President Giscard asked what we should try to obtain in return from the developing countries? He hoped that there would be periodic consultation on energy questions, such as oil prices, in the CIEC forum, and that we would also be able to secure principles to protect our investment in the developing countries. Apart from these main points for decision in principle, we also needed to decide whether to say anything following this meeting about the inadequacy of development aid. The poorer countries were getting poorer, and he did not believe that the level of aid, at 0.7% of GDP, was an acceptable level (ie likely to make any material difference). Callaghan: "thanked President Giscard for his introduction, and pointed out that it was not possible or appropriate to take decisions about the CIEC at this meeting. We must not appear to be functioning as the Rich Club, although we could agree among ourselves on our common attitude in G8. President Giscard had reminded the meeting of the confrontational atmosphere which had existed in 1974 and 1975, and there was a risk that we would face similar confrontation in future.... What was needed was some Special Action [from USA] to give the impression that something was being done in the CIEC....

He agreed that we needed to commit ourselves to do more in Development Aid, but in such a way as not to jeopardise the functioning of the world's economic and financial system as a whole. We must remember that oil prices and commodity prices were part of the current structural crisis.... Before leaving for this meeting, he had told the German people in a broadcast that they needed to make sacrifices; but in return, he believed that we must try to achieve some stability and guarantees for the future, eg in terms of security for investment. Otherwise, the levels of private investment would decrease even further.... The OPEC countries must shoulder some responsibility, and he agreed that the Saudis had been a helpful and moderating influence....

He did not believe that we had yet seen the peak of the structural crisis; other commodity crises, eg over uranium, were still to come. Most of our economies, particularly in Europe, would not be able to stand the further strain. Our peoples would no longer accept that these problems were insurmountable and would vote their Governments out of office, to turn to others such as the Communists. We had to help the developing countries, rather than please them."

Jenkins urges continued economic assault on the Third World: "It was important to make the CIEC a success, and he hoped that we could do so without harming ourselves.... The first essential was to

establish a united front in the G8, and positions were already fairly close.... there was a need to reach agreement in Paris on a study of a Stabex [Stabilisation of Export Earnings] Scheme, perhaps to be undertaken by the Development Committee of the IMF and the World Bank.... it was important to shift the argument away from the idea of a Debt Moratorium.... the failure of the CIEC could have a direct effect on oil prices, and indirect political consequences. [Jenkins] thought it important to ensure that a conference in which the Saudis had played a significant role should succeed."

"President Carter agreed with Chancellor Schmidt that we should try to get the LDCs to agree not to confiscate property without adequate compensation. He was very eager to sell all these ideas in the United States, but thought that we needed a comprehensive analysis first.... President Giscard said that \$1 billion was not very much; if we told the developing world that this was something which we would otherwise have spent elsewhere, there would be a storm at the end of the CIEC. [Healey] said that we had been required by the IMF to reduce our public expenditure in real terms, but were always being asked, on the other hand, to spend more on defence or aid. We therefore kept a reserve which could be made available, as in this case, for additional funds."

Callaghan commends Carter's resistance to protectionism: "The fact was that governments risked being voted out of office. The United States Administration had resisted very strong pressure for protectionist measures and this had been very useful for us in facing a situation where our own industries had been nearly wrecked."

Jenkins calls for the communiqué to assist extraction of trade concessions from the Third World: "there were two points which he thought should be included. First, in a situation where strong pressures were being exerted on governments, he thought that there was a need to turn back the tide towards protectionism and to move forward with the MTNs. Secondly, there was a need to give more impetus to the [GATT] negotiations."

Carter agrees: "The communiqué must not insinuate that factories were closing because of increased world trade. The United States was trying to boost its economy, and he regarded this as crucial for world prosperity."

Canada and Italy largely agree to proposals of the Big Five." Trudeau: "Both President Giscard and Mr. Macdonald had rightly made the point that if we did not find this money willingly, it would be taken from us unwillingly through rising oil prices."

[Italian Foreign Minister] Stammati: 'Carter had referred to the idea of inviting the East Europeans to join the IMF, and he agreed that this was very desirable.'"

- 7 May 1977: Sinn Fein's <u>The Volunteer</u> defends the role of a guerrilla campaign on the mainland in order for the public "to question the role of the British army in Ireland and whether continued British rule in NI helped the continuation of the conflict" (Lurgan, PSF, 7 May 1977)
- 7 May 1977: Financial Times reports "Brewers' shares are a hot tip as well, not just because "the brewers have been bringing out special Jubilee ales on which they have been patriotically slapping high profit margins" and as a result of the 4-day weekend with specially extended licensing hours.
- 7 May 1977: 4 Unionist MPs Robert Bradford, William Craig, James Molyneaux and Harold McCusker visit Ballylumford power station, near Larne, reminding the workforce that concessions have been won from the government over 'security measures' and warning not be intimidated by armed loyalists' but to seek out the support of the RUC.
- 7 May 1977: Clash perform at the Rainbow Theatre, London. Stage damage and seating damage results. Manager of the Rainbow says CBS have covered costs. "We expected some damage and arrangements were made to cover the cost"
- Joe Strummer later asserts: "We're not just another wank rock group like Boston or Aerosmith", then suggests even later: "We were guitar playing drug addicts. I'd like to think the Clash were revolutionaries but we loved a bit of posing as well. Where's the hair gel? We can't start the revolution 'til someone finds the hair gel!"
- 7 May 1977: <u>Sounds</u> magazine reviews punk music from Ireland with anti-Irish humour: "Irish punks? Will it start 'one, tree, faw, two?"
- 7 May 1977: Paul Weller tells NME older people do damage to rock music: "You can't play rock'n'roll with a beer gut." Weller himself continues to perform rock music.
- 8 May 1977: Queen Elizabeth watches a motorcade of 500 Rolls Royces in Windsor to coincide with the Seven Industrial Powers Meeting.
- 8 May 1977: President Carter attends a service at London's Westminster Abbey alongside Callaghan, prior to the Seven Industrial Powers Meeting. In the discussions Callaghan stresses In the danger of another recession because of the problem of deficits caused by oil surpluses of OPEC countries, estimated at \$45bn in 1977.
- 8 May 1977: Over 100 are arrested in Wolverhumpton as street fights between Wolverhampton Wanderers and Chelsea supporters

break out. 18 are arrested in Bristol, where Manchester United play Bristol City.

8 May 1977: Independent referendum in the French territory of 'Afars-Issas' sees an overwhelming vote for independence as Djibouti. Simultaneous elections for a National Assembly see much reduced turnouts.

9 May 1977: The Times gives space to IEA champion Arthur Seldon to write another hagiographic account of Hayek: "Hayek yesterday spent his 78th birthday travelling from Guatemala, where he had been at the Universidad Francisco Maroquin, to New York, on his way to Cornell University. During this month he will also be at Pennsylvania State College (for a conference on Cognition and the Symbolic Processes) and in California. In the last few months of 1976 he was in New Zealand, Australia and Japan. The other day he was in London between a conference of economists in Amsterdam ... and the Biennial International Monetary Conference of the Deutsche Bundesbank in Frankfurt. His travels indicate the world demand for his wide ranging intellectual expositions.... [long account of Hayek's intellectual adventures since the 1930s] a second honorific volume, Essays on Hayek, in 1976 contains chapters by two economists, an economist-historian, a political scientist and a philosopher. In a review article headed "Homage to Hayek" in Roads to Freedom, Professor Sir Arnold Plant spoke of the qualities he displayed in their early days at the LSE: "I can testify from personal experience to the immense stimulus and direction which Hayek gave to economic research in the 1930s, not only in London and economics faculties throughout the United Kingdom, but also in the international world of scholarship."... Together these men of learning have analysed Hayek's work as scholarly, original, fertile, penetrating and wideranging.... Havek's more recent thinking on two-tier government to facilitate resistance to pressure groups that frustrate the pursuit of the general interest may be given more attention now that he is seen as having been vindicated on unemployment and inflation. ... he remains a liberal of the British classical tradition that has nurtured the most civilized societies of the world.... Scholars around the world have individually honoured Hayek for the debt they owe him in enlightening their sciences. He has honoured his chosen country."

Rightist newspaper opinion only considers him "vindicated on unemployment and inflation". Hayek's ideas for 2-tiered government are similar to the measures already in effect in the Soviet Union and brought in across militarist Latin America, where after general elections elect a large set of representatives, these representatives then elect a new set of decision makers to further insulate democracy.

- 9 May 1977: CBI representatives meet Callaghan in a secret meeting. Barrie Heath, chief of GKN, member of the Bullock Committee makes fairly specific threats of a breakdown in industrial relations and that the rapid slide down of the UK's economic position more generally, when shopfloor conflicts enter boardroom discussions as envisioned by the Bullock Majority Report. He asserts joint union representation will constrain decision-making, especially in areas of investment and inward investment by foreign firms. (PREM 16/1326, Meeting with CBI, 9 May, 1977)
- 9 May 1977 pm: Management of the Burton textiles group tell union leaders and senior shop stewards in a private meeting of plans for redundancies. Around 1400 workers (out of 6000) are to be made redundant. The entire plant at Warrington is to close. Severe cutbacks are to occur in Leeds, Bolton and Walkden, Lancashire.
- 10-11 May 1977: North Atlantic Council of NATO meets in London on with the participation of heads of state and government. President Carter states: "The collective deterrent strength of our Alliance is effective. But it will only remain so if we work to improve it. The United States is prepared to make a major effort to this end ... in the expectation that our allies will do the same... The United States will maintain an effective strategic nuclear deterrent. We will keep diverse and modern nuclear forces in Europe and we will maintain and improve conventional forces based here. We will remain a reliable and faithful ally."
- 10 May 1977: At a roadblock outside Ballymena Ian Paisley, Ernest Baird, and other members of the UUAC are arrested. Paisley is charged with obstruction of the highway and then released. In Toomebridge, Co. Antrim a roadblock by farmers supporting the UUAC is attacked by local republicans. In the following disturbances the farm vehicles are pushed into the River Bann and the blockade is dispersed.
- 10 May 1977: Talks between delegations of the Western powers Britain, France, Canada, United States and Federal Germany and representatives of factions in Namibia begin in Windhoek. This is termed the Namibia Contact group the 3 permanent Western veto-holder plus 2 Western Security Council members at the time. US position: "The more intense the conflict in Namibia became the greater the risk... the Cubans would be engaged directly in the fighting. If a Cuban-South African conflict spilled over into Rhodesia, as we believe(d) it could, there would be a war along race lines in southern Africa in which we would be virtually powerless to prevent immense damage to American political, economic and strategic

interests...Without a strategy for achieving Namibian independence, the Western nations would soon be faced with the dilemma of how to respond to African demands for mandatory sanctions against South Africa. If there were no credible negotiating initiative the Africans would be able to force a Security Council vote. We would then either damage our relations with black Africa by vetoing the resolution, or, by approving it, destroy the negotiating process and harm important Western interests." (\* pp. 274-5)

- 10 May 1977: More than 100 students from the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama in Glasgow, dressed in black with pall bearers carrying a coffin with the inscription "Education RIP" hold a mock funeral protest. They march to the Scottish Office, New St Andrew's House, Edinburgh.
- 11 May 1977: George Robertson, chairman of the Scottish Council of the Labour Party at the annual conference of BAWU in Montrose, says any independence for Scotland will mean a dangerous "transition period.. and this could and would be uncomfortable. Uncomfortable means upheaval, disorganisation, all the chaos and costs of the rupturing of centuries old commercial and industrial links. I believe that Scotland derives great benefits, social, political, industrial from the Untied Kingdom and we dare not forget it for unless we in the Labour and trade union movement reassert our faith in our British connection and our fundamental interest in a British-wide movement of working people then the constant drip of the separatist propaganda will be allowed to succeed"
- 11 May 1977: US Federal Court lifts the restriction imposed against Concorde landing in New York state.
- 11 May-2 June 1977: Goldsmiths' Hall, London, hosts a special exhibition on jubilees, concentrating on Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, King George's Silver Jubilee and the Queen's Silver Jubilee. It later travels across the country to be housed in various public buildings.
- 12 May 1977: Minister of State at the Northern Ireland Office (NIO), defends the British government's security policy in Northern Ireland.
- 13 May 1977: Australian millionaire Kerry Packer announces a set of 35 mercenary players including Britain's Tony Greig and Greg Chappell, to play in an exclusive TV-rights league in Australia.
- 13 May 1977: Foreign Secretary, Dr David Owen holds talks with King Khalid in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

- 13 May 1977: Military looting and pillage steps up as Moroccan, mercenary and Zairean armed forces retake FNLC-controlled territory in Shaba/Katanga. Virtually no reporting takes place of these incidents, the victims are Congolese peasants of various ethnicities. This is in contrast to the extensive reporting of trapped European expatriates in Elisabethville.
- 13 May 1977: British Steel Corporation wins 2 export contracts to the value of £5mil against stiff foreign competition, in Greece. The specialist steel will be for billets designed for re-rolling in a new mill near Volos, Magnezia.
- 13 May 1977: R. B. Smith, chairman of Wimpey says the firm has secured a satisfactory workload in the face of severe competition in an ongoing construction stagnation. He says property activities in Canada and the Middle East will lessen "the impact of the declining UK construction market". He attacks government plans to extend the powers of local authority direct labour forces. He claims firms' abilities to operate overseas "where success is almost entirely dependent on people whose competence has already been proven on projects in the UK" will be seriously affected. (Large projects must go to private firms or else)
- 14 May 1977: John Pollock, general secretary of EIS states the strike by 500 janitors and cleaners at 30 Strathclyde schools is "highly irresponsible" and should be ended.
- 14-15 May 1977: Foreign Secretary Owen, attends the CENTO Foreign Ministers Summit in Tehran. CENTO Council of Ministers sees plans for new joint radar systems discussed but blocked by Turkey since it remains angry over the continued US arms embargo (imposed following war with fellow NATO partner, Greece, over Cyprus).
- 15 May 1977: Hundreds in New York opposed to the pollution and luxury of Concorde hold a go-slow drive protest. They drive their cars meticulously slowly on approach roads to Kennedy Airport, tying up traffic going to the terminals.
- 16 May 1977: Ambassador to US Sir Peter Ramsbotham defends the appointment of Times columnist-Labour speechwriter-son-in-law to Callaghan Peter Jay as his successor: "It is an imaginative appointment. If it had been some chap of my own age I'd have been sad. But I think he'll do a good job. He's brilliant, and not nasty as some young intellectuals can be. And I'm not being heroic in saying this. ... This is a young regime and a similar thing has

been done before, when David Ormsby-Gore was sent to Washington at the start of the Kennedy administration."

- 16 May 1977: Government pulls back from the Michael Foot attack on judges' role in restricting democracy with the Lord Chancellor declaring Foot "was not casting aspersions on any particular judge or any particular decision: he was talking about the past, starting, as he has told me, with the Tolpuddle Martyrs"
- 16 May 1977: Operations at BP's Grangemouth refinery are affected by a strike of Bristow helicopter pilots. Pickets are aiming to reinstate 50 who have sacked for supporting Peter Royston, who himself was sacked for refusing to be posted on an overseas posting before his British—Europe contact was completed.
- 16 May 1977: 4000 maintenance engineers at Heathrow Airport, London announce an overtime ban on night and weekend shift work from May 30 unless British Airways meets their claim.
- 16 May 1977: Government announces the second of 2 government nominees to the board of Chrysler UK is Roy Grantham, APEX (Association of Professional Executive. Clerical and Computer Staff) General secretary, who later withdraws strike pay from Grunwick strikers for conducting effective picketing. He has pledged APEX "will be seeking ways in which to ensure that in the future there will be no violence from either side" although he is powerless against the police, he stops attempts at effective picketing from the strikers.
- 17 May 1977: Ghanaian army, recipients of British military training, orders out large armed vehicles to close Accra university campuses and drive out a sit-in by students.
- 17 May 1977: Chancellor attends CBI Annual Dinner and says "Government and the Trade Union movement are now discussing how ... to achieve a single figure pay-price equation."
- 18 -19 May 1977: All Soviet military experts and dependants leave Sudan and normal Soviet diplomatic figures begin the reduction of normal by half, as ordered by Nimiery's government.
- 18 May 1977: Archie Gilchrist, managing director of Goran Shipbuilders, states 1000 (out of a total of 5500) will be given redundancy notice unless the firm wins a new order by the summer. This is effectively an early plea for government assistance, (threatening a lock-out to secure state funds) before the firm becomes part of the nationalised British Shipbuilders consortium. It aims to secure a subsidy to overcome intense Japanese and ROK competition for an order of up to 12 ships from the Philippines.

- The same day as the speech the 11<sup>th</sup> ship out of an order of 19 for the United Arab Shipping Company from Kuwait is completed, with another completed the following day.
- 18 May 1977: Admiral Sir Anthony Griffin, chairman-designate of British Shipbuilders, the nationalised consortium says it is unlikely that all shipyards in Britain will be able to stay open. He states factors outside their control might dictate events, but that the new firm is already carrying out a world-wide emergency marketing programme to secure as many orders as possible.
- 18 May 1977: Callaghan's wife launches Yarrow Shipbuilders' HMS Battleaxe the Type 22 class frigate for the Royal Navy. It is the 224<sup>th</sup> ship the private firm has produced for the Royal Navy. Vice Admiral Richard Clayton, Controller of the Navy, says Yarrow has been asked to tender for another class frigate to be ordered soon.
- 18 May 1977: Callaghan and Sir Arnold Weinstock, chief of GEC meet to discuss the future of the British power engineering industry at No10. Callaghan assures him on several points of nationalisation taking place.
- 19 May 1977: <u>Socialist Worker</u> reports Maltby Comprehensive in Rotherham has caned for 200 children, since Jan 1977, for walking on grass they have walked on every day for years, as a result of the headmaster's decree that the grass be as green as possible for the Queen's visit as part of her Jubilee tour.
- 19 May 1977: Recently leaked documents from 1976 are published in the <u>Daily Mail</u> headlined as "Amazing truth about Britain's Stateowned car makers". They reveal British Leyland has paid bribes in every continent except North America to promote sales. A contract for buses and trucks in Iraq is secured with a \$1.1mil bribe. Around \$3.5mil has been paid to arranging contracts in Saudi Arabia and Iran. Callaghan later gives in and announces an inquiry into corruption from British Leyland, jewel in the crown of nationalised industry. One of the documents is a forgery cooked up by senior manager Graham Barton, showing the chief executive signing off on payments.
- 19 May 1977: 3 Labour ministers Shirley Williams, Fred Mulley and Dennis Howell join the Grunwick's picket line. Shirley Williams attends for 15 minutes. This attendance becomes a distorted backlash point 'even Shirley Williams goes to Grunwick's where poor downtrodden policemen face violence'. In fact it is police led by SPG that escalate violence against protesters. "Special Patrol Group (SPG) were driving around in their vans kidnapping strikers and

pickets and giving them a beating, causing all kinds of provocations and leading police brutality against mass pickets, when 'ordinary' police were wading into pickets and coming straight out of the Grunwick canteen to launch their attacks." (Lalkar July 2006) Len Murray's line attacks strike supporters as dangerous Trotskyist organisations: "I deprecate attempts by any political organization to move into an industrial relations. situation. In no circumstances would I try to defend the actions of people who attempted to latch on to industrial disputes for their own purposes."

- 19 May 1977: Austin Mitchell makes the national case. Grimby "has been badly battered because of the closure of the Icelandic grounds and the curtailment of our fishing effort in other distant-water grounds. ... we face a real problem of policing and protecting not only our own limits, whatever they may be, but the 270,000 square miles of Common Market fishing waters. This must pose an increasing problem for the Royal Navy I sometimes wonder how adequately it is equipped for this vital rôle. Frigates are obviously invaluable. They have the speed that is necessary to deal with even the fastest of Russian trawlers, but the Icelandic situation showed the limits of the frigates—limits of manoeuvrability and the fact that, like television interviewers, they have a somewhat thin skin. We have the ships of the Island class, but while they are more manoeuvrable, they lack something in speed. ... I should welcome assurances from him both as to how well equipped the Navy is for the enormous problem of fishery protection and policing and how well it will be equipped in the coming years to play a vital rôle for the fishing industry"
- 19 May 1977: International Red Cross officials announce a Salvadoran military raid on a pro-guerrilla neighbourhood has left 6 querrillas killed and dozens of other civilians injured.
- 20 May 1977: Industrialist Javier de Ybarra, chairman of British firm Babcock & Wilcox's subsidiary in Spain, is kidnapped by ETA guerrillas. He is later assassinated after ETA's demands for prisoner release and financial contributions (in order to weaken foreign firms) are not met.
- 20 May 1977: Community Relations Council issues a report detailing that probably close to 60% of Asian women immigrants in Britain are unable to speak English since they work in immigrant industry or domestic labour, and have never been given a full course of English education.
- 23 May 1977: Vere Harmsworth, chairman of Associated Newspapers, owners of the Daily Mail states over the British Leyland forged corruption letters editor "David English offered his

- resignation. I refused to accept it. I have every confidence in his ability, confirmed by his six years of brilliant editorship of the Daily Mail."
- 23 May 1977: Home Secretary Rees rejects calls for curbing advertising in visual and audio media: "There is the influence of advertising. I have noticed it over the years with my children, but I do not worry too much about it. I think that if one brings one's children up in what one regards as the proper way they can resist that influence."
- 23 May 1977: Air France announces it has lost FF220mil in operating the Concorde over the last year.
- 24 May 1977: Further charges are added under sec.1 of the Official Secrets Act to Duncan Campbell in the ABC trial.
- 24 May 1977: US Ambassador to UN, Andrew Young, 'go to' man over Africa, meets Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri in Khartoum, signalling Sudan's return to stronger ties with the West, including Britain.
- 24 May 1977: British Airways marks one year of regular Concorde flights between London and Washington D.C. with a statement that the route is over 92% full. BA Concorde director, Gordon Davidson, has recently written: "We have attracted many passengers who would not normally have travelled by British Airways at all, from all over the United States. And we have not diverted passengers from our own services, so we must be taking them from the competition."
- 25 May 1977: US envoy Andrew Young explains the US black liberal understanding of racial affairs by declaring in chauvinistic fashion "the worst racists in the world are the Russians, they have no experience with it [meaning black people]"
- 25 May 1977: Police Federation Conference, Scarborough. Home Secretary's speech is met by silence, outside the Conference he is blocked by plainclothes officers one wearing a T-Shirt saying 'Stuff Merlyn Rees' some heckle him.

Several motions on the right to industrial action and trade-union status are laid down. These come from right-wing branches. From Jan-Apr 1977, 31 out of the 43 forces in England and Wales have held referenda of members on the principle of the police having a right to strike, supporting it with majorities ranging from 60-80%. Rees later says he supports the votes taken at the conference to

apply to join the TUC and become a trade union because "the police

would learn in the TUC that if you are going to get anywhere you have got to learn to negotiate... We are beading for real trouble with the police, and what concerns me is that the country does not deserve it." He asserts that 98% of wage bargaining is done without the threat of strikes and this ought to apply to the police as well.

25 May 1977: US conducts a nuclear test in Nevada in preparation for the launch neutron bomb. No British condemnation is made. 25 May 1977: Financial Times notes the swing against the social contract in resolutions passed by workplace representatives: "The voting at trade union conferences is running at more than two-toone against the principle of a Stage Three incomes policy after July 31.... With the union conference season half over, unions representing 2.8 million have come out for an immediate return to free collective bargaining. On the other side, about 1.3 million are ready to see a Stage Three." However the leaderships of the 2.8 million are in favour of following Stage Three, once it is produced. The AUEW National Committee votes to reconvene itself but not the shop stewards after the TUC and government have ended their negotiations. Alan Fisher, general secretary of NUPE, has declared that he is able to take part in government negotiations even though its biennial conference rejects "any form of wage control" because this does not cover a voluntary TUC-government agreement.

26 May 1977: GMWU (General and Municipal Workers Union) tell operation staff at Longannet that any members failing to return to work will be reported to the union executive for disciplinary action. A meeting of over 1000 maintenance engineers and operations control staff workers at Scotland's biggest power station, Longannet, Fife, vote overwhelmingly to ignore these instructions. The unofficial strike has already closed Longannet and sister station Kincardine. Cockenzie and Hunterston, the two other large power stations in Scotland are affected by the stay-away but workers are still cooperating there. Tom Hutchison of the shop steward committee states: "We don't seem to be able to convince our unions that there is widespread dissatisfaction throughout Scotland about the South of Scotland Electricity Board's use of flying squads of engineers. Nor can we get our full-time officials to meet us."

26 May 1977: 1200 construction workers shut down the site of the oil terminal at Sullom Voe, Shetland, over poor conditions in the workers' camp and unpaid severance pay. Workers promised severance pay of £35 a week at the end of their contract period receive only £10. Tom McAlmont, TGWU construction trades coordinator meets the strike committee, trying to end the dispute. Tom McAlmont uses a strikebreaking Bnstow helicopter to reach

Sullom Voe. Most of the workers have been retrenched by contractors.

26 May 1977: US firm National Cash Register Co. announces it will make a further 300 workers redundant from its plant in Dundee by the end of 1977. The firm's workforce has already fallen from a peak of 6000 to 1000. The firm had previously announced a loss of 600 jobs in Oct 1976.

26 May 1977: Tom Hudson, chief of Britain's major computer firm, ICL, announces profits have increased from £10.5m to £13m in the past year. Both the National Enterprise Board and Plessey have close to 25% stakes. Hudson states the firm have lost around £2m because of industrial disputes in northern English plants in the half-year to Mar 31 1977. He says the Treasury has agreed to permit the company to return to its former total gross annual dividend level of 11.25p a share. Virtually all of the profit growth has come from overseas, from Malaysia to South Africa. It is insufficient for the stock market meaning its share price is quickly marked down 6p to 226p, to force it into further rationalisation and cuts. ICL later helps apartheid South Africa computerise its intelligence and tax records, but under Mandela's amnesty for business under the TRC and renaming of itself into Fujistu, avoids making any amends for its crimes.

26 May 1977: John Barlow, chairman of Blantyre Tea announces profits from its estates in Malawi have risen to over £700,000 in a 6-month period with lucky commodity markets.

26 May 1977: Derek Anderson, president of Cocoa, Chocolate and Confectionery Alliance announces at its annual meeting that chocolate prices will increase by around 33% over the next 12 months, as a result of rising cocoa prices.

26 May 1977: Clive Jenkins attends the picket line at Bristow Helicopters in Aberdeen.

27 May 1977: Johnny Rotten's mother gives an interview to the <u>Islington Gazette</u>, later reprinted in Sounds and NME: "groups like Johnny's help society by bringing kids in off the streets. A friend of ours thinks the Sex Pistols are doing more for the country than Jim Callaghan."

27 May 1977: Lord Kearton announces BNOC's five-year plan has been approved by the Treasury, after a meeting of the board.

The expenditure is within the present cash limit imposed on BNOC, £600m over five years with the addition of another £300m, where parliamentary approval is given. BNOC also holds the power to borrow money in the open financial markets, Kearton notes that

positive discussions are continuing. He states BNOC will meet 51% of the cost of exploration, in partnership with oil companies, on all fifth round lease licenses.

27 May 1977: SNP annual Conference agrees that Queen will be Head of State in an independent Scotland. Delegates reject an amendment in favour of policy for a referendum on the future of the monarchy. Donald Stewart states: "I regretted that the Queen was ever dragged into the political arena on the basis of bad political advice. But no damage has been done and we have shown here that our policy remains as it was." Professor Neil MacCormick, professor of public law at Edinburgh University, states: "How grand it will be, in this twenty-fifth year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, to say to her... 'We will be with you if you will be with us as your ancestors were'." Angus Stewart, a lawyer and SNP election candidate, says he finds the amendment repugnant: "If this amendment is carried it will effectively cast doubt on the commitment of this party to the continuance of the monarch as Head of State. There are probably half-a-million to one million reasons in Scotland to reject this amendment. These reasons are the numbers of ordinary Scottish men and women who have displayed loyalty to Her Majesty during the Jubilee tour. The Scottish voters who form the sensible middle ground will reject extremism."

Arthur Donaldson, former SNP chairman of the party says the question of Scottish independence will not be answered by queens but "will be answered by the people of Scotland" and the question of monarchy is an irrelevance. It also votes 384-315 to approve SNP participation in EEC Direct elections, even though SNP has opposed continued EEC adhesion in 1975.

27 May 1977: <u>Transport Review</u>: "On the Silver Jubilee Tour the Royal Family will be able to travel at speeds of up to 100mph in air conditioned comfort... The interior furniture, furnishings and fittings were personally selected by the Queen and the Duke who were advised by Sir Hugh Casson... The kitchen is all electric and designed to provide meals for up to 10 people [with] a fan assisted convection oven... a three compartment refrigerator provides normal pantry refrigeration, together with a wine cooler and frozen food storage" On their Royal Train with special coaches and reserve power unit, The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh each have a saloon with separate entrance vestibules, a lounge, bedrooms and bathrooms, vestibule and kitchen, plus bedroom and bathroom for their dressers and valets. Its cost from the Civil List in 1977 is £500,000.

27 May 1977: President and Rosalynn Carter take part in a trial search-and-destroy mission in the nuclear submarine 'Los Angeles'

- in the Atlantic off Port Canaveral, Florida. Carter pilots the nuclear sub during part of its four-hour stay underwater.
- 27 May 1977: Indonesia announces the successful crushing of a rebellion by Papuan 'tribespeople' in Irian Java.
- 27 May 1977: A demonstration is held in Luanda by MPLA members Jose Van Dunem and Nito Alves, expelled from the Central Committee.
- 28 May 1977: Ethiopia announces US, British and Egyptian defence attaches' offices are no longer wanted in protest at Western military terms and assistance given to Somalia. British DESO and FCO officials leave within 7 days. It also follows Sudan makes a move expelling all Soviet military officials.
- 29 May 1977: Home Secretary Rees reiterates bluntly:"I believe it would be wrong for the police to have the right to strike. to the crunch, will vote in favour of it." He announces he is ready to talk about extra money because of the special position of the police, "in a way we were not able to do in phase two" in Phase 3 beyond Aug 1977.
- 29 May 1977: A delegate conference of NUPE in Glasgow votes to end the strike of over 50 cleaners who have been on strike for a month at 30 schools in Strathclyde Region, against a 10% cut in wages imposed by speed-up and hour-cuts. Alastair Macrae, NUPE regional officer, says the union has effectively shut down the strike because Stathclyde Regional Council has affirmed a commitment to restore a cut in hours to cleaners at the first opportunity the region's budget allowed.
- 29 May 1977: Young Conservatives march through London to deliver letters to Downing Street, Foreign Office and Commonwealth Secretary-General calling for Idi Amin to be excluded from the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference and Silver Jubilee for exclusion celebrations. Thev also call its from Commonwealth and United **Nations** until independent an international commission has investigated human rights abuses in
- 29 May-3 June 1977: Rhodesian armed forces raid large parts of southern Mozambique, capturing Mapai, on the Limpopo instituting reprisals and interrogations against the civilians there, before returning. Under pressure from much of the Third World, the UN Secretary General calls for the return of Rhodesian troops on 1 Jun 1977.
- 30 May 1977: 28 banks and financial institutions, led by Citibank. N.A. and the Chartered Bank, provided a HK\$600m loan facility for

Hong Kong's Mass Transit Railway Corporation. It is guaranteed by the Hong Kong Government, managed by Schroders and Chartered and Citicorp International group, co-managed by the Banque National de Paris, Chase Manhattan Asia and Manufacturers-Hanover Asia.

- 30 May 1977: Ministry of Defence awards a £2m contract to Decca for a new Doppler 80 type lightweight navigation system for the Armed Forces' 190 Gazelle helicopters. It is the new generation 'guide-at-a- glance' that is less prone to errors and is independent of any need for ground transmitters.
- 30 May 1977: A crane in use for construction of Wolverhampton's new civic centre collapses due to over-loading. It strikes part of the Polytechnic and crushes to death a 52 year old dustman working on the streets.
- 30 May 1977: Aberdeen Airport is closed all day to all scheduled and commercial traffic when firemen withdraw from cover in support of the sacked Bristow helicopter pilots' strike. A strikebreaking Bristow's helicopter pilot flies illegally low over the heads of a large picket line outside the Bristow's base at Aberdeen.
- 30 May 1977: Chrysler (UK), announces that its key plant at Linwood is on course to have trebled production in Apr-Jun 1977 compared to Jan-Mar 1977, because agreement has been reached with trade union officials to enforce productivity deal including the new two shift system, a significant speed-up.
- "the total number of Avengers produced to date at Linwood in May is 5632 and by tomorrow the figure should be about 6000 double the output for April.... Because of the increased demand for the Avenger we are confident that we will be able to meet the outstanding orders for 10000 of those... We hope to produce 9300 Avengers a month by the end of June."
- 30 May 1977: In mass dawn raids, police raid 30 separate addresses and from them arresting 60. From them 21 of the younger (20 male, 1 female) are charged with various crimes such as "conspiracy to rob persons unknown on dates unknown". Police declare the "gang is responsible for 90% of the street crime in south London over the past six months."
- 30 May 1977: Referendum held by Bangladesh's Zia-ur Rahman sees over 99% of all votes approving his maintenance of 'martial law' conditions and effective military rule.

- 30 May 1977: Prince Charles appears in a propaganda effort on BBC television programme Nationwide, where he encourages the nation to contribute to the Queen's Silver Jubilee Appeal Fund, apparently in order to stop child and youth poverty.
- 31 May 1977: Prince Charles flies in on a private jet for the Bath and West Show, Shepton Mallet, Somerset. He inspects cattle which he owns from his own Duchy farmlands in Cornwall.
- 31 May 1977: BBC announces a ban on transmission of Sex Pistols single 'God Save The Queen' saying it is "in gross bad taste".

June 1977: <u>Big Flame</u> reports in Manchester curtains have been painted onto windows of derelict houses, that will be passed by on the Queen's Jubilee Tour, presumably, in an effort not to disturb the royal eye.

June 1977: Lewisham 21 Defence Committee is set up to support those arrested as part of PNH, as well as 3 others arrested in a scuffle with police over the original arrests. Metropolitan Police immediately refer leaflets produced by the Lewisham 21 Defence Committee to the Director of Public Prosecutions for libel.

June 1977: Action Against Racism in Blackburn consisting of committed trade union branches and trades councils holds a delegate conference held in Blackburn. Delegates describe increasing immigration raids. Victor Earnshaw, GMWU, states a worker in his factory has been held in detention for 3 and a half months over apparent irregularities.

June 1977: Chilean Finance Minister, Sergio de Castro, visits London for discussions with 4 ministers, business executives and bank officials. A \$75m loan organised by British firm Lloyds International and US firm First Chicago is distributed to the Chilean military government as a result. \*\*

June 1977: <u>Bank of England Quarterly Bulletin</u> highlights the capital strike that remains in place imposed over worries of an end to Phase II pay limits in August: "rates of return will need to recover appreciably before a rapid or sustained rise in investment... as a whole becomes likely ... The figures presented in this note do not suggest an encouraging outlook for investment"

June 1977: Government's delayed White Paper, Transport Policy (Cmnd. 6836), is published. It declares an integrated transport system is off the agenda. The aim to move freight from motorways to rail is declared not "immediately possible" nor "a sensible long-term aim".

1 June 1977: Tony Benn, BNOC and BP enter into a participation agreement assigning BNOC a 51% interest in BP's North Sea commercial oilfields (but nowhere else in BP's vast portfolio from Alaska to Nigeria to Abu Dhabi).

Before the agreement, BP held outright 13 licences covering 32 blocks covering over 5900km2. With other firms, it held interests in a further 16 licences that cover 5500km2. BP retains these blocks, but is additionally rewarded licences covering 13 blocks covering 2500km2, as a reward for participating with the government.

Several important fields for BP include Ninian Field where a pipeline to transport oil to a sea loading terminal in the Shetland Islands has been completed, and Magnus Field, which BP owns outright, has begun development in Apr 1977 after oil discovery in 1974. It also owns under license part of Andrew Field, which acts as a reserve field to be developed later.

Its directors will remain: Sir David Steel, Chairman; Tom Jackson, General Sec of UPW; Sir James Menter, head of Queen Mary College University of London; Sir Alastair Pilkington, chairman of Pilkington Bros. Ltd; Major (Hon. Lt.-Col.) M.J. Verey, chairman of the Charities Official Investment Fund, Chairman of the Accepting Houses Committee, member of the Takeovers Panel, former director of Crown Agents; Sir Lindsay Alexander, president of Chamber of Shipping, president of the General Council of Shipping, chair of Ocean Transport and Trading Ltd, former prime mover in the 1960s of the shift to containerisation in shipping in order to weaken docker unionisation, former chair of the Liverpool Port Employers' Association and deputy at the National Association of Port Employers, current board member of Lloyd's Bank; former Chief of the Defence Staff Marshall of the Royal Air Force Lord Elworthy, current Lord Lieutenant of Greater London and member of the Order of the Garter: Lord Greenhill of Harrow, former chief civil servant at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office; Earl of Inchcape, chairman of Inchcape; and active managers J. Sutcliffe, C. Laidlaw, P. Walters. "BP is satisfied that the participation agreement reflects the Government's policy that participation should leave licensees financially no worse off." (Shareholders' Statement Jun 1977)

1 June 1977: The Lewisham arrested appear in Camberwell Green Magistrates' Court charged with "conspiracy to rob." Spectators are removed from the public gallery by police after protests. Some defendants try to stop police activity in the court room. Lewisham 21 Defence Committee is set up soon afterwards to challenge the victimisation.

2 June 1977: <u>The Guardian</u> reports on the rise of immigration officials prying ever further into foreign students' lives in order to

catch people out and reduce visa extensions. English language "teachers, who are backed by the National Union of Students, fear that the Home Office is covertly cutting student numbers... over the last six months there has been a considerable increase in the letters, sent out at the discretion of officials when students apply for visa extensions. ... One, sent to a Japanese student, includes questions on the future jobs or studies students intend to follow when they leave the country; whether they have done military service or when they will; details of close relatives living in Britain and "How do you occupy yourself when you are not studying at the school?" Other questions cover what the required hours of day-time study are at the college and a detailed request asking who will be sponsoring the student from abroad, how much money will be received and how often it will be sent. The letter ends: "Please answer those questions fully. Failure to do so and to provide the documentary evidence requested may prejudice your application adversely. However, the fact that these enquiries are being made does not imply that an extension of stay will be granted. ... Nicky Harman, a teacher at another London school, said teachers in Cambridge, Brighton and Bournemouth were also becoming alarmed. "Our language teachers' branch of the General and Municipal Workers' Union, which represents between 30 and 40 schools, recently passed a resolution to keep a central monitor of all letters sent to students so we can find out what is happening."

- 2 June 1977: Tony Benn joins the Labour Common Market Safeguards Committee to launch an anti-EEC pamphlet *The Common Market the Cost of Membership* which claims that employment is lost by EEC membership, effectively suggesting that unemployment would fall if Britain withdraws from it.
- 3 June 1977: James Mancham landowner-president of Seychelles arrives in London to check-in to the Savoy Hotel at a £144-a-night suite.
- 3 June 1977: 38 female programme assistants at Thames TV suspend cooperation with management in a dispute over speed ups in editing requests. It has the side-effect of knocking out ITV coverage of the Queen's journey from Buckingham Palace to St Paul's Cathedral and other Jubilee events in London. These Jubilee events are replaced with routine back-up sports coverage.
- 3 June 1977: Swiss newspaper <u>Blick</u> notes Alexander Solzhenitsyn has reported an income of 802,000Francs and a fortune of 4.67nil Francs to Swiss tax authorities in 1974 the first year of his exile from the Soviet Union. This wealth makes him a millionaire by exchange rate. But no attention is paid to the material basis for the

social content of his philosophies. This is a luxury not afforded to critics of Western business interests who are regularly portrayed as envious, hypocritical, deranged and selfish for pursuing modest but not pauper lives whilst attacking inequality.

- 3 June 1977: Philip Agee accedes to the expulsion order demanded by Merlyn Rees and leaves for Holland from Harwich. Another family has been successfully divided.
- 4 June 1977: Bristow Helicopters BALPA pilots call off the 7-weekold strike as both sides agreed to accept the findings of a court of inquiry.
- 4 June 1977: Paraguay's secret police responds positively to Uruguay's request for finding 22 wanted Uruguayan dissidents in Paraguay.
- 6 June 1977: Chief of CGIL Luciano Lama tells delegates at the start of its annual congress that the current Italian government's austerity policy is the only way of reforming the country's economy.
- 6 June 1977: It is publicly revealed for the first time that Britain's principal ally, United States, is working on producing a 'neutron bomb'.

7 June 1977: Commemoration Service at St. Paul's Cathedral for Silver Jubilee. Lighting of the royal Jubilee in Windsor Great Park by the Queen is televised across the country. Dozens of books have been published in the run-up to the event. 'The Queen's Clothes" by Robb and Anne Edwards of the <u>Daily Express</u>, the heavily subsidised 'Jubilee Magazine' at 35p. 'The Queen's Pictures' a coffee-table hardback from Weidenfeld & Nicholson. Macmillan's 'Cartoon History of the Monarchy'. Omnibus Press's "One Hundred' and Forty-Four Picture Postcards of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and Her Family". Arthur Barker Press' "Happy and Glorious" with 100 colour photographs of the Royal Family. 'All The Queen's Men"examining the Household Cavalry and the Brigade of Guards on royal state occasions. Angus and Robertson's "Happy and Glorious" displays photographs of and by royals since Queen Victoria. 'Royal Heritage', 'Our Royal Heritage', 'Royal Faces', 'Royal Progress', 'The Queen's Life', 'The Queen's Clothes' and several items titled "Queen Elizabeth II". There are also many special 'Jubilee' editions including 'Good News Jubilee Bible' to 'Philips' Jubilee Atlas' bound in royal blue cloth.

7 June 1977: Sex Pistols and some people associated with them have a boat party on the Thames to celebrate 'God save the Queen'. Police arrest 15, and when asking for Johnny Rotten, Rotten

himself points to another punk in question who is arrested instead of him.

8 June 1977: Philip Howard, usually comic writer, writes a special pro-monarchist column in <u>The Times</u> asserting the Queen is particularly representative of the weaker across her Commonwealth: "Constitutional monarchy is, paradoxically, a democratic institution: by giving your official head of state no power, it makes her representative of all her subjects, particularly the weaker ones."

8 June 1977: President Kaunda praises the British monarchy and Commonwealth. He honours the Queen's "timely and wise decision" because "Had the monarch resisted the great world-wide and historical forces of change, the Empire would have died a violent death and this Commonwealth of Nations would never have been born."

8 June 1977: Roy Mason, announces full-time officers in the RUC will be increased by 1,200 and full-time soldiers of the UDR by 2,500. He says his word to the UUP over an increase in undercover, plainclothes Army activity is being honoured.

8 June 1977: <u>Financial Times</u> reports that there remain for manual workers in BL Cars division alone 58 separate bargaining units and 324 pay rates. The firm seeks to reduce it to a single bargaining unit but with the variations in pay remaining. The firm hopes to increase division within the single bargaining unit which as a result of its bureaucratisation is more amenable to pressure from senior shop stewards.

8-15 June 1977: 7-day summit of Commonwealth Leaders in London to coincide with Jubilee Celebrations (hence somewhat sneakily boosting attendance) but with the absence of the Seychelles (punished for the overthrow of the pro-South African squirearchy by military action) and Uganda finally receiving wider condemnation. However under the influence of Britain's staunchest African ally, Kenya blocks the call for the expulsion of Amin's Uganda from the organisation (as has occurred for Rhodesia). Kenya, by far Britain's strongest ally in Africa, is the strongest in support of Uganda.

William Ochieng's A Modern History of Kenya desribes Kenyan-Ugandan relations: "Kenya... continued to have normal diplomatic relations with Amin... Kenya's policy towards Uganda may have been influenced by a number of considerations. First economic selfinterest. Under Amin, Uganda's economy increasingly became a hostage of Kenya. Second, realism cautioned against interference... as long as the equilibrium remained undisturbed. Finally, ideological consideration may have also played a part. Obote had been more pro-Nyerere and he had leaned toward socialism. Amin ended this trend and acted as a check against the spread of Tanzania-type socialism in the region.... Idi Amin's economic policies led to the collapse of Uganda's economy and Kenya's exploitation of Uganda heightened. Thus Uganda became increasingly more important for purposes than the East African commercial arrangement. Or so it seemed to the inner circle in the government. The three branches of military increased steadily from 1976 onwards. Military expenditure rose from less than 1% of GNP to 4.6% in 1978... Defence allocation in 1980 accounted for 25% of the budget. The country also acquired 12 US F5E and F5F fighter aircraft, a number of anti-insurgency attack helicopters, and an assortment of battle tanks from Britain, in addition to transport planes, armoured cars and many other weapons from Israel, France and the Federal Republic of Germany. ... For the purposes of military training, Kenyan military officer have since independence been sent to the United Kingdom, Israel and the United States... NATO countries supplying 80% ... of all arms imported by Kenya during the 1970s. Of the NATO countries the top suppliers are the United Kingdom, Italy, France and West Germany. Outside... Israel remains a leading supplier.... throughout her 23 years of independence Kenya has rejected only military and economic aid from the Soviet Union."

The economic basis of British support for the Kenyatta regime is strong and enduring: "Foreign private investment in Kenya increased rapidly following the passage of the 1964 [Foreign Investment Protection] bill. By 1977 the United States of America ranked second to the United Kingdom with more than \$320m in capital investment. West Germany, Japan, Italy and France" were also investors. The majority of Kenya's unfunded external debt is held by Britain. In 1977 the Foreign Investment Protection Act is amended to further allow the transfer of profits, dividends, brand name fees and management positions outside of Kenya, Many of the plants in Nairobi and Mombasa are subsidiaries of British multinational firms including Unilever, ICI and Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers/Blue Circle. Uganda's economic dependence on Kenya is not unwelcome to these concerns. The giant jointlyowned oil refinery in Mombasa (by Kenya' national oil company KPRL, BP, Chevron and Shell) supplies oil to the Ugandan military throughout.

9 June 1977: <u>Financial Times</u> reports on measures to insulate parliamentarianism from economic democracy in Spain, including the King's right to nominate 41 out of 248 senators and to veto those it disapproves of: "inevitably the rules have been affected by the entrenched members of the Franco regime seeking to ensure a superficial, controlled democracy weighed against the vociferous demands of the left."

9 June 1977: Morning Star interviews Federico Melchor, editor of PCE's Mundo Obrero: "take for example the guestion of the national flag. It must not be forgotten that Franco fought the civil war under that flag, against the legally elected government of the republic which had a different flag. But when at our meetings we tell people, most of whom are republicans, that the state flag is also our flag and should not be allowed to become the possession of the ultraright, they applaud our actions.... There is a real fear among the people, and it is in the first place the fear of those fascist elements who did well out of 40 years of Franco dictatorship and of what they might do in defeat. In small towns people are very conscious of the fact that the local civil guard, sergeants and officers are the same who were beating people up not so long ago, while the Mayors, the local police chiefs and most of the army commanders are also the same... Suarez is making this contribution [towards parliamentary rule] despite his own fascist past. But who has not got a fascist past in the ruling circles of this country? The important thing is what people are doing now."

10 June 1977: <u>Catholic Herald</u> reports on p3 about the unofficial inquiry into the brutality of prison guards at Hull. Mainstream press largely ignore the demands for a full inquiry and mention only the fact of the meetings not their contents. PROP has held a four-day unofficial inquiry into the riots headed by John Platt Mills, QC, alongside Michael Cooley, former president of AUEW, Mary Tyler, former prisoner in India for five years and Albie Sacks, lecturer in law at Southampton University and Monsignor Bruce Kent, head of Pax Christi, liberal wing of the Catholic Church.

"Mgr Bruce Kent writes: a need for a public inquiry seemed evident. It is now 10 months since the Hull prison riot, and the Home Office inquiry is yet to report. When it does, there is no certainty that its findings will be made generally available. ... a separate police investigation is taking place it too has not resulted in a report, still less in criminal proceedings against any prison officer. The PROP inquiry was a serious affair, carefully conducted. In a few weeks the committee, will publish its recommendations. The bulk of the evidence about the events of August 31 and the early days of September, 1976, came to the inquiry in the form of documents smuggled out of a variety of prisons written on scraps of paper, even toilet rolls, from 30 prisoners who had been involved in the riot. Others describe the repressive atmosphere of Hull prison as it developed in the years immediately before 1976. It is worth noting that all the prisoners sent to the Notorious Wakefield "control" unit were sent by one prison governor at Hull. ... [John] Prescott, who was present as the prisoners came off the prison roof on that critical Friday in September, 1976, had no way of knowing what happened

next as the prison was then cleared of "outside" observers. The overwhelmingly impressive evidence of the 30 dispositions submitted to our inquiry was that for almost two days the prison officers went on a rampage of brutality, beatings and degradation at the expense of men who had surrendered on the promise that this would not happen. Beyond the beatings was the obscenity. Officers urinated in tea, on such food as there was, and on the floors of the bare cells. Those who think this could not happen are invited to read the depositions.

[Problems include] the extraordinary force of the Official Secrets Act ... Home Office prison committees are meant to play and their vast powers of effectively extending prisoners' sentences... difficulties placed in the way of prisoners access to solicitors... the generous use of Rule 43 — solitary confinement for weeks at a stretch. There was, as the four days of the inquiry ended, two main thoughts in my mind. The first was one of admiration for the wives and girlfriends of so many prisoners whose loyalty and faithfulness were quite humbling. The second overrides all others. Whatever the crimes committed, and the great majority relate to property, all of us ... must ask what the present system is really thought to achieve."

- 10 June 1977: An economic and technical cooperation agreement is signed between PRC and militarist Sudan.
- 11 June 1977: Former Secretary of State Kissinger warns of the dangers of Communist efforts in Western Europe and calls for a "clear and unequivocal" position against West European parties.
- 11 June 1977: 4 are arrested in anti-fascist protest in Edinburgh, where John Tyndall is escorted by police.
- 11 June 1977: SNP vice-chairman, Stephen Maxwell, states an independent Scotland will be one of the 6 richest nations in the world and hence at the forefront of eliminating world poverty, when introducing a policy paper on 'Scotland and the Developing World'
- 11 June 1977: A protest of hundreds urges government to refuse landing access to Uganda's Kampala-London 'shuttle service' and the operation of Crown Agents in Uganda. Britain still remains in control of over 30% of Uganda's external trade.
- 11 June 1977: Glasgow University Principal Prof. Alwyn Williams at the university general council warns that despite a government announcement that cuts in university recurrent grants will be only 1% for 1977-8, this masks the levels of cuts in most universities. "We know how much we shall receive next year and we can confidently predict that our grant will fall short of our commitments by at least 3 to 3.5%"
- 11 June 1977: Sir Henry Plumb, NFU chief, states the NFU still supports EEC membership is confident CAP reform wil be successful. He states had Britain exited the EEC "the Treasury would have been

battening down the hatches by now and changing the system. The housewife would have been operating under a Common Market regime whether she liked it or not. I believe the scheme we are operating for beef is probably the right one. and that ultimately it will he developed throughout the Community and on other products." He attacks imports "We are importing £4000m of temperate foods of the kind that could be produced at home, and the country can ill afford to go on at that level. North Sea oil is going to help the economy, but only in the relatively short term. It is the resources of food production which need to be exploited on a much greater level than at present."

- 12 June 1977: Everyman documentary *The Marriage Paradox* is broadcast. It accepts without question that the nuclear family must remain for the 'natural' sake of the 'nation'.
- 13 June 1977: Race Relations Act finally comes into force 3 years after the start of the government, which makes discrimination in employment and provision of goods and services illegal.
- 13 June 1977: In a report to the SEC, Chrysler Corporation admits to handing over \$2.5mil 1971-6 in corrupt payments, although the precise sources and destinations of the payments (Chrysler has at least 16 separate national subsidiaries) is not revealed.
- 13 June 1977: Public Inquiry into Grunwick's under Lord Scarman (Cmnd. 6922) submits its findings to Home Secretary Rees. It blames both sides and hence ensures that the strikers will be defeated: "There is always a risk that self-help if not coupled with self-restraint, may end in violence. English law if it is to work, requires of parties to an industrial dispute a modicum of self-restraint in the pursuit of their rights. Men must act reasonably within the law. The British tradition of compromise is implicit in the modern English law governing industrial relations." (p20)
- 13 June 1977: Trial of 33 (6 in absentia) proscribed opposition MUP leaders begins in Tunisia after arrests carried out over the Mar 1977 MUP 5-point program demanding presidential and parliamentary elections, a national charter and a basic democratic constitution.
- 13 June 1977: An important CBI-Conservatives private meeting is held. Thatcher attends alongside CBI exective member Adam Ridley.
- 13 June 1977: RAF Support and Training Commands are merged to form RAF Support Command (under Sir Rev Roe) al RAF Brampton. Reorganisation to 'trim the fat and sharpen the teeth' in the RAF.

- 13 June 1977 am: Callaghan bans Cabinet ministers from joining demonstrations to support Grunwick's workers, declaring they will be sacked if they do so and if they disclose to the press that these are his orders.
- 13 June 1977: Women's solidarity Day at Grunwick's sees police attack the largely female demonstrators, dragging some across the concrete by their hair. 84 are arrested. Police arrive at 6am and begin making arrests. APEX executive council member Mr Eddie Hayes is forced to declare "We had made this a week of mass picketing, but the events today have really made people angry."
- 13 June 1977: IBM UK chief executive Eddie Nixon says IBM's system of industrial relations is superior to any based on collective bargaining, but the firm is not anti-union, despite heaving pre-employment screening and victimisations of union activists. He claims no strikes, no go-slows, and no lay-offs over the past 25 years proves it is superior to other firms.
- 13 June 1977: John Peel describes God Save the Queen as "one of the greatest rock records ever made" however the BBC's ban remains in force. Charles McLelland, Controller of BBC Radio 1 and Radio 2, has declared "it is in gross bad taste". Top of the Pops says "it is quite unsuitable for an entertainment show" IBA has banned it declaring it is against the charter for radio programming in Britain where "nothing shall be included... which offends good taste or decency, and that includes advertising" but "it can be played in exceptional circumstances, where it's used as a point of discussion, and the producer takes every possible step to avoid causing offence. It must not be played simply as entertainment."

Capital Radio, Radio Luxembourg and local radio have also banned Sex Pistols records. Radio Clyde's spokesman declares "the Sex Pistols have brought the whole music business into disrepute." Downtown Radio, Belfast, declares "Our playlist is made up from returns from 20 independent outlets in northern Ireland... We are following a line which has been taken in Ireland a number of times. About four years ago, we had trouble with a record called 'Men behind the wire' which was supporting the terrorist movement." Newcastle's Metro Radio states "Before we even heard from the IBA, we had made the decision not to allow this single to be played in normal programming." Woolworths, WHSmith, Boots, J.D. Wetherspoons and other brewers have banned Sex Pistols records from appearing in their shops or pub sound systems. BBC and ITV have banned all Sex Pistols adverts - meaning it is effectively blacked out from television. Associated Press go so far as not filing any reports on the controversy at all. However most of the press, not bound by the IBA, ramp up reports and coverage of the Sex Pistols to a degree probably unseen for a music group since the Beatles in the 1960s. Tony Blackburn: "It is disgraceful and makes me ashamed of the pop world, but it is a fad that won't last, we DJs have ignored them and if everyone else did perhaps they would go away."

- 13 June 1977: Labour Party announces it will not publish any 'midterm manifesto' that has featured calls for Labour to implement its manifesto pledges on nationalisation but will publish it only as a "campaign document". Secretary Ron Hayward says: "It will emerge as a campaign document which will be much smaller and without such heavy commitments. It will carry no authority under the constitution of the party."
- 13 June 1977: Engineering and construction firm George Wimpey's chairman R. B. Smith at its AGM states immediate prospects in Britain are not positive mainly because of cutbacks in local authority housing and engineering projects. But he states "Overseas, we remain optimistic of future growth and are therefore allocating substantial resources to this sector of our activities. The Middle East and Canada continue to contribute the bulk of overseas turnover, but we are also pursuing opportunities elsewhere." He notes Wimpey has a record book for work overseas, more than ever before.
- 14 June 1977: Windscale Inquiry begins under Justice Parker over BNFL's application for a thermal oxide reprocessing plant.
- 14 June 1977: Government defeat in committee on 14 June 1977. The Passenger Vehicles (Experimental Areas) Act is substantially altered. With opposition amendment passed means any local council can apply to initiate vehicle experiments. This allows local councils to begin implementation of parking charges.
- 14 June 1977: Grunwick's coach for 'loyal' strikebreakers drives right through a picket line weakened by police action, injuring several pickets.
- 14 June 1977: London UPW stewards John Taylor and Derek Walsh visit the Grunwick picket line: "John was really the leading light. We spoke to Mrs Desai and others and were determined to deliver some support... I saw what happened at the mass pickets, the way the police attacked people like my mate Bill Fry who was doing nothing wrong. Me and John sent out a letter calling for blacking. We hadn't asked union HQ, and they went mad at us. We were told it was illegal and the union's funds would be sequestered and we'd personally be liable for huge fines." UPW Executive issues a call for 'normal working' ie supplying Grunwick.
- 14 June 1977: Glasgow Herald's city Comment column states "so long as Mr Healey can fix up a pay policy which does not allow earnings to rise much more than at present, there is every chance

- of the annual rate of price inflation being brought down to the Government's 13% target by the year end."
- 15-18 June 1977: Protests marking a year of opposition to the state murders of Soweto riots in June 1976 break out, leading to more suppression. Well over 50 are killed, 300 severely injured.
- 15 June 1977: Gleaneagles Agreement by Commonwealth Presidents and Prime Ministers opposes sporting contact with apartheid South Africa. However the terms of the Commonwealth boycott are left vague on the insistence of Britain, the only major Commonwealth with serious economic links in South Africa: "member countries of the Commonwealth... fully acknowledged that it was for each Government to determine in accordance with its law the methods by which it might best discharge these commitments." 15 June 1977: South African police arrest Monty Motlaung and Solomon Mahlangu, 2 MK members in Johannesburg, shooting dead 2 others. Monty Motlaung is subjected to such interrogation that he is permanently brain-damaged, Solomon Mahlangu is later executed on 6 Apr 1979.
- 15 June 1977: Print-workers and journalists at Sri Lanka state-controlled Associated Newspapers group, the overwhelming monopoly media organisation in the country, begin a strike at its censorship and imposition of pro-government articles.
- 15 June 1977: Prince Charles visits Pagnell Street Community Centre ('The Moonshot'). The Lewisham Defence Committee holds a protest against his visit with about 20 supporters and a banner saying 'Defend the Lewisham 24. Who will the police mug next?' (Kentish Mercury, 16 Jun 1977)
- 15 June 1977: UPW's London district Council advises sorting postal workers at Willesden and Cricklewood Sorting Office not to touch Grunwick's mail heading for strikebreakers.
- 15 June 1977: "The government have high in their priorities effective relations with Turkey, whatever Turkish Government are in power, and we shall welcome Turkish Ministers at any time on visits to the United Kingdom."
- 15 June 1977: 60,000 Chilean spectators, enticed by subsidised tickets and food for international cameras by the military regime, attend the Scotland v Chile football match at the Estadio Nacional. This stadium's track has been used as an open-air male prisoner induction area by the military junta in 1973-4 a ring of soldiers with machine guns placed at the top of the stands. Several prisoners have been shot in the tunnels or by the track, including US journalist Charles Horman. A woman, kept mostly indoors remembers later: "They dragged us on to the stadium for half an

hour every day to watch as they executed others." Scottish Football Association has compelled all Scottish players who wish to remain in the pool for future selection to play in the match. The event is used for propaganda purposes by the Chilean regime.

16 June 1977: Merlyn Rees declares welcomes increased recruitment for the police: "In the two years up to the end of this year, despite the pay situation, police recruitment has gone up"

16 June 1977: Metropolitan Police Drugs Squad inspector Det.-Sgt. Michael Carrington is suspended for reselling at profit drugs seized by the police. Scotland Yard says he has been investigated for several months under the direction of the Yard's complaints branch.

16 June 1977: Grunwick's local MP Laurie Pavitt urges an end to the dispute, but it cannot be discussed since it is processing through the courts: "this matter is *sub judice* we are not able to discuss it next week. May I therefore ask my right Hon. Friend the Leader of the House whether he will consider discussing with the Cabinet means of stopping the impasse in the same way as when there was an industrial dispute concerning doctors? On that occasion, Lord Goodman was called in and a solution was found which prevented the two sides from getting into conflict.

Michael Foot: My Hon. Friend and the House understand that I cannot comment on any matters which are sub judice... I cannot say anything further about the matter now."

17 June 1977: At the Court of Appeal, Justice Wien, Lord Justice Roskill and Justice Glynn release Holdsworth, guilty of serious sexual assault. He is given a 6-month suspended sentence, instead with Justice Wien declaring that Coldstream Guard Holdsworth simply "allowed his enthusiasm for sex to overcome his normal good behaviour... We have a man of previous good character whose army career would be completely destroyed if this sentence were to stand. The best thing you can do now is to go back and serve your country [in northern Ireland]... It is probable that this girl would have been less severely injured if in fact she had submitted to rape by the mere threat of force rather than force being applied in the manner that it was."

Responding to disquiet about the decision the Registrar of the Court of Appeal explains Holdsworth has been given a suspended sentence and release from a prison sentence because officers from his regiment have appeared before the court explaining their eagerness to return the soldier to northern Ireland, where he has served in a "creditable" way, between the sexual assault and the trial.

- 17 June 1977: A 23 year old is killed as a result of an attack by 4 youths of a rival gang in Nutshill, Glasgow.
- 17 June 1977: Trongate, Glasgow plant of A&H Clothing Manufacturers sees a fire kill a presser in the first week of his job there.
- 17 June 1977: Enoch Powell gives a speech to Swansea East Conservatives: "Many in Britain, when they think of the next generation now foresee a radical alteration of the population inhabiting the great cities and industrial areas of England. They cannot imagine how a country whose actual people have been so changed Villi in any natural sense be theirs any longer. Before their own eyes, their land is becoming a land of strangers and no end to that process is in sight.... The reality is that, once a substantial alien and particularly Asian population is established as resident, continued immigration of that population follows inevitably. The Conservative Party is now on the opposite side to Britain, to Britain as an independent, self-governing, sovereign nation such as Iceland or Norway for instance, or Zambia or Jamaica.... Direct elections to Europe would surrender the citadel. Today it is the Conservative Party which aspires to carry the keys out on a cushion."
- 17 June 1977: ILO issues report warning of a massive deterioration of health and safety on overseas oil-drilling rigs. ILO experts reiterate that continuous exposure at 85 decibels constitutes "a warning limit value." Anything above can impair hearing and produce fatigue and generally complicate effective and necessary communication under the effect of sped-up production rotas.
- 17 June 1977: Met Police Chief Superintendent Francis Hickman-Smith: "I know all about the aggro on all fronts here. There is a lot of violence. But the Scottish [APEX] contingent here has behaved in a mature and responsible manner without trouble. They are straightforward working class people who are picketing In an orderly fashion. We know quite well that many of the others down the road are simply hooligans who are out for a fight." (Glasgow Herald 18 Jun 1977)
- 17 June 1977: Owners of Crane UK tell union representatives that losses are increasing and that the parent company. Glenfield and Kennedy Holdings Ltd, will not provide funding meaning the loss of 1,000 jobs. In response lan McLaughland, convener of the joint shop stewards' committee at Glenfield says "Although Crane has Riven up we have not. We have high hopes that somebody will step in with the Government to keep us in business" noting the Scottish

Development Agency and the trade unions are co-operating to try to find a purchaser for the company.

- 18 June 1977: US state department distributes an important Cyrus Vance interview with Italian <u>Il Tempo.</u> Basically confident of procedures to hem in the PCF or PCI in any coalition situation, Vance states dispute within the competitor Eastern Bloc will offset any losses suffered by NATO in the event of any coalition Communists government in Western Europe.
- 18 June 1977: Deputy Leader Foot defends the Lib-Lab Pact in Labour Weekly: "If we had not made an arrangement with the Liberals we would have thrown away that chance of getting a real majority not merely for months but maybe for years"
- 18 June 1977: NF attacks with knives and bottles a SWP paper sale by the Clock Tower in Lewisham Town Centre.
- 19 June 1977: George Ward rejects an invitation to talks at the Department of Employment, hosted by Employment Secretary Mr Albert Booth. He states: "I can sec little point in our meeting under the present circumstances. I feel that Mr Booth has greater freedom of movement than I do. Whenever I leave the factory I -am met with a howling crowd. Sometimes I wonder I whether 1 am going to get out in one piece" in order to invite Booth to the factory.
- 19 June 1977: The world's largest and most expensive private construction project, the \$7.7bn Trans-Alaska oil pipeline, begins its transport of oil from the Prudhoe Bay field. Sohio, 40% owned by Britain's largest firm BP, owns approximately 53% of the oil in this vast field. (BP's lengthy investment in Alaska was one of the reasons for its weakened state in 1975. The Labour government assisted BP by purchasing its shares at the end of 1975, halting its slide on the market, when BP was stronger and the government public finances weaker (largely due to the effects of the City reacting against the threat of organised labour) the shares were returned to private control.) It sees BP, the world's 8<sup>th</sup> largest firm, partake in the US market more fully: "Apart from the Government and the Bank of England, BP hats over 110,000 registered Ordinary Stockholders holding in total £122,618,271 Ordinary Stock, including... approximately £18 million Ordinary Stock held in London by Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York and represented by American Depositary Receipts which are listed on the New York Stock Exchange and are the form in which substantially all US investors hold BP Stock. No significant holdings outside the UK and US markets are known to BP." (Notice to Shareholders, Jun 1977)

19 June 1977: The Observer interviews Sex Pistols: "Four separate contracts – two of them cancelled by apprehensive record companies – are supposed to have earned the group £196,000. But how much of this ends up in the pockets of Rotten, Vicious et al? ... They are nevertheless helping to spawn a multi-million pound punk industry which somehow persuades thousands of young teenagers to part with their money. ... Despite their avowals of proletarianism, the group complain bitterly about income tax – "We're taxed beyond belief." And Mr Rotten... thinks they earn every penny. "You can get money if you want it" he says in one of his unguarded moments. "You can get whatever you want it's called effort. It doesn't take much, just a lot of guts – which the majority of the general public seem to be lacking."

Johnny Rotten, when describing forming his project PIL (Public Image Limited), considers the Sex Pistols as 'extremist;: "I formed PIL because I got bored with the extremist point of view that I'd had with the Sex Pistols... I attempted to move toward a liberal point of view and see if that could slowly but surely change society into something more decent" (John Lydon, 1993, p270)

19 June 1977: TUC's Statement on the Economic Situation and Pay is announced whilst negotiations in 10 Downing Street continue over Stage III: "For the past two years the trade union movement has operated an effective voluntary policy of restraint in wage settlements ... Trade unionists accepted the policy ... But the pride of trade unionists in their unprecedented and unrivalled contribution ... is damped by their disappointment that the policy has fallen short of its objectives of containing inflation and reducing unemployment. The reasons why the annual rate of increase in prices is still more than 17 per cent, nearly twice the rate the Government had predicted, lies partly in the impact of international economic forces outside Britain's control— notably the deterioration in the exchange rate—but partly also in the Government's failure to check the rise in prices in the shops."

19 June 1977: Alister Strachan is killed by Grenadian police after a peaceful rally against the visit of Cyrus Vance is dispersed. "Of course, Gairy's men intervened and broke up the meeting... They started shooting, and then they saw Alister... they chased him down to the esplanade where he dived into the sea... People were scampering everywhere and running, and while this was happening the police started shooting at him, just taking pot-shots while he swam out" (The Free West Indian, 17 Nov 1982)

20 June 1977: New Zealand Prime Minister Robert Muldoon visits Northern Ireland, reiterating his pledge to accept any departees from the province as facilitated by the British government.

- 20 June 1977: British Institute of Management, harder version of CBI, announces fellowships for 'non-political' David McNee, Commissioner of Metropolitan Police alongside Prof Ken Alexander, chairman of the Highlands and Islands Development Board, J. P. Davidson, managing director of Clyde Port Authority; Mr Alex Devereux, director of Scotcros, Sir Michael Henries, chairman of RBS.
- 21 June 1977: A delegation from Kilmarnock Cllr Margaret Parker, chairman of Kilmarnock and Loundoun District Council, John Paton, Kilmarnock AUEW district secretary, and Strathclyde regional Cllr John Hunter visit Labour superiors at the House of Commons to try to prevent closure of the Glenfield hydraulic engineering plant in Kilmarnock and the loss of more than 1,000 jobs.
- 21 June 1977: Leaders of the Patriotic Front meet PRC Foreign Minister Huang Hua in Beijing.
- 21 June 1977: No Cabinet ministers but 8 Labour MPs join the Grunwick's demonstration. 6 people are arrested. A police officer drags a young woman by the hair Audrey Wise MP horrified tries to place herself in between and is arrested, the policeman not recognising her says: "Never mind, love, you'll do instead" She is released on bail with calves thoroughly bruised and a broken hand, as a result of her arrest. She states "I thought the police were too rough and that there were not a great many pickets." Pat Arrowsmith is arrested on account of obstructing police and is dragged into a police bus. Plainclothes policemen, undercover Special Branch, crowd the scene.
- 21 June 1977: Provost Gordon Murray of Cumbernauld attacks the unemployment in the town: "the Government has made virtually no contribution to employment in this town. It is five years since the new tax building was started but there was a year's delay in building and now there are apparently further hold¬ups. We expected to have hundreds of our young people being recruited, but little is happening and there is no official explanation." Fred Cullington HMRC manager in Cumbernauld states of the project: "The ceiling is 1000 jobs and I feel we shall get there, although it may take four years [from 1977]."
- 21 June 1977: Callaghan gives a special speech to the PLP to over 200 Labour MPs declaring that the Lib-Lab pact being renewed is the key and "No single action can bring the Government down, but a dozen defeats does not leave the Government's position unaffected—defeats brought about, not by the Tories, but by our

own people." He urges discipline in votes declaring "This does not mean merely voting tor a Government on a vote of confidence — that isn't good enough. What is not acceptable to me is the attitude of those who say we will retain the right to defeat you and -your measures but we will prop you up on a vote of confidence."

The speech is strongly applauded, including by Labour Left MPs. Eric Heffer and Norman Atkinson both state that the Government must be sustained.

- 22 June 1977: Over 4000 Rolls-Royce workers at Hillington, Glasgow begin an overtime ban to defend a victimised individual under threat of expulsion for production errors.
- 22 June 1977: Weir Group holds an open day for a new foundry in Leeds. 600 customer firms from France, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Jordan and India attend. Lord Weir, chairman, announces a 37% rise in profits from the previous year and announces the firm will be using its £13m ferrous foundry grant from the government over the next years.
- 22 June 1977: The world's largest tobacco firm, the British firm BAT announces its successful purchase of the cigarette division of Leow's Corp. It means BAT will have control over Lorillard trademarks outside USA (including Kent, second largest US brand outside the USA, 17 billion cigarette sales a year). BAT states "we believe there is significant and profitable growth in tobacco". It is also the first time a major brand operating in Britain has been taken over by the firm.
- 22 June 1977: Government announces merger of AVP Industries and BP Chemicals' Xylonite will not be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.
- 22 June 1977: Sir Horace Phillips, most recent British Ambassador to Turkey smoothing relations with the handpicked neo-military regime in 1972 and former senior diplomatic official to militarist Indonesia, is awarded an honorary degree at Glasgow University.
- 22 June 1977: Members of NUM Yorkshire, South Wales and Kent picket Grunwick's.
- 22 June 1977: Home Secretary Rees meets the 8 Labour MPs on the picket line the day before.
- 22 June 1977: British Leyland and Renault announce an important joint working party to explore the chances for technical cooperation. This cooperation would be for manufacturing licences and interchanges of components.
- 22 June 1977: Rupert Murdoch, publisher in control of <u>the News of the World</u> and <u>the Sun</u>, holds talks with merchant banking group Hill Samuel to help make a bid for Beaverbrook Newspapers, who have

- revealed that they are considering sale of the whole group (Daily Express, Sunday Express. and London Evening Standard). Publishers Associated Newspapers, (Daily Mail), Sir James Goldsmith, chairman of foods group Cavenham (with its 40% stake in Beaverbrook) and Tiny Rowland, chief of Lonrho, who owns a large stake in SUIT (Scottish and Universal Investments of Glasgow Herald and Evening Times) are the other candidates.
- 22 June 1977: Stewart McIntosh, chief of Scotland NUS attacks EIS's failure to sustain its promises over education cuts. Many EIS teachers have broken their own contract of service by ignoring EIS instructions not to take classes of more than 33 pupils. Had this limit been adhered to, more NUS student teachers would have been able to find work. Fred Forrester, EIS organising secretary, says it is understandable during the "economic blizzard" if EIS members are more concerned about the future of their own jobs than about anything else.
- 23 June 1977am: High Court pre-case hearing is brought forward before Lord Chief Justice Widgery to allow Grunwick's case against ACAS (due to be heard beginning 18 Jul 1977) to be speeded up to avoid effective picketing continuing.
- 23 June 1977 pm: On the insistence of Home Secretary Rees a meeting is held at New Scotland Yard between Roy Grantham, APEX general secretary and Deputy Metropolitan Commander Gibson. It plans arrangements to reduce the effectiveness of picketing. On the agenda are APEX officials giving armbands to 'legitimate pickets' allowing the police to pick off illegitimate supporters.
- 23 June 1977: ATV, Associated Television Corporation, ITV supplier for the Midlands announces an increase in profits by  $\pounds 4.5m$  to  $\pounds 11.1m$  in the year to March 27. ATV announces it has been investing in films. Chairman Lord Grade says it has been this is leading to the profits increases. ATV also has a very successful product in 'The Muppets' that manages to reach a wide adult audience with virtually zero expenditure.
- 23 June 1977: 150 Yorkshire NUM pickets and Arthur Scargill picket Grunwick's. Mick McGahey and Scotland NUM also attend with 12 pickets. Scargill is arrested by a pack of police officers pouncing on him. Dozens are brutalised, however the press reports fixate upon a young policeman, PC Trevor Wilson, struck by a bottle and severely injured. Newspaper photographs and television footage fixate upon his bloodied head, not any protesters' blood. It becomes the front page image for the following day's newspapers and is later used by the Police Federation in its posters for higher pay, and his case, background and noble loyal intentions become a fixation of the

press subsequently. Sir Robert Mark in his autobiography congratulates George Ward for resisting "politically motivated violence" and condemns "the disgraceful behaviour" using the example of PC Wilson.

24 June 1977: 3,000 pickets at Grunwick's. 52 are arrested.

24 June 1977 pm: Keith Joseph uses the Grunwick's dispute to enliven the backlash movement: "Will the real democratic socialists please stand up. Will they denounce the rentamob siege of Grunwick? Will they denounce fraternal party links with the concentration-camp regimes of Eastern Europe? Will they speak and act for the rule of law? ... The Battle of Grunwick sorts out the democrats on the one hand from the red fascists and time-servers on the other." There are no official Labour party links with the "regimes of Eastern Europe". There are serious links with Socialist International parties including, most important in financial transfer terms, the PS in Portugal PSE in Spain. Visits to and from several Soviet and East European 'trade union' leaders and officials allows an easy open goal for backlash sentiment.

24 June 1977: US, Britain and British Virgin Islands sign an agreement allowing fishing operations from the US and the British Virgin Islands to fish in each others' respective 200 mile EEZ limits.

24 June 1977: Tony Benn analyses the failure of the BNOC deal: "I found that the BP share offer had been oversubscribed within one minute of opening because of the discount Every single BP share could be sold in Britain. This means we don't have to sell them in America, but of course we feel committed, so the jobbers will be refusing British bids for BP in favour of New York. The National Iranian Oil Corporation, ie the Shah, is trying to buy 1 per cent so he can get a foothold in the North Sea. We have handed some of the most valuable assets of this country to the Shah, to the Americans and to private shareholders... We have provided a blueprint for selling off public assets in the future and we will have no argument against it."

25 June 1977: 15 pickets are arrested in a mass swoop as police disperse protesters outside the <u>Northern Echo</u> printing works in Darlington to block the distribution of newspapers written by strikebreaking journalists. John Hodgman, NUJ regional chapel organiser, is arrested after complaining to police about the needless violence involved whilst arresting a young female picket.

25 June 1977: 70 SWP and 50 NF supporters turn out for rival paper sales in Lewisham town centre and are kept apart by the

police. 17 National Party member stage a pro-police demonstration at Lewisham police station.

25 June 1977: A 21 year old is killed and 4 others severely injured in a three-hour street confrontation in Easterhouse in the evening. Two group of youths fight with knives, bottles and short swords.

25 June 1977: Osamo Kaihara, former Secretary-General of the Japan's National Defence Council, on his PRC visit inspects nuclear bomb shelters in Beijing, the anniversary of the start of the Korean War. PRC military figures declares they would welcome a Japanese Maritime Self-Defense training fleet visit to PRC ports. (Kyodo News Service reported Jun, 26, 1977)

25 - 26 June 1977: The Observer management imposes a large NAFF advert on the paper. The advert is in the shape of an announcement repeating backlash distortions on the Grunwick's appearance on the printworks floor Its disagreement from printers. Len Murray, TUC General Secretary, is called by its editor, Donald Trelford, to persuade printworkers to accept the advert. Either Murray (or TUC Council) are threatened with bad press if it does not accept The Observer's demands; or he willingly works to force the advert through, since does he remains in contact with the newspaper throughout the evening until the printworkers give way. The Observer's statement says: "Two production chapels branches at The Observer the machine minders' chapel of the National Graphical Association and the machine operatives chapel of the National Society of Operative Printers and Assistants — protested to the editor Mr Donald Trelford at his decision to accept the advertisement."

On the Sunday, Donald Trelford says the advert being printed means two kinds of freedom have been defended - the freedom to advertise and the freedom of an editor to decide what should be printed. He says "No editor worth his salt can allow anyone, whether they are production workers or anyone else, to interfere with the contents of his paper once they have been decided."

Donald Trelford has previously been editor of the Nyasaland Times 1963-66, when it is controlled as a mouthpiece for Hastings Banda. The paper attacks dissident wings of within MCP, and supports Banda's early moves to become Salazarist Mozambique and apartheid South Africa's premier allies in Black Africa. Nonetheless he retains the title 'liberal'.

26 June 1977: Springburn and Knightswood, Glasgow, see short blackouts as two separate groups of young vandals break into locked sub-stations and move switches inside.

26 June 1977: Callaghan personally urges action to weaken strikers' picketing in Grunwick's: "If things continue on the present basis

there could well be fatalities and in circumstances which might be in danger of bringing the Government down... The government was not dealing with respectable unionism but rent a mob." (Note of a meeting at Chequers, 26 Jun 1977 PREM 15/1491, s B12)

26 June 1977: Murder of Jayne MacDonald, 16-year old shop assistant by 'the Yorkshire Ripper'. The official police investigation into the Sutcliffe case, the Byford Report later reports "the possibility that any unaccompanied woman was a potential Ripper victim was not considered at the time". It highlights some judgemental attitudes and the exclusion of evidence deemed irrelevant because of the assumptions and prejudices of police officers. Peter Sutcliffe has already attacked 14-year-old schoolgirl Tracey Browne sustaining serious head injuries, but she is "never included as an official victim despite providing an accurate description and photofit".

26 June 1977: Princess Anne attends the Angus Silver Jubilee Fundraising Gala at the Marine Commando base Condor, near Arbroath.

26 June 1977: Scottish Police Federation chief, Serg. Joe Black explains Scottish police officers are ready and willing to volunteer for Grunwick's strikebreaker solidarity work: "This offer of support for the police in London was completely unsolicited. Over the past few days I have been inundated with calls from police officers wondering what they can do to help. They are even prepared to go down in their free time and without pay. I would hope the dispute would be settled soon before it was necessary to draft police in from Scotland but I think the offers of help are an indication of support for their hard-pressed colleagues down south."

27 June 1977: George Ward meets Albert Booth at Parliament where he lies promising to abide by the ACAS verdict. He fails to do.

27 June 1977: Professor Bill Wedderburn, supporter of Bullock Majority Report, declares: "The concrete proposals in the Bullock Report indicate that the 'partnership' will be a conflictual partnership" but partnership nonetheless, at a conference in Bari University, Italy.

27 June 1977: Home Secretary Rees visits Grunwick picket line, but is jeered and jostled, his presence confuses the pickets unsure whether to block Rees' entry into the picket lines or aim to picket the road, that police keep clear for strikebreakers to enter.

27 June 1977: Ministry of Agriculture publishes survey showing that the cost of food (not including any drinks, soft drinks, cakes or sweets) for a family of four is at an average of £20 a week. It

reports that food prices have increased by 20.5% compared to the same point in time a year ago.

27 June 1977: Djibouti begin its neo-colonial independence. French Co-operation Minister Robert Golley and Olivier Stern, Minister of Outre-Mer attend celebrations. Thousands of French troops remain in the territory in a defence pact.

27-20 June 1977: International Grains Council, encompassing the Food Aid Convention, holds its meeting in London. It fails to agree measures to combat the severe hunger in southern Africa, indigenous communities of Bolivia, Bangladesh and India, the Sahel and elsewhere.

28 June 1977: Green Paper (Cmnd. 6851) on housing policies is released. It does not propose any end or cut to mortgage tax relief, which is a general subsidy for those rich enough to buy houses. It proposes a Housing Consultative Council to monitor local authority housing issues, but the consent given generally for council house sales is, on the Green Paper's recommendation, continued.

This later allows Conservative, SNP and Liberal-dominated councils to carry on selling off council housing stock. Effective backlash campaigns in local politics in places like Manchester and Lancashire against local Labour councils that refuse to sell of council housing stock are conducted.

28 June 1977: <u>Financial Times</u> sums up Britain's Presidency period at the EEC: "The overwhelming impression has been that the Government's enthusiasm for mastering the presidency mechanics was not matched by a political will to get seriously engaged in those areas of EEC activity which do not correspond exactly to the perception in London of British national interests"

28 June 1977: <u>Financial Times</u> reports in 'Britain poised to win £1bn Jaguar order from India' that success in military exports might have come from corrupt payments.

29-30 June 1977: Meeting of European Council in London brings to an end Britain's 6-month Presidency of EEC. All Labour Left opponents inevitably play a role in the period. Pro-EEC solid Heathite senior civil servant Sir Donald Maitland: "we could look back on some successes... progress was made on fisheries; the debate on the next enlargement of the Community was opened; despite a difficult passage in the Council of Ministers, Portugal's application to join was endorsed; the Sixth Directive on Value Added Tax was settled.... the verdict of our partners was that, in political terms, we had been insensitive to common goals and had shown overt preference for our national interests.... On the other

hand, no one criticised the way in which we had run the presidency." (Diverse Times, Sundry Places, Sir Donald Maitland)

30 June 1977: Beaverbrook Newspapers Ltd, publisher of the <u>Dally Express</u>, the <u>Sunday Express</u> and <u>Evening Standard</u>, is sold to Trafalgar House Investments Ltd, a property conglomerate that also owns the Cunard Shipping Lines.

30 June 1977: Police in Brixton attack a protest against Jubilee luxury and monarchist expenditure.

30 June 1977: Government announces a Court of Inquiry, led by the ubiquitous Lord Scarman, to diffuse the mass picketing action, which is increasingly seen as encouraging unofficial action amongst the UPW, power workers or others.

30 June 1977: Thailand's Board of Investment releases a report detailing significant investment by US, Japanese, Malaysian and British firms. It records that within the first five months of the year, 103 foreign investments have been made, with a total investment capital value of 10bn baht. This is up more by more than 50%, price adjusted, compared to the same period last year (the coup against the reforming government was in Oct 1976).

30 June 1977: The firm Hong Kong International Terminals (HIT) officially opens the huge fourth terminal to Hong Kong airport. It expects increased business visitors, regarding the PRC, since air transport in southern PRC is limited. Tokyo flights are increasingly common as Japan begins stepping up its joint ventures in southern China. In Sep 1978, PRC and Japan sign a series of agreements for joint ventures in coal and oil extraction in PRC, further solidifying a crucial economic relationship.

30 June 1977: Third Way editorial fires its venom against trade unionists at Grunwick's: "the events of the dispute go to show that 'peaceful' has joined the long list of debased words in the English language. Now it only means 'without physical violence', and not the positive peacefulness of shalom. There is nothing peaceful about the hostile, jeering crowds outside the factory gates. There is nothing peaceful about the vehement cries of 'scab' as those who wish to earn a living (rightly or wrongly) without the added ties and responsibilities of union membership, seek entrance to the factory. Nor is there anything peaceful about the busloads of miners swelling the picket lines (what do they know about the problems of a small film plant?). Whether or not the firm's managing director is the 'industrial hooligan' miners' leader Mick McGahey makes him out to be does not justify a retributive hooliganism. No one, it seems, has been able to counter irate self-interest with eirenical sense. And whenever the dispute ends, with whatever results, everyone involved will be just a little more sour, a little more confirmed in their own suspicions of the 'other side'. All will have lost a little more credence in the sight of each other; the faith in and fear of industrial violence will have grown just that bit more. The worm will not die and the fire will not be quenched."

July 1977: The month's issue of RN's <u>Navy News</u> announces a significant trip - with a fleet of 9 ships with 2,000 men on a ninemonth round the world "pleasure" cruise. The stops include the Mediterranean, Indian Ocean, Singapore, Hong Kong, Christmas to be spent on the Australian east coast, New Zealand and Tasmania, through the Pacific Isles to America. It says the route goes via "the blue Pacific seeking out those small islands which conjure up visions of palm trees, coral, surf, breath-taking sunsets and grass skirts". Many navy recruits have persuaded the Draft Board to allow them to volunteer to stay on board for the duration of the cruise. Estimates of the cost vary above £15mil.

- 1 July 1977: Liverpool conclude the sale of player Kevin Keegan for a Europe-wide record fee of £500,000.
- 1 July 1977: Audrey Wise, Labour Left MP, pleads not guilty to obstruction of a police officer charges.
- 1 July 1977: Passed by the Price Commission, P&O Ferries increase freight rates on many ship routes.
- 1 July 1977: David Fairhall reports sympathetically on increases to RAF spending: "we should all feel flattered that the RAF once more thinks we are worth defending"
- 1 July 1977: Britain, Denmark and Ireland complete their tariff equalisation with other members of the EEC matching the Six's Common External Tariff, having begun a steady programme of rearrangements on 1 April 1973.
- 1 July 1977: After several years of parliamentary debate, British Shipbuilders, the nationalised firm, is established under the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Act (1977). Its workforce is 85,000 taking over from 30, mostly unprofitable, separate private shipbuilding firms. On the launch of the new firm, Chief Executive Michael Casey states: "I would like to make it clear that we have no plans for redundancies in British Shipbuilders or for closures. Our policy is for an all-out drive for orders" (The Times 1 Jul 1977) even though senior shop stewards and officials of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions have been informed of likely cutbacks.
- 1 July 1977: Lawrence Daly, General Secretary of NUM announces the executive's thinking and plans at Annual Conference. It is in favour of measured wage restraint, of productivity incentive

payments and firmly opposed as ever to wildcat action: "One item that will not be on the agenda at Tynemouth, however, is pit closures. This is evidence of the striking change that has taken place in the fortunes and outlook of the coal industry since 1973. Gone forever are the days when the NUM conference resembled some ancient tribunal, with everyone wondering who would be next to meet their fate. The atmosphere now is more like a christening than a wake and is a tribute to the way in which we have been able to work, in close co-operation with the Labour Government, to lay new and solid foundations on which we can build a more prosperous future. [Together there is] the implementation of the plans for expanding output in the industry which were agreed with the Government within months of it taking office. The coal industry tripartite group is now a permanent feature of the energy scene and represents the first attempt at serious long-term planning in any of the nationalised fuel industries. Indeed, delegates to our conference will all be issued with copies of a report agreed earlier this year between ourselves, the National Coal Board and the Government, which reaffirms the commitment to press ahead with our existing plans up to 1985 and which shows how we can go beyond this to expand deep-mined output to 150 million tons by the year 2000... I believe we have provided a model which can and should be adopted by workers in other heavy industry, such as steel. We have reached agreement on a national concessionary coal scheme to replace existing schemes and remove the anomalies which arise from the present structure.... Recently, unconstitutional action in some coalfields has threatened to sabotage the agreement. This will no doubt be raised at the conference, when I expect such action to be firmly repudiated. I would not be surprised if we received a record vote in support of the national executive recommendations to accept the agreement... [C]onference will be receiving a report next week is that of incentive payments. In 1974 we committed ourselves to seeking the introduction of a meaningful payments scheme to increase productivity. The national executive committee has now agreed on the outlines of such a scheme and we have begun discussions with the board. Misgivings remain in some quarters about the advisability of moving away from uniform national wage levels... but we can negotiate a satisfactory arrangement which will be acceptable to members, which will achieve the desired effect on output and which can be introduced as soon as the present restrictions on wages come to an end ... against a background of renewed confidence in the ability of the industry to advance the conditions of its workers... our discussions will, of course, also be held against a background of declining real wages and rising prices over the past two years. This is the one black spot on the recent record of the industry and it is a problem which we share with every other trade union in the country. I am

sure we can expect the social contract to come in for some heavy criticism at Tynemouth and it will be criticism that is well meant. The continued erosion of wages in industry cannot be permitted any longer. But there is a danger that, in rejecting the rigid wage controls of the last two years, we may also reject some of the positive achievements as well. I have never believed that the social contract is, or can be, purely about wages. It is more fundamentally about the new spirit of co-operation that the trade union movement has established with the Government... this broader agreement sacrificed... without some must not be continued understanding among all sectors of the Labour movement, we shall see the socialist legislation fought for by this Labour Government, lost in a Tory landslide at an early general election. That is what I shall be telling our delegates net week and I am confident that in doing so I shall be express the feeling of the majority of the NUM members."

1 July 1977: Liberal investigative journalists Jack Anderson (who first showed proof of CIA anti-Cuban schemes in 1972) and Les Whitten report on CIA assessments of PCI: "The Communists will gain control of Italy and France in the 1980s by reversing their revolutionary role. Instead of upheaval, they will offer stability. This is the prediction of intelligence experts, whose function is to anticipate developments in Europe... As they see it, the immediate goal of the Communists in Italy and France will be to Infiltrate government and gain managerial experience. They will seek to keep their heads below the line of fire, leaving the exposed positions to the democratic leaders.... Their strategy, therefore, will be to provide efficient, responsible government at the lower levels while the democratic parties are rocked by trouble and scandal at the upper levels, the experts believe. In short, the Communists hope to earn the confidence of the populace by dispelling their fear of disruptive change... the Communists expect the majority to turn to them. Already, the Communists have made a backstage deal with the Christian Democrats in Italy to abstain on votes that might bring down the government. In return, some 6,000 Communists have been admitted into subordinate but key positions in government agencies and government-owned companies.... In Spain, the Communists have striven so hard to make their party respectable that they have embraced the monarchy of popular King Juan Carlos. This has earned them a strange new nickname - el Real Partido Comunista."

2 July 1977: A 'capital and shares' i.e. stock market begins operating in Indonesia for the first time ever. Foreign subsidiaries are well represented in the operations in Jakarta.

2 July 1977: "On the morning... of... mass picket I talked to workers at the Associated Automation gate opposite the Chapter Road picket. About 40 workers had gathered there and had refused to go into work. Most of them were resentful that a mass meeting had not been called, and in the end about 30 to 40 Associated Automation workers spontaneously walked out to join the picket line – or so I was told. Perhaps this is more of an extreme example than a classic case but it sums up what seems to be a common condition among many local stewards – extreme reluctance to bring "outside" issues into the factory, and an increasing unwillingness to expose themselves to mass meetings." (Ken Montague, Grunwick Strike Committee)

2 July 1977: Lewisham 21 Defence Committee demonstration in New Cross in support of local black youths arrested in police operation: "300 demonstrators marched through Lewisham and New Cross" (Kentish Mercury, 7 Jul 1977). 200 National Front supporters form a counter-protest and throw rotten eggs, bottles of household poisons, "rotten fruit and bags of caustic soda" More than 60 people, fascists and anti-fascists, are arrested in clashes in New Cross Road and Clifton Rise, as a result.

2 July 1977: Chancellor misleads the public: "we shall be able to regenerate British industry with new investment and afford the biggest substantial increase in living standards we have ever known" (Yorkshire Post, 2 Jul 1977)

2 July 1977: New York Times reports on the centre of: "Anybody who wonders what the Rhodesians are fighting for finds all the answers in this small town [Umtali] climate, selling and genteel comforts give it a quality that is exceptional, even by Rhodesian standards. "We've all been looking in our atlases to find somewhere we could go to, but none of us has found anywhere that offers anything approaching the kind of life we have here." said Geoffrey Appleton who runs the most successful building concern in town. Similar sentiments are voiced wherever a visitor goes, despite the growing pressures of the war." Otherwise, life in the town goes on much as before. The 8,500 residents carry weapons in their cars if they venture out of town after dusk, and they can no longer cross the border, which was closed by Mozambique's government in March of last year. The move ended vacation trips to the coastal city of Beira and shorter excursions to the nearby town of Vila Manica... "But these are relatively minor things, aren't they?" said Doreen Stanbury, partner in a real-estate concern on Main Street. Like many Umtalians, Mrs. Stanbury and her husband emigrated from Britain, in 1956. They chose the town for many of the same reasons that led Cecil Rhodes' pioneers to found the first settlement here in 1890 — a perfect climate, temperate even in winter, an idyllic landscape... Even under the United Nations trade sanctions that followed the break with Britain In 1965. farmers here prospered, growing tobacco, coffee, tea and fruit. Timber concerns, a paper mill and a car assembly plant also expanded, although the car plant switched from British Leyland products to Citroen and Datsun [British Leyland in collusion with Citroen].

During a chat in her office, with a view across the town to the Vumba Mountains that dominate the terrain, she said that most of those who have left were young couples with children, heading for South Africa or Britain. "If I had young children, I think I might do the same" she said, citing the widespread fear that educational standards might plummet under black rule [in a internal settlement scenario]. Among the cards in Mrs. Stanbury's display case... a 250-acre farm suitable for growing fruit, nuts and tea, together with a spacious cottage, for \$40,000. Even now, there are buyers, "gamblers, mainly," said Mrs. Stanbury. She said that with 100 per cent mortgages available the gamble could prove highly profitable, in the event that negotiations produced a stable black government that was not hostile to private enterprise. In Zambia the black nation immediately to the north, property values increased sharply after independence."

3 July 1977: Australian prime minister Fraser "If Europeans want stability of access to supplies of energy, to supplies of Uranium, it is reasonable enough for us to seek to have that principle of stability applied to access to their markets. Stability is a principle that cannot be applied to one part of trade between nations. It ought to apply to supplies of raw materials and to access to markets."

The Fraser government is attempting to force EEC to accept Australian beef and other primary products in order for their access to Australian uranium. Fraser cites the example of EEC having quota-restricted Japanese steel imports, to declare Australia, will, if necessary, act in the same way.

3 July 1977: Royal Regatta at Henley's Finals' Day. As experienced from the school magazine of Raine's School 1977: "Old Raineian John Roberts, some 6" 3" tall and all of fourteen stone! If John is not remembered by all O.Rs of the past twenty-five years, the other members of the family will all be known to some O.Rs over that period. Harry left in 1956. Ted in 1962, John in 1971 and Jane (what a life for a girl in such a family!) in 1974. There Can be few Stepney families, or indeed any East London families, with such a fine record and Mr. and Mrs. Roberts have indeed cause to be proud of their quartet. John, the subject of our article, had coxed a Poplar and Blackwall eight at Henley in his first year at Raine's, but only this year was his ambition fulfilled — to be in a winning crew on

Finals' Day.... John had appeared on Thames TV, so we realised that this Jubilee Year could be his year of glory too. Now, with the season well advanced, John and his fellow oarsman, J. Clark, rowing coach at Latymer Upper School, Hammersmith [do their] winning in a very fast time and in a fashion described by the "Daily Telegraph" as 'Roberts' Assault!' What next? John, who, when he is not training or rowing, is employed as a foreign exchange broker, looks forward to representing Britain in the World Championships in Amsterdam at the end of August. Jane is twenty-one in that same month and both Harry and Ted are coming home from Canada to celebrate. What a Roberts' knees-up that could be!... John is the fourth Raineian to represent England in a major sport during the writer's sojourn at the School. Dennis Tucker got both his Oxford 'blue' and his international vest as the English javelin champion; Terry Howard played several times in the England Amateur soccer team; and, only last year, Robin Hobbs retired from the vice-captaincy of Essex after playing cricket for England in the West Indies."

3 July 1977: Zia-ul-Huq's coup in Pakistan ousts the PPP government.

4 July 1977: Lewisham NF announces plans for a NF demonstration against 'mugging' in Deptford in August, promising its "biggest-ever rally... Everybody will know that the Front is marching. Where we had a couple of hundred people in New Cross on Saturday, we will be talking of thousands for our march" (South London Press, 5 Jul 1977).

4 July 1977: <u>Der Spiegel</u> publishes a long 6-page interview with Tony Benn titled 'Die Briten sind das klügste Volk der Welt' 'The British are the wisest people in the world'.

"Benn: In my opinion the British are the wisest and most democratic nation in the world; I strongly believe this. We have an almost fantastic record when it comes to peaceful changes in power, and peace and order in the state. The British are a people who reflect, learn from experience and make their decisions after that—that is precisely democracy... Everything I say is really very simple: Democracy means a nation choosing its own path...

Benn: It took a hundred years, until we established parliamentary democracy. It will probably take almost as long, until we reach industrial democracy.

Spiegel: Do you have enough time?

Benn: Life is a long process. Remember the story of the tortoise and the hare.

Spiegel: But aren't British people tired of being the tortoise in economic competition.

Benn: If we compare our development over a century with other countries', well, then I think that the British have good reason to have faith in our approach....

Spiegel: Yes but we believe that we owe our present standard of living to the largest [cross-border] market in the world [the EEC].

Benn:... the British labour movement has never accepted capitalism. Spiegel: But it has never seriously opposed it.

Benn: I wouldn't say that. Christ, as recorded in the New Testament, drove out the money-lenders from the temple... We British are a nation deeply influenced by the Bible. It has been said that we owe our socialism more to the Bible than to Marx, and I think that's in fact true"

4 July 1977: An important accord between the Italian 'mainstream' parties and the PCI, where the PCI agrees to external support of the government and its austerity programme.

5 July 1977: 26 postal workers are suspended from Cricklewood office.

5 July 1977: Britain and Mozambique sign an agreement concerning products from Mozambique's agricultural sector to be supplied to Britain in exchange for development loans. (Loans are signed in Nov 1977)

5 July 1977: General Zia ul Haq's coup against Bhutto.

5 July 1977: Callaghan's handwritten note to his senior civil servants and Employment Minister Booth:: "Was Scargill at Grunwick today - I thought he was at Whitley Bay with the NUM. Keep me informed about Scargill's movements. He may have to be warned off." (Note by Callaghan on memo sent to him on Grunwick dispute, TNA PREM 16/1491) He orders surveillance on Scargill via JIC officials, who are ready to take any opportunity whatsoever to increase surveillance. \*\*

5 July 1977: <u>The Guardian</u> urges that something must be done against the rise of the NF. It editorialises on a survey carried out by researchers at Essex University and suggests the NF can certainly achieve the 25 general election seats predicted by the survey. The impact of this kind of journalism is largely to pin-point the NF, to the exclusion of the mainstream centre-right, as the source and central problem.

6 July 1977: A further 87 postal workers are suspended from Cricklewood postal office, leading to a strike at Cricklewood office from 6-29 Jul 1977, which is joined at various points for various durations by a few other offices, despite UPW Executive pressure.

- "Ward was desperate and sent his people into the office to take the mail and process it themselves... But the UPW executive voted against wider action. The union held a disciplinary committee and seven of us who were London officials were fined a total of £1,400."
- 6-8 July 1977: 3 days of negotiations between Britain and Guatemala over Belize end inconclusively, leading to British military reinforcements on 8 Jul 1977.
- 7 July 1977: Queen visits a military parade of BOAR in Senilelager, Federal Germany, for the Silver Jubilee. German and British MPs attend watching various helicopters, Chieftain tanks, FV430 armoured personnel carriers and recovery vehicles, Scimitar and Scorpion reconnaissance vehicles, Stalwart vehicles, Abbott self-propelled units, M107, M109 and M110 guns, armoured bridging equipment, the Lance missile and Cymbeline radar systems.
- 7 July 1977: World Council of Churches issues a report noting that Rhodesian armed forces are intensifying their war and that countergang Selous Scouts "have frequently murdered black civilians and white missionaries in Rhodesia" that are independent of the PF but are nonetheless Zimbabwean nationalists. Such massacres are inevitably attributed and tallied to ZANU or ZAPU guerrillas.
- 8 July 1977: The day after Miami-Dade County, Florida votes (202,000-83,000) to repeal an equality ordinance that includes sexual orientation, California state Republican senator John Briggs launches a campaign to introduce legislation to prevent homosexuals and reference to them in California public (state) schools. Amongst businesses that contribute to the Briggs anti-gay initiative is Chartered Bank of London. The businesses are aware that morale and finance behind Briggs will sustain anti-tax measures such as Prop 137.
- 8 July 1977: 6 Harrier GR3s fly to Belize via Goose Bay with the support of Victor tankers. They remain there as part of Operation BRITFORBEL.
- 9-10 July 1977: NAFF's 'Operation Pony Express' begins. to break Grunwick mail out of London have it weighed and stamped and sent as regular post from rural post boxes so it cannot be easily blacked. "A thousand mail-bags, each containing 100 packets of processed film had piled up in the factory. Grunwick was being... starved of income and even George Ward was on the brink of closing down. We thought differently! I reckoned that if we could free the accumulated mailbags, we could break the Post Office stranglehold.

... at 1 a.m. the night before, a group of 16 of my City friends and I, together with John Gorst, MP for Hendon, arrived at the Grunwick factory with an articulated lorry and a 5-ton vehicle. The pickets were either asleep or drunk. There was not a single one guarding the gate. We loaded up the thousand mailbags and set off" (John Gouriet, Hear Hear!)

Much of the strikebreaking is well-prepared by NAFF associate Diana Keigwin, second wife of Vice-Admiral Sir David Loram, former royal equerry and close friend of the Duke of Edinburgh during his earlier past, NATO's Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic, 1977-80. She has also been assistant to Sir Robert Thompson in Saigon assisting US forces prosecute the war. The couple are large landowners at Kettlethorpe Hall. "My PA, Diana Keigwin, had experience of being under real fire in Saigon and was fresh from the Institute for the Study of Conflict. She proved a tower of strength in helping plan and run 'Operation Pony Express' as well as running the gauntlet of angry pickets. In the space of a week girls had gone all over London buying over £12,000 of postage stamps to reduce the likelihood of detection... our seventy branches produced volunteers to assemble in Gloucestershire at a friend's barn in the middle of a large farm near Northleach one Sunday morning in early July. Over 300 appeared with a motley array of Landrovers, horseboxes and trailers, estate cars and even vans. Numerous sets of kitchen scales were produced, together with trestle tables and chairs.... There was a great cheer when [the lorry and 5-ton vehicle] arrived and teams of volunteers, young and old set to with gusto... Each packet of processed film had to be individually weighed, stamped and put back in a mailbag, which was then loaded into a horsebox or other vehicle. As each vehicle was filled its driver set off on a predetermined route, posting a few packets in each letterbox in his or her designated area. By 4 p.m. 100,000 packets were on their way to letterboxes as far north as Penrith, south west to Plymouth, to Wales, East Anglia, London and the South Coast. Only one rural postmaster complained; "I wish you'd handed them to me over the counter in bulk instead of clogging up my letterbox!" (John Gouriet Hear Hear!)

10 July 1977: A French trawler about 20 miles from the British coast is rammed and boarded by an RN patrol vessel, for having violated Britain's new fishing regulations. Unlike with Iceland, there are no descriptions of this act as barbarity, overkill, 'needless violence' etc.

11 July 1977: About 18,000 trade unionists, including Yorkshire and Kent NUM members take part in a demonstration outside Grunwick's. The plant is blockaded for 6 hours from the morning

until noon. Leadership of APEX leadership urges the Grunwick's strike committee to withdraw the pickets "to avoid further violence" as dozens of police vans mount up ready to charge the sit-in protest. The Strike committee relents and pickets are called off at noon and marched around the town centre in Brent allowing strikebreaker buses to go in. Over 70 are arrested, police horses charge demonstrators. Arthur Scargill, sees a policeman punching a picket in the face, many demonstrators are knocked to the ground and hospitalised.

<u>Daily Express</u> reports the events as "hate-filled, violent and bloody" comparing it to events in the last days of Weimar Germany, reasserting the active trade unionist-Nazi parallel.

- 11 July 1977: Don Revie announces his resignation in an exclusive (sum undisclosed) scoop to the <u>Daily Mail</u>. He leaves England managerial post for UAE for a 4-year contract worth over £340,000.
- 12 July 1977: <u>Gay News</u> and its editor, Denis Lemon are found guilty of blasphemous libel. Justice Alan King-Hamilton, delivers a fines of £1,000 to the magazine, £500 and a 9-month suspended sentence to the editor. Justice King-Hamilton praises the restrictions on publication of poetry: "It is perhaps being a little too optimistic in this era of obscenity but it is possible to hope that by this verdict the pendulum of public opinion is beginning to swing back to a more healthy climate."
- 12 July 1977: High Court rules against the UPW blacking of post to Grunwick's. Later, Tom Jackson, general secretary of UPW, calls off action blacking Grunwick's, endorsing postal workers supplying the firm with its photographic film allowing production to continue.
- 12 July 1977: Government's Bill to extend the operation of existing direct labour departments in local authorities is defeated on a 3rd Reading.
- 13-15 July 1977: The first round of negotiations between the Foreign Office Under-Secretary and Capt. Gualter Oscar Allara. It discusses "future political relations including sovereignty over the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and Anglo-Argentine economic co-operation"

The government position is against any transfer of sovereignty, but is in favour of discussion on it to reach a modus vivendi to secure a solid 'South-West Atlantic bloc' in discussions about Antarctic marine rights.

13 July 1977: Robert Bhebe's relatives are informed at Salisbury prison that he has already been executed in secret. He is executed

- alongside 2 others. Their crimes are solely encouraging blacks to flee Rhodesia and join guerrilla forces. Salisbury announces the executions on 15 July 1977.
- 13 July 1977: Cecilia Vinas and Hugo Reinaldo Penino are detained and subsequently disappeared, with Vinas giving birth to a boy that is almost certainly appropriated by deputy chief of SIN (Servicio de Inteligencia Naval) Jorge Raul Vildoza.
- 13 July 1977: <u>Hornsey Journal</u> reports on the struggle against discriminatory discipline: "Angry placard-waving picketers from the Black Parents and Black Students Movements lined the pavement outside Hornsey School for Girls, Inderwick Road, on Wednesday. The parents were complaining about the way their children are disciplined. The protesters are to seek a meeting with the school's Board of Governors to discuss their complaints", 'Picket mounted at school', Fri 15 Jul 1977)
- A campaign leaflet declares: "For years now Miss Curtis, Headmistress, of Hornsey School for Girls has been making life a misery for parents and students in the school. Nobody has done anything publicly about it. We start now! Miss Curtis has stopped girls taking exams, who had every right to take them. She threatened to stop other girls from taking their exams for trivial reasons. She has refused references to girls from the school"
- 14 July 1977: Meeting Federal German Foreign Mnister Genscher, Brzezinski and Kissinger warn publicly that "communist participation in European governments would call for on the scene unpredictable plans or decisions by the US Congress."
- 15 July 1977: One-day national strike by bus drivers in Italy.
- 15 July 1977: Senior civil servants from Home Office, connected to MI5 and MI6 report to Callaghan's principal private secretary, Ken Stowe "Scargill intends to bring 5,000 miners to picket Gurnwick on Friday July 22". Ken Stowe's notes: "Our sources are well aware of Mr Scargill's wish to resist TUC pressure that mass picketing be ended... We also know that Mr Scargill has speculated about the possibility of arranging some kind of shift system for 2-300 miners to maintain a presence at Grunwick."
- 15 July 1977: Community House, mainland base of the Iona Community, a major centre in Glasgow for the homeless closes this summer because of the high cost of repairs. On average more than 1500 people a week have used the house at 214 Clyde Street as a day-time shelter, cheap source of food, and meeting place. Rev. Graeme Brown, Iona leader, has previously said the closure is the unanimous decision of the community board on "economic

grounds." Most of the paid staff of 32 lose their jobs, some are redirected to other Iona projects elsewhere.

15 July 1977: Chrysler's Australian subsidiary announces over 1600 job cuts. Management cites the failure of Australian workers to agree to reductions in working hours, meaning a loss in pay of over 20%, contrasting them with Chrysler (UK) who have accepted such reductions. TUC recommendations in favour of British car workforces' compliance have exacted their toll outside national boundaries and are predictably ignored by the Labour Left.

15 July 1977: Hard-rightist arson fire on the West Indian League, a community advice and activity centre used by black young adults.

15 July 1977: 11<sup>th</sup> Budget. Chancellor announces that discussions with TUC are acceptable because the TUC have accepted that "the period after July 1977 must bring an orderly return to normal collective bargaining and that there must be no free-for-all or pay explosion" He reiterates the danger of high wage increases being price rises, which individual unions are held responsible for in all government pronouncements: "if the rate of increase in earnings is as high as 15%, we should not get inflation down to 10% at all, and it would be rising steadily through the second half of next year and into 1979 ... if the rate of increase in earnings were as high as 20%, prices would soar"

He states "the general level of pay settlements should be moderate enough to secure that the national earnings increase is no more than 10%" and the public sector will lead the charge in ensuring the 10% limit is stringently adhered to. Self-financing productivity agreements are the one exception to the 10% limit since they will allow redundancies to be made more easily. These offering better than normal wage increases for those who continue at work with the skills or good fortune to be in more "productive" fields, to help divide them from those likely to be made redundant in less productive fields. NCB's productivity deal flows from this logic.

Increases in school meal charges by a minimum of 50p a week from Apr 1978 are announced.

15 July 1977: Chancellor Healey announces severe limits on local authority expenditure: "For 1978–79 the assumptions used for cash limits will reflect the Government's policy on pay. Spending authorities will not be able to rely on supplementary provision beyond the cash limits."

15 July 1977: NUM votes at its Conference for a claim for a £135 weekly wage, but leaves out demands on pensions and any clear policy to oppose the NUM productivity scheme.

- 16 July 1977: TGWU delegates, against the strong urging of Jack Jones, vote for a return to collective bargaining without pay restraints from government.
- 16 July 1977: The Economist notes the costs of the social contract from a business perspective: "The essence of Britain's dying social contract was that government policy was shaped in various undesirable, uneconomic and slightly illibertarian ways in order to secure the signing of pieces of paper by Mr Jack Jones and other trusted trade union leaders... Even while the wage restraints agreed by the Joneses were being loyally obeyed... there was a cost to this. In economic policy the trade union leaders have demanded the sheltering of old inefficient industries at the expense of preventing adequate profits... In the more important non-economic fields, legislation has increased the privileges of trade unions at some cost to civil liberties, the attorney-general of England has felt constrained not to enforce the full rule of law, and nobody can feel happy about picketing that has escalated into intimidation."
- 17 July 1977: Somali special armed forces assisting the WSLF, outside regular uniform confront Ethiopian armed forces near Dire Dawe in the first battle of the Ogaden war.
- 18 July 1977: Every member of the UNSC sponsors a resolution from the membership committee for Vietnam to be admitted to the UN except the United States, Britain, Canada and Federal Germany. Discussions continue and the US position becomes increasingly weak as Canada seeks to emulate Australia and Japan and accept Vietnamese entry.
- 18 July 1977: Arbitration court decides in favour of France against Britain's claims in the Atlantic Ocean.
- 18 July 1977: French Minister of Foreign Affairs publicly concedes it has loaned high-powered aircraft in Chad's battles with its opposition in the Tibesti region.
- 19 July 1977: AP reports "United States has asked that Vietnam's membership bid be accepted without a formal ballot a move designed to spare itself the embarrassment of having to vote in favor of its former foe... The United States last November vetoed a U.N. membership application by Vietnam" Britain has accepted the inevitable and acted as a go between to U.S. concerns. Britain later becomes more sympathetic towards Vietnam, when it announces it will not hand over its surplus war rifles to beleaguered guerrillas in Burma, Thailand and Malaysia and publicly crushes thousands of rifles.

- 19 July 1977: Tony Benn announces that in accordance with the Plowden Report (Cmnd. 6388)'s recommendations, the government would abolish Electricity Council and other existing boards to set up a single centralised body the CEGB.
- 20 July 1977: Report of the Post Office Review Committee (Cmnd. 6850) under Charles Carter is published. It recommends splitting the Post Office into two independent corporations; adoption of a flexible pricing policy for mail; rapid adoption of modern telephone exchange equipment to reduce workforce in telephone sector; efficiency indicators to stimulate management productivity and the creation of a Council on Post Office and Telecommunications Affairs, which later will be largely filled with management figures. In general, the end of Sunday collections continues across much of the country. Basic postal prices continue to rise.
- 21 July 1977: The Times prints Prof. Hayek's call for severe restrictions on trade unionisation under the clarion cry of 'removing special privileges': "Sir, When will the British public at last learn to understand that there is no salvation for Britain until the special privileges granted to the trade unions by the Trade Disputes Act of 1906 are revoked? Mr Robert Moss is probably right when in his recent book he writes that "the Liberals who blithely passed a Bill drawn up by the first generation of Labour MPs in keeping of an electoral promise quite literally had no idea what they were doing".... There can indeed be little doubt to a detached observer that the privileges then granted to the trade unions have become the chief source of Britain's economic decline.... The public hardly yet understands that the power of the trade unions to destroy the economy has been conferred on them as a special privilege by an irresponsible government buying a few more years of power. That fatal mistake must be undone if Britain is to recover."
- 21 July 1977: Vauxhall Motors UK, subsidiary of General Motors, announces it is deleting posts in Belgium to transfer production of its Cavalier range to Britain alone. The move is expected to 'create' 2000 new jobs by the end of 1977. Vauxhall announces it will change to double shifts at its Ellesmere Port plant to meet the higher UK production levels. It has already increased its Vauxhall. part of the combine, ha\* already boosted its work force by around 1000 this year to meet increases in demand.
- 21 July 1977: British Shipbuilders, the new nationalised firm announces that 140 job cuts will still go ahead at the Leith yard, in spite of a new £3mil ferry order for that year. Union officials ask Admiral Sir Anthony Griffin, chairman, and Ken Griffin, his deputy chairman, for talks. 71 jobs will end in early Sep 1977.

- 21 July 1977: Government announces £10mil to help finance construction of the upper Tans river reservoir dam, Kenya. Also ECGD (Export Credits Guarantee Department) has guaranteed a £4.7mil loan that Guinness Mahon-Bank of Scotland has made to Kenya Furfural, that is to fund 2 contracts, a £4.4mil awarded to Sulzer Bros (UK), and a Foster Wheeler (Process Plants) £3.6mil one.
- 21 July 1977: Ford of Britain has finalised a truck deal worth £1.5fD with Tunisia. The contract is for 344 D-senes phase trucks in the 7-13 tons range, to be delivered between now and the autumn.
- 22 July 1977: Edward McGirr states: "The medical man's special relationship to his patient makes for many doctors like myself talk of restrictive practices, be they sanctions, strikes, or a closed shop in the National Health Service ethically indefensible and professionally unacceptable. For the members of the BMA to threaten to adopt practices inimical to the members of a free society and individual liberty, that I understand the BMA supports, would seem to me illogical and disingenuous. Personally I don't find any pleasure in the picture of the medical profession flexing its industrial muscles at what may be ultimately the expense of the sick, the elderly, and the handicapped."
- 22 July 1977: Maxwell Aitken, son of Sir Max Aitken, former Beaverbrook and life president of the firm, resigns the board of directors with "utmost goodwill" and later receives over £45,000 as a golden good-bye compensation.
- 22 July 1977: Alfred Atherton, US Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs defends plans to sell secret air defence systems to Iran: "Iran has acquired over the years sophisticated equipment of great sensitivity, including our F-14 and Phoenix missile system... We believe Iran's rigid security arrangements have been very effective and we are unaware of any instances of compromise or loss of sensitive U.S. supplied information or equipment." of the Defense Security Assistance Agency, said the seven Airborne Warning and Control System planes that the United States would sell Iran for \$1.5 billion are
- 22 July 1977: The 90 women and 21 men who have taken over the Essex International factory in Kilwinning 3 weeks ago after an 8-week strike have received none of their official AUEW strike pay of £9 a week, in spite of its official status. Fellow workers at the firm's plant in Derry/Londonderry were being paid up to £7 a week more.

A striker states: "It's terrible when you can't pay the rem or heating bill. Most of the women are desperate. Many have children and husbands who are out of work. We feel the union is pussy-footing over paying the money. We were told five weeks ago that we were sent the money but each day since then the union has told us, 'It's coming tomorrow.' Well, tomorrow doesn't seem to be coming for us." Another explains: "The management approached us on Tuesday and asked us to hold a secret ballot for returning to work. We are holding a meeting to discuss it — but if we don't get any strike money we won't have much choice. The company knows this."

- 22 July 1977: Fewer than 100 at Grunwick's picket. Inward anger and demoralisation lead to fewer of the dismissed strikers taking part in the rallies. Later, proposals for a future mass picket on 8 Aug 1977 cause a split when APEX threatens to cut off strike-pay.
- 22 July 1977: Green Paper, Education in Schools (Cmnd. 6869) is published. It envisions a massive ramp-up of the professionalisation of teaching at virtually all levels, aiming to reassert the divisions between teachers and others with the school environment, that were fairly ironclad until the 1970s. It demands graduate only entry into the teaching profession and demands a raise in standards of entry there, ensuring those on the other side of the tracks will remain excluded from teaching.
- 22 July 1977: High Court possession order is granted to nationalised firm BSC British Steel Corporation to bring in police to remove a group of workers occupying a steel plant in East Greenwich, London.
- 22 July 1977: <u>The Guardian</u> reports the success of nationalised industry in passing on health and safety costs onto its workforce. The British Steel Corporation is fined £150 under the Health and Safety Act for exposing an unknown number of workers stripping blue asbestos from its Dalzell Works, Lanarkshire, without due protection. Workers were not informed of any danger and only an anonymous tip off brings Health and Safety Commission Factory Inspectorate officers to investigate.
- 23 July 1977: Congress passes the annual foreign aid appropriations at \$5.7bil with a ban on assistance to Vietnam, Cuba, Angola and Mozambique.
- 23 July 1977: Foreign Secretary Owen, new British Ambassador to US Peter Jay and officials meet at the White House Carter, Cyrus Vance, NSC chief Brzezinski, Andrew Young, US Ambassador to

Britain Kingman Brewster to calibrate Western policy over southern Africa.

- 23 July 1977: <u>The Times</u> article 'Wards to close' on cuts action in features a whole 23 words: "Some wards at Northampton General Hospital are to be closed next month because of a shortage of nurses, due to lack of money." By contrast any health sector strike action that delays patient entry at all is given columns and often pages-worth of 'analysis' and denunciation.
- 23 July 1977: A local movement sponsored inquiry examines police behaviour and brutality in Islington. Islington 18 Defence Committee later publish summaries of the main testimonies in 'Under Heavy Manners: report of the Labour movement enquiry into police brutality and the position of black youth in Islington'. The Defence Committee has been set up against over 90 separate charges pinned against 18 Islington youths over the self-defence at Notting Hill Carnival 1976. Via the campaign a complaint against police for assaulting a 14-year-old boy in their custody is filed. He has been stopped by police 38 times within 28 days. (IRR News, 2010)
- 23 July 1977: Regular Somali forces in the Ogaden launch full scale attacks on Ethiopian targets recording significant gains, reaching deep inside the border. A force of over 50,000 marching under the banner of exiles of the West Somali Liberation Front (WSLF) begins sweeping up procedures within a week or so.
- 23 July 1977: Sri Lanka election sees government irregularities, which when protested lead to severe clampdowns leading to 36 being killed.
- 24 July 1977: <u>Sunday Times</u> reports on the failures of the first ever independent Police Complaints Board, "contrary to expectations, the Board does not seem to have produced a rise in the number of complaints, probably because people are deterred by the threat of legal action against them for libellous complaints." Police Federation is the key financial supporter of policemen issuing libel threats when complaints are suggested or made. Many are withdrawn before any investigation.
- 25 July 1977: Labour Party's Trade Union Liaison Committee withdraws its call for a wealth tax to the draft Labour Party policy future 'The Next Three Years', after Callaghan reminds them Cabinet has already decided there will be no such legislation during this parliamentary term. Chancellor Healey has warned them that any attempt to introduce a Wealth Tax Bill will mean that wrecking

amendments will triumph so that it is likely to become law in a highly regressive fashion. Effectively the wealth tax is dead from this point on, but government does not resign.

- 25 July 1977: Government makes available its second £100mil lower-interest capital loan to British Leyland, allowing it be rewarded with public money for preparing redundancies in secret.
- 25 July 1977: <u>U.S. News & World Report</u> estimates that Israeli authorities have destroyed up to 18,000 Arab homes in order to set up homes for Israeli settlers in the West Bank in the new phase of settlement-based apartheid.
- 25 July 1977: British Army court-martial in Dusseldorf, led by Brigadier Eric Bailey, its president, with 3 other military officers and one civilian with links to the MoD, acting as judges acquits a NAAFI (Navy, Army and Air Force Institutes) chief former Lieutenant-Colonel Sidney Carter, for driving a fully loaded strikebreaking vehicle at speed straight over a picket. The picket, severely injured and rendered paraplegic.
- 26 July 1977: Under an agreement reached by the leaders of political parties in Italy's Chamber of Deputies, PCI is to head 4 Chamber committees: Finance and Treasury, Public Works, Constitutional Affairs and Transport. The committees outline the state and shape of legislation, for the Chamber to vote upon. The Chamber of Deputies has earlier agreed upon its first ever PCI chairman since 1948, Pietro Ingrao on the PCI's Executive board. PCI will remain outside the next cabinet but has great influence over the course of budget and other important legislation. It means financial aid for Italy from international lenders including Federal Germany, USA, Britain and France can continue, since they had warned of cutting aid if PCI chiefs move into the Cabinet.
- 26 July 1977: International Commission of Jurists' review prints accounts of 15,000 prisoners dying of malnutrition in North Sumatra and Surabaya prisons. A political prisoner, in a smuggled (dated 1 Jan 1977) letter to the Red Cross in Geneva, states that 9 out of 10 prisoners in Indonesia are tortured or brutalised regardless of the charges against them. Beatings with hard, spiked objects, electric shock treatment, removal of finger-nails, crushing hands under table legs, and confinement in narrow oildrums that are then beaten, torture of close family members, rape of prisoners' wives are detailed. It reveals that the IRC visit in 1976, featured authorities moving around detainees with "the secrets of the inhuman and arbitrary treatment" away from prisons to holding centres in ordinary military facilities. More generally some prisons

are given the illusion of good facilities "immediately prior to the Red Cross visit, pillows, pans, music, 2 television sets, and sports equipment were provided to the prisoners at Salemba".

26 July 1977: Britain and USA announce they will provide arms to the Somali government in response to the Eastern Bloc withdrawing arms sales (over its invasion of Ethiopia). Britain hypocritically does what it accuses others of doing - 'filling in a vacuum' in arms sales. Centrist mantra doesn't change from 'if we don't sell high-grade weapons, someone else will' to a more accurate 'if someone else doesn't sell weapons, our nation will'.

26 July 1976: NAFF lodges an application at the European Court of Human Rights to cancel the legality of closed shop arrangements. It pours funds into the hands of right-wing lawyers as legal fees for 3 anti-union (happy to receive trade union-won pay awards, determined to resist payment of dues) British Rail staff who have been dismissed under a closed shop agreement. When a closed shop agreement is imposed upon British Railways Board (BRB) all employees are given a choice of unions, NUR, TSSA or ASLEF to join. These 3 individuals resent this subscription and attempt to resist. Their refusal to pay subscriptions to the organisation that has won them their pay increases and working conditions is celebrated in the centre-right press. The case goes to the European Court of Human Rights as Young, James and Webster v. United Kingdom. In 1981 they win their case, hastening prohibition on closed shop arrangements as introduced by Norman Tebbit. The £100,000 cost of legal fees is recovered from the government. From 1976-79, NAFF budgets over £150,000 a year to fund any unlawful dismissal cases over closed shop arrangements hence closed agreements become 'on paper only' by the 1980s, for fear of trade unions being legally penalised.

- 27 July 1977: NF's youth division holds a protest in Harlow, Essex against drug abuse.
- 27 July 1977: Carter Administration announces that it is eager to supply military equipment to militarist Sudan, following an earlier similar statement to pro-Western Chad.
- 28 July 1977: Callaghan states "I am quite satisfied with the arrangements at No10 [in controlling the secret services] and with what is going on in the security services."
- 28 July 1977: USA and Greece sign a new agreement on military cooperation at the USA's 4 military bases in Greece.

29 July 1977: Indonesia begins broadcasts from its new regional radio station and transmitters in Timor. Effectively controlled by the military, it promotes Indonesian ideals and propaganda against Timorese guerrilla forces.

29 July 1977: Queen takes part in a Silver Jubilee Review of RAF planes and crews at RAF Finningley.

29 July 1977: <u>Daily Express</u> features its right-wing ex-MI5 figure Chapman Pincher write a long article explaining that MI5 bugged Wilson. Benn investigates: "I had a word with David Owen and Merlyn Rees about the bugging. David controls MI6 and Merlyn MI5 and they both said, "We control the security services completely; the people at the top are very decent; you would be surprised about how good and decent they are. Some of them you would know, but of course you wouldn't know what they did. It is quite untrue and Harold Wilson is absolutely paranoid."

David Owen: "They are getting back at him [Wilson] to frighten him by saying they bugged him"

...I said, I hope you do keep them under control. I was at a dinner in 1971 when Harold told the CBI that the Government bugged the TUC.

"Oh,' said Merlyn, striking his head with the palm of his hand, 'how awful; he should never have said that" - which indicated that Merlyn knew. I went on, "Bryan Stanley told Ray Buckton in the 1972 strike that the ASLEF locomen were bugged."

'Well, it may be true that at some periods in industrial disputes that does happen,' Merlyn replied." (Tony Benn's Diary)

29 July 1977: Tony Benn, assuming the British people have the power to govern themselves at some point in the past, defends the broad thrust but not the detail of Owen's EEC policy: "If you want my honest opinion, I am quite happy to go along with David Owen's general approach, but I want to see this country restored to itself, with the right to govern itself by its own legislation. That is what I think is important. You hear all this about our parliamentary democracy being undermined by Marxists or by extending the public sector, but the plain truth is that it has been undermined by Brussels. It may take twenty years to do it but I want to work to restore to the British people the power to govern themselves and then to work for others." Callaghan has a massive row with Benn over this in front of the Cabinet, angrily threatening to sack him (Tony Benn's Diary)

29 July 1977: A deputation of 8 Lewisham church leaders hand in a 1500-strong petition to Police Commissioner David McNee calling for the NF march to be banned. The leader of the deputation, Rev. Barry Naylor (St John's, Catford, leading member of ALCARAF) meets McNee who tells him there will be no ban.

- 29 July 1977: UPW Cricklewood ends its strike in protest at suspensions over the blacking of Grunwick's mail, faced with an injunction.
- 29 July 1977: Under pressure from APEX officials who promise that government conducting secret intermediary-based negotiations will force Grunwick's to begin negotiations, Grunwick's strike committee, heavily influenced by Jack Dromey, call off the planned 8 Aug 1977 mass picket.
- 29 July 1977: Lord Denning sitting in the Appeal Court overturns High Court decision of 12 July 1977 that has backed the ACAS report.
- August 1977: Fakenham Enterprises, the women workers' cooperative in Norfolk, producing leather skins, handbags and clothes is taken over by Tetford Clothing Company, ending 31 jobs and the experience of workforce self-management. The co-operative, employing 31 women, ran into financial difficulties in Dec 1976, when, unable to pay the rent, they began subsidising their efforts by delaying wage payments.
- 2 August 1977: Lewisham police chiefs meet with NF organisers to discuss plans for march. Martin Webster, NF national organiser, tells press: "The Reds have had it all their own way and the only way you can fight Communism is to confront it. We believe that the multiracial society is wrong, is evil and we want to destroy it' (South London Press 5 Aug 1977).
- 2 August 1977: Carter states US would like to "eliminate the grossly discriminatory practices that have been extant [in South Africa] for a number of years. We're not trying to cause a revolution or to destroy their government. But this is a sensitive issue. There again, we have a limited role that we can play."
- 2 August 1977: Elijah Loza, chair of SACTU's Cape town branch, organiser for FAWU (Food and Allied Workers' Union) is killed in detention.
- 3 August 1977: Callaghan and Benn make up after their row on 29 Jul 1979. "'For Heaven's sake, don't apologise, you had a hell of a day. Anyway, I was a bit worried and I wanted to come along and have a word with you, motivated by the same spirit.'
- So, like many rows with Jim, it blew up and blew over and blew out. And I am awfully glad I went to see him because he couldn't have been nicer. I wanted to make peace with him and retreat a bit.
- He said, 'I thought you were really trying to wreck the whole Government and withdrawing as leader of the Left in order to take over.'

- 'Look, it isn't like that I am trying to persuade people, and I think if we get the framework of the Conference right then we can have a meaningful debate.'
- 'Of course,' said Jim, 'there are people on the Executive who just want to wreck the Government. I know there are.' He does have an obsession about this but I didn't pursue it." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 3 August 1977: Michael Palin attends the theatre: "The play Weapons of Happiness by Howard Brenton is not, as they say, 'my cup of tea'. It belongs to the belligerent, strident, didactic school of theatre, in which dialogue is sacrificed to monologues, characters depressingly clichéd, angry cockney workers, champagne drinking employers, etc. Occasionally some pleasing and quite moving writing, but as a whole I disliked it, as I felt most of the audience did. We eat at the Neal Street Restaurant. David Hockney posters on the wall and David Hockney himself at a table." (Michael Palin's Diary)
- 3 August 1977: Kevin McNamara writes in the <u>Catholic Herald</u>: "the Christian Affirmation Campaign sent Mr George Ward, the managing director of Grunwick, a dozen red roses. They could have done better by sending him the social encyclicals of some of our Sovereign Pontiffs... Mr Ward is a Christian."
- 3 August 1977: A contract is signed in secret between Uganda and retired CIA agent Frank Terpil. With materials sourced from CIA supplies, Terpil agrees to supply Amin with telephone bugging equipment and "secret special weapons" [high-density liquid explosives, remote detonators and disguised weapons]. It also makes reference to the supply of training in intelligence, sabotage and 'psychological warfare practises'.
- 3-25 August 1977: Kerry Packer's successful legal action against the ECB for refusing to release Tony Greig and Greg Chappell.
- 4 August 1977: A 20-year-old unemployed user of morphine and diazepam is found dead overdosed in Musselburgh.
- 4-23 August 1977: <u>Financial Times</u> NGA strike, which ends with a compromise agreement.
- 5 August 1977: When asked during a visit by Nyerere to the White House, over economic sanctions on apartheid South Africa, as applied by Tanzania Carter responds: "We have lately been encouraged 'by constructive moves in South Africa concerning Namibia. There are still some difficult questions to be resolved. But I think at this point, the best thing to do is to encourage South

Africa to continue their cooperative attitude and to join in under UN Resolution 385 in bringing about a free Namibia. If so, I think the threat of additional sanctions would be inappropriate."

5 August 1977: <u>The Guardian</u> reports Tokyo Embassy British "diplomats saw themselves at the losing end of some of their sunlight if the construction of a tax office nearby went ahead. The six-storey building, British diplomats feared, would have reduced their sunlight, the cherished right of Japanese citizens, so they lodged a complaint with Tokyo city authorities. In fact the shadow cast by the building would barely have dappled the dense shrubbery bushes in the spacious compound, but it would have constituted a mild eyesore for British diplomats in one of the most valuable pieces of real estate in Tokyo. To avoid ruffling British diplomats' sense of dignity, local authorities have changed plans for the tax office and will make it a four-storey building instead. Cost of the change will be nearly £1.1 millions, which the new Government office would have raised in selling space in two storeys that had to be sliced off."

5 August 1977: Ian Sinclair, Australian Federal Minister for Primary Industry, addresses the annual conference of the National Country Party of South Australia at Tanunda: "I must also decry the fact that so many British migrants seem bent on importing the 'British disease' into the Australian trade-union movement. These people have obviously sapped much of the strength of British industry, leaving the British economy one of the weakest in Europe. They are seemingly adopting the same attitudes and views towards the Australian trade-union movement. Their interests are not Australia, their origins are not Australian, and one wonders whether action should not be taken against them."

6 August 1977: Labour Marcus Lipton urges Callaghan to call off the visit not the grounds of the cost of the security operation or the detentions carried out under the PTA but because "the Queen should not he exposed to these unknown but all too present risks."

8 August 1977: APEX officials threaten pickets from Right to Work Campaign and others. Around 3,000 who have arrived are warned off a sit-down protest by the Strike Committee, listening to the advice of APEX officials. Strikebreakers enter without any stopping at all.

9 August 1977: Commemoration of the introduction of internment sees over 6,000 march down the Falls Road Belfast.

9 August 1977: Army's Light Infantry Regiment shoot dead 16-year-old Paul McWilliams at Springfield Avenue, Ballymurphy, West Belfast.

"Paul was continuously stopped, searched and abused by British forces. A year or so before his death Paul was arrested following rioting in the area and later convicted for riotous behaviour. He received a custodial sentence and was placed in St. Patrick's Training School on the Glen Road, not far from his home. He was still being held in St. Patrick's when his grandmother died in early August 1977, and he was released to attend her funeral. He had been due to return to St. Patrick's on 8 August but failed to. Instead he had intended staying out an extra day [for] the annual commemorations protesting against the introduction of internment at 4am, 9 August 1971; initially directed solely against the nationalist community... during this time four members of the McWilliams family were interned.

The commemorations protesting against internment ... usually began with the lighting of large bonfires, followed at the stroke of 4am by the banging of bid-lids and blowing of whistles. The protesters then marched to Crown force fortifications in own their areas and continued their noisy protest. At this stage violent confrontations between youths and British military forces would often erupt. Such a confrontation broke out in Ballymurphy during the early morning of 9 August 1977 and lasted for several hours. Around 9am on 9 August, Paul and his brother Christopher were walking through the Westrock area towards their home. The street violence in the area had all but subsided as the brothers made their way along the street passed the wall of Curry's Timber Yard. Suddenly a single shot rang and Paul fell, a gunshot wound in the back. A British soldier positioned near the timber yard fired the fatal shot. Christopher, horrified at the sight of his badly wounded brother, ran to near-by houses and raised the alarm. The residents immediately ran to aid the youth and did all they could to comfort him until an ambulance arrived. Within a short period the ambulance arrived at the scene and the wounded teenager was placed in the back before it sped off towards the Royal Victoria Hospital. However, at the bottom of the Whiterock Road a party of RUC members and British soldiers stopped the vehicle to check who was inside, delaying the ambulance for several minutes before allowing it to proceed. The injured teenager died during the journey to the hospital." (British Army Killings)

9 - 10 August 1977: Queen's 2 day visit to the 6 counties via the Royal Yacht Britannia. 500 extra Scots Guards are imported for 5 days' duty in the province (6-10 Aug 1977). RN County Class destroyer HMS Fife armed with ship-to-air missiles and a Wessex antisubmarine helicopter, escorts the Britannia. RN naval frogmen and sonar underwater detection devices are mobilised to protect the embarkation.

She opens the University of Ulster in Coleraine. She says she hopes it will be a model for the rest of the province with "no place for blame for what has passed." The Queen and family leave in royal yacht Britannia for a cruise along Scotland's islands to Aberdeen and a holiday at Balmoral Castle. Republicans and much of the culturally Irish boycott all events. Peace People attend a reception on the royal yacht Britannia, symbolically greeting various honorific heads of departments in the royal family. This endorsement of British Army militarism and monarchism means Peace People are acceptable to feature in the Queen's 1977 Christmas broadcast. Roy Mason later asserts the importance of not acceding to requests by the SDLP, Sinn Fein and others against her visit: "To call off the visit now would be a defeat for Britain and the monarchy celebrated in IRA song and legend for years" (Roy Mason, Paying the Price, p. 204)

- 10 August 1977: ALCARAF press conference announces its policy that "if the police cordon off the road from Algernon Road to Clifton Rise, then the marchers will disperse. But if there is no police opposition the march will continue to Clifton Rise". The August 13 Ad Hoc Organising Committee, chaired by SWP organisers, stands firm in calling for occupation of the Clifton Rise.
- 11 August 1977: A foreign exchange crisis begins to develop over fears of industrial action in the September TUC conference: "At the moment there is a complete lack of confidence in sterling ... Basically, as financial observers here see it, the latest sterling crisis is a crisis of perception, of confidence. The Labor government is led by men who fully understand that Britain cannot borrow its way out of its economic difficulties, that hard work and increasing production leading to increased exports are the only way. They have largely convinced trade union leaders that this is so. They have reduced government spending and gotten the unions to accept pay restraints for the second consecutive year. Strikes have decreased. But holders of sterling outside Britain have not yet accepted these measures as sufficient.... Public spending may have been reduced, but not as drastically as outsiders wish. Borrowing abroad, as Mr Callaghan himself admitted, remains at a level of £10 billion a year. The strikes that still do occur, the attempts to get around the wage freeze such as the seamen's recent strike threat, receive publicity"
- 11 August 1977: Pinos Zehama and 7 others are executed in Salisbury. It brings to 100 the total of those executed under the 1912 Law and Order (Maintenance) Act, since 22 Apr 1975 when Rhodesia announced it would not give details of executions prior to their enactment.

The Law and Order (Maintenance) Act features, amongst many other sections imposed by Britain, sec 44: "Any person who publishes or reproduces any false statement, rumour or report which is likely to cause fear, alarm or despondency among the public or to disturb the public peace shall be guilty of an offence... For the purpose of this section 'statement' includes any writing, printing, picture, painting, drawing or other similar representation." Sec12 provides the death penalty or life imprisonment as the penalty for attacks on property or vehicles, which can be imposed whether or not the vehicles or property are occupied at the time of the offence.

12 August 1977: British troops go on the rampage in Turf Lodge after the Queen's visit. It leads to the sending of a delegation from the mainland to inspect the damage: "We must have interviewed about 30 people in Turf Lodge. I met his [Leo Martin's] parents and saw the bloodstained denims (stained about the legs and fly zip) which he had been wearing when the troops "did him over". Leo himself was away recuperating. We saw photographs of his bare body covered in scars and bruises. It was clear that he had been struck in the genitals. He had been beaten so badly that he had been sent to hospital, only to be removed almost immediately and rebeaten. William Wright had been almost as badly treated. On August 12, for no good reason, soldiers had stretched him out on the ground, trampled on his hands and kicked the back of his head so that he lay in a pool of blood for about half-an-hour before an ambulance arrived. I saw the scar on his head and the swellings on his seriously bruised hands. I also saw the scar on one 17-year-old boy's forehead. On the same Friday, he was just sitting quietly on a wall when three soldiers came up and attacked him, kicking and hitting him.

Also [part of] their raid that day on the home of Mary Graham, a 74-year-old pensioner... was still so distraught by the experience two weeks later that she started sobbing while talking to us. Like many people we met or heard about, she had suffered a great shock and was in a very nervous state. We saw the still repaired damage to her home. The troops had not given her time to answer the door, but had simply broken in, damaging the door. They had smashed tumblers and windows and broken woodwork. They had even stuck a rifle in her mouth. When Eileen Morgan of the Tenants' Association tried to come to her aid, she was swung around by the hair.

We saw many examples of damage done to property by soldiers that day. there was a great hole in the McVeighs' ceiling where they had poked up their rifles. The Battys still could not use their back door as the lock had been broken, along with four of their windows. The Mulhollands'... aerials on their flats were gratuitously broken.

We also heard of thefts by raiding troops — in one case they stole... £110 from a house they were searching. They insult the people who homes they raid, using "foul language". I heard of one man who had his pay-packet chucked on the ground so that he had to crawl to pick up his money; of young girls forced to take showers in front of soldiers; of threatened rape; of rifles thrust in children's faces.... a 14-month-old baby was the target of a plastic bullet. One 10-year-old girl had been "beaten black and blue" on the thigh, while her mother had had her ribs broken and had stitches in her head. Her 18-year-old brother had had the skin torn off his face and neck. Ms May's 16-year-old son was beaten actually' by a medical officer, and the soldiers threatened to split his trousers with a red hot poker. Another teenager had his finger broken by a plastic bullet and another was semi-throttled." (Pat Arrowsmith, 14 Oct 1977, Tribune)

- 12 August 1977: New Statesman features Patrick Wintour give a description of Peter Marriner, Labour Party's agent in Ladywood until he resigned following the evidence of his involvement with the British Movement, as "at worst ... an out-and-out fascist, at best ... some kind of political groupie" The article concludes "the fact that he controlled the Ladywood Labour Party shows the calibre of that Party and the decline... there are 150 Party members in the constituency, of whom not even a third are active"
- 12 August 1977: George Ward, Grunwick's owner, is given a full column in Catholic Herald attacking Kevin McNamara's support of those on strike, repeating falsehoods about the firm: "Mr McNamara MP stands in greater need of theological revision than I do. If he would care to examine not merely the social encyclicals of our sovereign pontiffs but also their other statements that touch upon social and political issues Mr McNamara MP might well be brought to contemplate how far the causes that he chooses to espouse can be squared with his faith. Catholicism cannot be reconciled with atheistic Marxism.... the dominant factors behind this dispute are Marxist inspired. This is not the accusation of some blindly prejudiced employer I might add. Let Mr McNamara MP test the matter for himself. Mr McNamara has nothing to say on that subject, though as he may well discover when he next runs for election, that most British people believe this is our greatest national problem.... The meanest of Mr McNamara's accusations is that I exploit immigrant labour. He is careful not to mention that I myself am an immigrant. Nor does he offer any explanation of why those who have been exploited and "humiliated" by Grunwick are so anxious to be re-employed by the company. ... Mr McNamara's outlook is easy to understand but it has little to do with Christianity in this issue. He loves the big battalions who are happy to keep him

in his job. Unless he sees no faults in trade unions and never contemplates whether the Labour movement now believes or practises what he preached when he joined it he would lose their support. This is why our country faces so many problems. Although myself a Catholic, I have always acknowledged that Catholics could differ from each other on certain social and political matters and I see nothing that has been done at Grunwick which conflicts with Catholic social teaching. But I suspect that this tolerance displeases Mr McNamara. He seems to want the Church to underwrite his prejudices. In George Orwell's 1984, O'Brien insisted that it was not enough to fear Big Brother; one must love him as well, Mr McNamara is not content to have his picket-line. He appears to insist that we should treat it as a charity."

- 12 August 1977: About 300 air traffic control assistants hold a work-to-rule at the London Air Traffic Control Centre. Delays are experienced at Gatwick and Heathrow. TUC General Secretary Len Murray intervenes in the evening and persuades the suspension of any action until 16 Aug.
- 13-14 August 1977: Traffic restrictions are imposed by the French and Spanish air traffic authorities leading to delays of over 3 hour were typical at Gatwick.
- 13 August 1977: Bishop of Southwark leads a church service against racism and for peace at St Stephens Church, Lewisham High Street. 200 people attend, with a banner outside with the words 'Justice, love and peace' as police start charging antifascist crowds (South London Press, 16 Aug 1977)
- 13 August 1977: At around 3 am bricks thrown through Mike Power's (Chief Steward for ALCARAF) home bedroom window "It was quite clearly an attempt by the National Front to intimidate me" (Kentish Mercury, 18 Aug 1977).
- 13 August 1977: Lewisham. Counter-demonstration to NF march. Police attack anti-fascists using their shields, horses, batons and van charges. A quarter of the entire Metropolitan Police has been drafted in, and the SPG has 200 new high-tech baton-and-shields on service for the first time. 214 are arrested, over 100 injured (The Times, 15 Aug 1977). David McNee's introduction of high-technology into "public order" later becomes routine.

"everyone pressed towards Clifton Rise. At the front, a ram-packed contingent of South London Afro-Caribbeans cordially but expertly blocked off the police's first attempts - uphill and on foot - to open a way for the NF procession. Up on a traffic bollard a Trinidadian giant with a hand megaphone was thoughtfully advising the crowd, rather as a cricket captain might place his field, and, in the lulls, making speeches. So when the police finally succeeded in opening a

passage for the NF march down New Cross Road an hour and a half after the scheduled start, it was done with more brutality than finesse. As the police prepared their charge, an Afro-Caribbean woman who had been watching from the top floor of her home hoisted her hi-fi speaker onto her windowsill. It was playing Bob Marley, Get up, stand up. Almost directly opposite her a Cypriot woman replied with a clenched-fist salute from the first floor of her kebab shop. Two minutes later an officer with a mechanical an order to disperse. No-one did; seconds later the police cars came into sight and sheered through the front row of protesters. So, without the organisation, it might have ended. Except people refused to melt away from the police horses and jeer ineffectively from the sidelines. A horse went over, then another" (David Widgery, Beating Time)

ALCARAF (All Lewisham Campaign Against Racism and Fascist) demonstration: "Over 5000 people from more than 80 organisations congregate in Ladywell Fields to hear speeches by the Mayor of Lewisham, the Bishop of Southwark, the exiled Bishop of Namibia and others" (South London Press 16 Aug 1977).

ALCARF march begins: "Those taking part in the ALCARAF march included members of the Young Liberals, Lewisham Councillors, Young Socialists, Communists and Young Communists, and the Campaign for Homosexual Equality' plus 'banners from GEC Elliot's factory, the Electrical Trades Union, Christian Aid, the Indian Workers Association and many more'. The march is led by a lorry 'with the Steel and Skin playing" (Kentish Mercury 16 Aug 1977). Police prevent ALCARAF march reaching New Cross. 'Police block the way to New Cross at the junction of Loampit Hill and Algernon Road. As the lorry leading the march turns in Algernon Road, march stewards try and stop it. Commander Randall shouts 'Keep that lorry on the move' (South London Press 16.8.1977). The police want marchers 'to go along Algernon Road back to Ladywell'. The Mayor of Lewisham, Councillor Roger Godsiff, formally appeals to police Commander Douglas Randall to 'allow the march to go on the

Mike Power of ALCARAF tells the crowd at 1pm "ALCARAF is not prepared to be directed away from Deptford" and appeals "for the march to disband peacefully there and then" (Kentish Mercury 16 Aug 1977).

original route that was agreed' (i.e. on to New Cross) - this is

refused.

At around 12noon: "the SWP were occupying the derelict shop next to the New Cross House pub. Police broke down a door and evicted the squatters, arresting 7 and taking a quantity of propaganda and banners" (Kentish Mercury 18 Aug 1977).

New Cross Road is closed with at thousands of anti-NF protesters in Clifton Rise and New Cross Road (Kentish Mercury 18 Aug 1977). Estimates of anti-NF crowd vary from 2000 (Kentish Mercury) to up to 4000 (The Times).

2pm: 'Police in two wedges - one from Clifton Rise the other from New Cross Road - moved into the crowd to eject them from Clifton Rise'. Two orange smoke bombs are thrown, and a tin of red paint. Clifton Rise and New Cross Road 'became a seething mass of demonstrators and police. Police helmets were knocked off as arrests were made' (Kentish Mercury 18 Aug 1977).

Them "Police drew truncheons and used them against the crowd. Most of Clifton Rise and New Cross Road was cleared of demonstrators. The battle for control of Clifton Rise was over. A man lay unmoving outside the New Cross Inn and was taken off in an ambulance. Another stretcher case lay in New Cross Road" (Kentish Mercury 18 Aug 1977).

3pm: Police escort National Front marchers out of Achilles Street, up Pagnell Street and into New Cross Road, behind a large 'Stop the Muggers' banner. Estimates of NF marchers range from 600 (South London Press) to 1000 (Kentish Mercury).

Anti-fascists break through police lines and attack back of NF march, 'separating them from the main body' (South London Press 16 Aug 1977). There is hand to hand fighting in New Cross Road, and NF marchers are forced off the road onto the pavement. Police separate NF and anti-fascists, and mounted police clear a path through the crowd attempting to block progress of march towards Deptford Broadway. For part of the route the NF march on the pavement.

Police lead the NF march 'through deserted streets of Lewisham' with crowds held back by 'by road blocks over the whole area' (Kentish Mercury). Marchers are flanked by three deep police on either side, with 24 mounted police in front. The march route goes down Depford Broadway/Blackheath Road, Lewisham Road and Cressingham Road, where 'more missiles were hurled at the marchers' (South London Press 16 Aug 1977).

NF hold a short rally in a car park in Conington Road, addressed by John Tyndall, police usher NF 'through a tunnel in Granville Park and then into Lewisham station, where trains were waiting to take them away' (Times, 15 Aug 1977).

Police bring out riot shields for the first time in England, and attempt to disperse crowd south down Lewisham High Street

towards Catford. Bricks and bottles are thrown. 'On the corner of Molesworth Street, mounted police prepared to charge. Beside them were police on foot, truncheons drawn. Police came racing down the street. One officer shouted 'get out of the way' and as he ran a man was hit. The officer then apparently collided with an elderly woman. She went sprawling on the pavement' (Kentish Mercury 18 Aug 1977). Confrontation against the police. Several shop windows are smashed in Lewisham High Street, including Currys (no.131), Kendall & Co. (no.256) and Caesars' fancy goods (no.230).

After the police onslaught Lewisham Council demand a public inquiry into the riots, the government refuses. The press broadly calls for more protection for police: 'After the Riot Shields, Stun Bags' photos of injured policemen not injured anti-fascists are on the front pages, including one portraying other officers helping an officer with a bandage across his face. Horse charges that feature prominently are shot only from a distance. Ron Hayward, general secretary of the Labour Party, later attacks the anti-fascists: "You don't stop the Nazis by throwing bottles or bashing the police. The most ineffective way of fighting the fascists is to behave like them."

- 14 August 1977: <u>Sun Herald</u> reports "Australia's security chiefs do not share Ian Sinclair's fear that some British migrants might not have Australia's interests at heart. A high proportion of the Commonwealth police responsible for guarding and enforcing security at Government establishments, including the top secret sections of the Defence Department, are British migrants."
- 14 August 1977: BBC TV interviews John Tyndall patting his dog in his front garden urging action against counter-protesters: "It is time to stop capitulating before the thugs. It is time that the authorities in this country were prepared to use all possible means and all necessary means to maintain law and order."
- 15 August 1977: Ian Sinclair, Fraser's Minister for Primary Industry, in the <u>Sydney Morning Herald</u> explains his view of British migrant trade-unionists: "The shop-steward system has factionalised the trade-union movement and generated a trend towards political, not industrial disputes with no regard to the overall good of union membership, other workers in industry, or the public at large. Many British-born citizens have phoned me to say that it was to avoid the shop-steward system of union management that they migrated to Australia. They now find the shop stewards have followed them here. The generally harmful results of shop-steward activities provokes the question whether the Australian worker would not be better served by a restructuring of trade unions themselves. I do not believe that the majority of Australians wish to sec an extension

of the shop-steward system here. Dr June Hearn of Melbourne University's economics department dealt with the problems of migrants in the workforce in a paper published this year by the Australian Council of Trade Unions. In the vehicle industry in South Australia during the early 1970s, she reports that migrants predominantly British — were involved in repeated unofficial stoppages and alleged acts of industrial sabotage. Dr Hearn repeated the comment of the then Federal secretary of the Vehicle Union: "Some migrant workers are unfortunately introducing elements into industrial relations that are quite foreign the Australian context. Many British migrant unionists, unencumbered by a language barrier, familiar with similar trade union institutions and practices in Britain, and often schooled in a union system that relies heavily in a strong shop-committee organisation, have been responsible for a substantial militant input into the Australian trade union scene" — so said Dr Hearn... Grain shipments to Chile are not possible because of trade union bans and that market is being supplied by Australia's competitors. Bans have also been placed on Indonesian vessels acquired specifically to ship grain to Indonesia. The meat and livestock industries are particularly hard hit by strikes. Recently UNO meatworks, at Nerimbera in Queensland and at Woolonga in Victoria, were forced to close, throwing 650 unionists out of work...This form of industrial terror cannot be allowed to continue. Australia's livelihood, the jobs of every worker and the welfare of their families depend on the diagnosis and treatment of the union sickness before it becomes an epidemic."

15 August 1977: Amnesty International publishes a 75 page report on mass abductions, torture and killings of peasant farmers by security forces in Nicaragua. "The populations of entire peasant villages have been reported exterminated or taken away as prisoners of National Guard troops. The wholesale killing of campesinos and their 'disappearance' after detention is probably the most serious aspect of human rights violations in Nicaragua," the report said. It features a statement by Antonio Castro Borges, a bricklayer and trade unionist arrested in Feb, 1975: "Agents of the Office of Security interrogated me handcuffed and hooded... For 15 days in these interrogations I was tortured physically, as they beat me almost to the point of attenuation." He is released after 5 months and rearrested "for three days afterwards I was beaten with sticks by agents" It also cites a letter by 31 American Capuchin missionaries to President Somoza noting that helicopters have fired on peasant villages, troops have burned houses and shallow graves of bodies have been discovered in their north-eastern parish. It states 92 people have been 'disappeared' in Siuna in the final months of 1976. Unsurprisingly it receives virtually zero attention

- as compared with later rights abuses by the Sandinista movement in power.
- 15 August 1977: Police Federation calls for a total ban on all demonstrations likely to lead to public disorder.
- 15 August 1977: NF spokespeople confirm a march through Tameside, Manchester has been cancelled, and a march in Streatham, London on Sep 24, is not planned.
- 15 August 1977: An anti-NF demonstration takes place in Ladywood, Birmingham.
- 15 August 1977: <u>The Times</u> leader attacks counter-demonstrators over Lewisham: "The blame for Saturday's violence must be laid squarely with the Socialist Workers Party, whose members and adherents, some of them armed with vicious weapons, came prepared to fight. That their belligerent intent so soon transferred itself from their avowed enemy, the Front, to the police is an appalling indictment of their true philosophy." <u>Daily Mirror</u> attacks the SWP as "as bad as the National Front"
- 16 August 1977: <u>Daily Express</u> editorialises: "Street politics is a nasty and brutal business. Knives, broken bottles and fists are their chosen instruments of dialogue. These people are fanatics. At Lewisham on Saturday we saw the full force of the fanaticism of the Far Left, as expressed by the Socialist Workers' Party."
- 17 August 1977: <u>The Guardian</u> reports on the Windscale inquiry. Fenwick Charlesworth, senior assistant chief inspector of the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate has told inquiry inspector Justice Parker that troops will be brought in if there is the danger of a major failure during an industrial dispute, ie effectively limiting the bargaining power of nuclear power workers.
- 17 August 1977: Managing to ignore the non-'fully British' populations entirely <u>Daily Telegraph</u> states: "The only readily discernible support for the Socialist Workers' Party came yesterday from the International Marxist Group, whose supporters joined the Socialist Workers' Party in Lewisham last Saturday."
- 17 August 1977: Bob Chamberlain, West Midlands organiser of the Labour Party, attacks anti-NFers at Birmingham as quoted in the Morning Star: "They are just red fascists. They besmirch the good name of democratic socialism."
- 17 August 1977: Callaghan formally invites Israel's new hard-right former Betar/Herut Prime Minister Menachem Begin for a state visit via British Ambassador John Mason.
- 17 August 1977: 2-hour strike against IDF encroachments in Gaza city supported by its mayor Rashid al-Shawa, who later sends a

telegram to Carter: "we call for the application of international covenants and the Geneva Convention which govern the affairs of citizens of occupied territories and ensures them a humanitarian way of life - a life of which we have been deprived during the 10 years of occupation. We call upon the United States of America, through its President and Government, to rise up to its historic responsibility, to exert pressure on Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories and to seek a just and lasting peace in the region."

19 August 1977: <u>Catholic Herald</u> divides the anti-NF protesters into "two parts, those who went on the peaceful demonstration organised by the All Lewisham Campaign against Racism and Fascism in the morning, and those who sought by any means they could to break up the National Front march in the afternoon. The thinking of the latter group seemed to be based on the fact that the National Front marches would only be banned if they caused a breach of the peace and that therefore if every march was met with excessive violence then the marches would be banned. This Machiavellian tactic is not one that Christians can support. It is also underpinned by an interpretation of all such occasions in terms of revolutionary violence, an ideology counter to Christianity."

20 August 1977: Flight International summarises a report by the Society of British Aerospace Companies (SBAC). Exports by the British aerospace industry during the first six months of 1977 amount to almost £500mil, a new record. By comparison £530million was the total export in 1973. The top customers by sales volume are in order France, USA, Federal Germany and PRC. Sales of guided missiles are close to £50million. Avionics sales were worth more than £84million over the period.

20 August 1977: 'Bankers' Problems: Cold Turkey' in <u>The Economist</u> describes the slow steps towards the imposition of an IMF austerity regime in Turkey, eventually bringing on the military coup of 1980: "International bankers have been caught napping in Turkey... Turkey has a mere \$500million of reserves left. It already owes banks and traders around \$1.5billion for imports received but not paid for. The central bank is now refusing to make the necessary foreign exchange available. Bankers are cing \$500 million due on letters of credit alone. Some commercial payments are already five months in arrears. The coldest shock to bankers is that Turkey is now failing to make payments guaranteed by the government. Some \$500 million of convertible lira deposits are falling due right now, another \$800 million before the end of the year. The money is

coming through spottily or not at all. Some payments are already several weeks late.

An attempt has been made to launch a little lifeboat to preserve banking confidence. The Bank for International Settlements, which acts as central bank for the top 10 industrial nations, has made secret loan of \$100 million to Turkey to help it pay out to private bankers under the convertible lira scheme. That won't go far. Smaller banks suspect that the Turkish central bank may be giving preferential treatment to favoured foreign banks... They resent the way a few big private commercial banks such as Citibank and Chase Manhattan, have been effectively delegated the task of operating a queue system on payment arrears. A major international banking row is brewing. Turkey will be at least \$2 billion in deficit this year... It has approached international banks for a jumbo loan to get it out of trouble. They have refused. They say that the country must show willing by going to the IMF and accepting whatever austerity measures it recommends. So far Mr. Demirel's right-wing coalition government has been too weak to take their advice."

- 21 August 1977: The Observer reports a resident in Handsworth describing people from the area marching on Thornhill Road police station in a protest against unwarranted arrests and detentions as full of people "more pleased than if they had won the pools". Its tone suggests its sees black citizens as basically delirious from confrontation.
- 21 August 1977: Cllr James Wray, Labour member of Strathclyde Regional Council in Gorbals is readmitted to the controlling Labour group after signing an agreement to abide by group decisions, after he refused in Jan 1977 to vote for spending cuts.
- 22 August 1977: Wedgwood Group announces more than double first quarter profits at the and placing the firm on course for an increase in annual profits from £7.73mil to well over £10mil. Chairman Sir Arthur Bryan, profits have received a "considerable boost" from Jubilee chinaware sales and demand for traditional lines "the year should be a good one for Wedgwood."
- 22 August 1977: Cement Headstone and Hepworth Ceramic announce Drogeda, Ireland, as the site of a new joint venture seawater-magnesia plant.
- 22 August 1977: A patients' support group report highlights the differences in support for rheumatism sufferers by various local authorities. In 1974-75, the weakest local authority spends (per capita) under a thirtieth the amount the strongest local authority does.

- 22 August 1977: Ian Bunce, East Dundee NF candidate, the first NF candidate to be named in Scotland, says he is withdrawing from his candidacy after large white paint slogans "Nazis live here" and "Fuhrer Bunce is a Nazi" are daubed on the wall of his home the previous night. He also states he would not want too see scenes similar to Lewisham and Ladywood Birmingham occurring in Dundee in the course of any election campaign. Leaflets about him have also been distributed at his workplace by SNP members.
- 22 August 1977: A CPSA ballot is held to determine whether strike action should be taken on the week starting Aug 25-29. If the strike goes ahead it will severely disrupt Bank Holiday flights throughout the UK.
- 22-25 August 1977: 850 assistant controllers, who operate airport computers, undertake a strike at Heathrow and Gatwick airports pressing demands for government to agree to a pay increase that had been approved by the Civil Aviation Authority.
- 22-27 August 1977: UN World Conference for Action against Apartheid is held in Lagos seeing greater Black African pressure against British apartheid links. To repulse the assault 85 member firms of the United Kingdom-South Africa Trade Association give a letter to Foreign Secretary Owen to take to the Conference to prove that these firms disapprove of apartheid.
- 23 August 1977: <u>Daily Express</u> publishes NAFF associate former MI5 operative Chapman Pincher 'man with contacts in intelligence services' declaring that Wilson was under surveillance in 1973-1976 because an intelligence agency suspected some of Wilson's associates of having Communist affiliations.
- 23 August 1977: Callaghan rejects calls to properly investigate MI5 or SIS. No.10 Office states it "is satisfied that they do not constitute grounds for lack of confidence in the confidence and impartiality of the security service of the Security Service or for instituting a special inquiry"
- 24 August 1977: Eric Stoves, vice-president of ABS, at a meeting of 2,000 BBC workers states: "It is going to be a war of attrition. It will not be a couple of one-day strikes. It will be a case of weeks and maybe months—but we will force the rises out of the BBC." In fact later, the claim is settled within the pay limits.

- 24–25 August 1977: Another 24 hour strike by 600 clerical workers at the British Leyland Bathgate plant in protest over the management's refusal to start negotiations on their wage claim.
- 25 August 1977: Alerted by an assuredly over-the-top press campaign workers at a London hotel having threatened to go on strike, secure the cancellation of a public meeting on 1 Sep 1977 of 'Paedophile Information Exchange'. This group, desperate to further acceptance of child abuse by ingratiating itself into the homosexual liberation movement is a godsend for the forces grouped around Mary Whitehouse.
- 25 August 1977: Government announces that a former colonial governor Sir Richard Posnett will assess the claim to damages awarded by the High Court for the Banabans, removed at gunpoint from their home island to Rabi, 30 years ago. Posnett is the Commissioner who is appointed to rule over authority in Anguilla soon after the Mar 1969 British paratrooper invasion. He is later appointed Governor of British Honduras/Belize, further entrenching its race-divided society under colonial patronage.\*\*
- 25 August 1977: Lord Scarman's report into Grunwick's recommends union recognition, which is not enforced. The report condemns mass picketing and postal blacking (blocked by police), whilst trade-union non-recognition is positively defended by the police who lunch in Grunwick's canteen. Police commanders at the start of the dispute are seen discussing operations with George Ward, Grunwick's owner and NAFF chief John Gouriet.

"English law, if it is to work, requires of parties to an industrial dispute a modicum of self-restraint in the pursuit of their rights. Men must act reasonably within the law. The British tradition of compromise is implicit in the modern English law governing industrial relations. Judged by the norms of good industrial relations practice that are to be found in industry generally, how have the company and the union measured up to the responsibilities imposed upon them by law but not directly enforceable by legal process?"(para 58)

It asserts a hard centrist 'both are as bad as each other' line: "On the legal aspect of the dispute we conclude that both the company and the union have in certain respects failed to respond to the spirit of the law"(para. 64).

(Report of an inquiry under the Rt Hon. Lord Justice Scarman, OBE, into a dispute between Grunwick Processing Laboratories and members of the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff)

- 26 August 1977: CPGB in <u>Morning Star</u> editorialises that NF "marches must be stopped by police" not anti-fascist action.
- 26 August 1977: Lloyds Bank announces it is sponsoring the National Schools' public speaking competition with over £7000 to fund travel etc. The 1977-78 theme is to be "Investing in the Future" with competitors offered about a dozen specific subjects to speak on.
- 26 August 1977: British Leyland workers preparing for strike action see sections of the workforce oppose the strike call, management having sent letters to all hourly-paid workers to persuade them to accept the deal declaring they can not negotiate rises for Longbridge, outside the framework of the package offered to workers throughout its 36 plants. CPGB senior shop steward Derek Robinson announces the strike over the pay claim is called off, even though there is a strong an overall majority in the plant in favour of action.

FTSE response is positive "British' Leyland workers at Longbridge... refusing to strike, rescued stock markets from what would otherwise have been a dull finish to the week." (27 Aug 1977)

- 27 August 1977: <u>The Economist</u> congratulates Labour standing firms against pay increases: "The big news from Britain's airports is not that tourists are stranded there. It is that the government has refused to budge an inch in the first major public sector challenge to its pay policy guidelines."
- 27 August 1977: Teddy Taylor, shadow Scotland Secretary, criticises local authority support for a "spanking new club for homosexuals in Glasgow" while police overtime payments and home help services are being cut. He also reiterates that "I am personally convicted that capital punishment and corporal punishment would save lives and reduce vandalism."
- 28 August 1977: Thatcher in a TV interview on Face the Press states NF and leftist antifascists have much in common, since both seek the destruction of society that is valued by Conservatives. "I regard all those who use force to get their own say, who want to destroy our way of life, as Left. The only sense in which I regard it as Left and Right is that Communism is the left foot of Socialism and Fascism its right foot, using Socialism in the sense that it is total regimentation and control by the State... People, in the end, must accept that self-government, which is what democracy is, is only for people who have learned a certain amount of self-discipline." She states families are demanding of the education system: "Please teach our children what is right and what is wrong."

She criticises pay policy in careful terms: "You cannot go back to normal free collective bargaining and then say: 'But none of you is going to get more than x per cent," she warns that many are justly angry over eroded differentials [code for middle-class superiority being challenged, albeit in a minor fashion]. She also states pay claims cannot be judged according to "industrial muscle... once you get that, you go to a system under which might is right." She states it is vital to retain and aim for money supply targets, in order to unemployment. Thatcher inflation and claims government is lucky in having a responsible opposition, whilst Heath's Conservative administration had not been so lucky in February, 1974. She states that now, unlike then, the opposition is behind the government in its fight against inflation. She states British people "are full of common-sense and want to do the right thing. The problem of modern society is how to deal with the wreckers, and that's a different matter."

29 August 1977: Notting Hill Carnival youth attempt to clear the Carnival of its swamp policing.

Jeff Crawford, community relations officer in Haringey declares: "Robberies and assaults, sometimes carried out most viciously by small groups of West Indians — many of them of school age — are a serious indictment of the West Indian community. One is at a loss for a rational explanation of this incredible hooliganism."

West Indian World responds: "The gang of 300 youths who defied Carnival stewards and wantonly attacked innocent and peace-loving people... are an embarrassment to the Carnival organisers and the black population in the UK, and should pay the penalty for their actions. We will not extend any sympathy to these thugs, and we advise other black organisations to come out strongly against them." The <u>Daily Gleaner</u>: "There is no getting away from the simple truth of the violence at the end of the Notting Hill Carnival on Bank Holiday Monday, a bunch of stupid black youth are to blame. The police should be commended for the way in which they handled the situation". Glasgow Herald: "Police sealed off part of the Portobello Road 'as a preventive measure" after the looting of two shops- Most of the injured are understood to have suffered cuts and bruises as a result of muggings and handbag snatchings."

- 29 August 1977: Foreign Secretary Owen and US envoy Andrew Young hold talks in Pretoria with Vorster.
- 29 August 1977: Coordinating committee of Glasgow District Council states the council should hire out facilities to NF for a public meeting.

John Young, leader of the Conservative administration on the council, claims the Scottish Immigrant Labour Council is hypocritical for wanting to 'ban' the NF. He states he "abhors" the National Front but equally finds the SWP and other Marxist parties equally obnoxious. Labour group leader Jean McFadden supports the committee's decision. Scottish Immigrant Labour Council secretary Maggie Osborne has written urging the council not to let halls to a hard-racialist body like the NF, that aims to extend itself by causing race-based provocations.

- 30 August 1977: Foreign Secretary Owen holds talks in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.
- 30 August 1977: Mainstream press, led by London's <u>Evening News</u> attacks the black youth, not the police, as lawless: 'Must the lawless win again?' (Evening News editorial, 30 August 1977)
- 30 August 1977: Amnesty International publishes a list of 62 parliamentarians that have been jailed or 'disappeared'. "In publishing this list we are not judging the merits of any system of government" Indonesia once again tops the list with 21 parliamentarians still imprisoned since 1965-6. The other countries are Bahrain, Brazil, Chile, Ghana, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Somalia, Republic of Korea, Tanzania, Uruguay, Vietnam and Yugoslavia. The Indonesian connection is once again barely remarked upon, much less investigated, by most of the press.
- 30 August 1977: <u>The Times</u> publishes an interview with John Tyndall, National Front leader, and itself argues that the National Front must be demythologized and revealed as a movement of misquided individuals.
- 31 August 1977: FTSE Index passes 500, closing at 500.9 up 10 points, a peak unequalled since Jan 1973, before the 'oil shock'.
- 31 August 1977: Grunwick's George Ward rejects a call by the Lord Scarman Court of Inquiry for reinstatement of workers sacked: "Reinstatement would be surrender to rampant illegality, brute force, and the coercive power of a might vested interest that seeks not to reason but to compel" APEX general secretary Roy Grantham responds: "This action of the company in rejecting the principal recommendations of the Court of Inquiry is totally unprecedented in industrial relations in this country. It shows the kind of company we are dealing with and shows where the cause of the dispute lies... The company can't just thumb its nose at the rest of society and say it doesn't want to know. It must be made clear that just

because it says no at this stage, no isn't going to be the final answer."

- 31 August 1977: Andrew Lewis, chairman of Transport Action Scotland, summarises a joint report with the British Road Federation, which claims that important road 'schemes have been deferred and others slowed down. He attacks "piecemeal" development of the Perth-Aberdeen-Peterhead route, and the "pedantic" pace of upgrading the Perth-Inverness A9. Cuts to road transport are opposed by a significant part of peripheral firm owners in their struggle with more espnasive, better transport linked competitors.
- 31 August 1977: Conservative Councillors in Glasgow endorse a backlash motion in favour of returning birching as a punishment in Scottish courts. Councillor Richard McKay explaining: "I believe this is a disgraceful state of affairs and the responsibility for it lies not with the police, who are (\*oing a £ood job despite being undermanned and underpaid, but with the do-gooders in politics who have done nothing but harm by their soft policies with regard to law and order. Every one of the constituents with whom I spoke agreed that what is required is a return to corporal punishment for thugs and vandals. I think they should be birched till they beg for mercy. Unlike the arrogant permissivists, I do not seek to impose my views on the rest of the community. I merely wish to give the community a chance to make its own views heard."

September 1977: Conservatives Against the Common Market develops its attack to win adherents from the centre-right: "Many of us were misled into voting yes in the Common Market referendum by being told that only Communists wished us to come out. It now appears that there good grounds for the suspicion that the Communist Party pretended [sic] to oppose membership because they knew that this would cause most people to vote in favour of it... Did they want us in all the time? It would not be surprising as, with giant strides being made by the Communists in Europe (Italy tottering on the brink of Communist domination and France soon to follow), the Common Market is likely to become the Communist Market." The hard-right concept of the EU as a Communist dictatorship has been developed since the 1975 referendum.

September 1977: Munn Report on the Curriculum in S3 and S4 is released by the Scottish Education Department, it proposes various schemes of subjects but demands more emphasis should be laid on basic skills of numeracy and literacy. It states streaming by ability in S3 and S4 is vital and appears to suggest it could be applicable in S1 and S2 even though these age groups are beyond its remit.

1 September 1977: Callaghan hears pleas for the government to pressure CEGB (Central Electricity Generating Board) to place contracts for the Drax B power station within 2 months to Babcock & Wilcox. A joint management-staff delegation from the Babcock & Wilcox, Renfrew meet him in Partick. Tom Heslin, secretary of the joint staff committee has said: "We are facing closure situation and the Government have to realise that fact. November is our deadline and if the contracts are not placed by then this place will fold. The situation is that the factory Is only just viable with the present workforce but it there Is a further reduction in the workforce then we simply will not have the capability of building the Drax boilers. We had the ability to build 4000mw annually before April but now we can only achieve 2000mw. After Tony Benn's July announcement on Drax everyone sat back on their laurels but the truth is that the contract must be the number one Issue when Parliament resumes or we are finished."

Labour Left MP Norman Buchan, a key figure in the campaign for the Drax order on regional employment grounds, has said: "We have been very pleased that the Prime Minister intervened and pushed through the main decision. But the longer this drags on the more danger there is to the Renfrew works and we are now concerned that arrangements be made for placing the order." A 9month minimum gap between final placement of the order and start of construction work starts on the shop floor. 1300 workers have been dismissed as part of voluntary redundancy deals in May 1977. CEGB has only agreed to the principle of a Drax order from Babcock & Wilcox, only after the government assures it of compensation for bringing their power station construction plans 2 years forward. CEGB had earlier explained the Grid had sufficient generating capacity. Major share of the contract, for turbine generators, will go to Rcyrolle Parsons of New. castle, but Babcock's £120mil share for steam boilers will give five years' work.

1 September 1977: Government publishes new Anglo-US proposals for Rhodesia in Rhodesia: Proposals for a settlement. They are based on the appointment of a British Resident Commissioner with full executive, legislative and military powers in Rhodesia. Field-Marshal Lord Carver was named as Commissioner designate. Britain is to establish a transitional administration, which will eventually lead to the conduct of open elections. A U.N. representative is to be appointed to work with the Resident Commissioner and the UNSC is to establish, by resolution, a UN Zimbabwe Force. Primary control of the country is to lie with the police – the same Rhodesian police in service currently. After the establishment of the transitional administration, a new Zimbabwe National Army is to be formed, be based on the guerrillas but will "also include acceptable elements of

the Rhodesian Defence Forces". On an agreed day when the transitional administration takes over, guerrillas who do not cease fire become open season for the proposed UN Zimbabwe Force.

- 1 September 1977: Civil Aviation Authority suspends workers who have refused to pledge they will discontinue a go-slow work protest. Controllers again come out on strike in protest.
- 1 September 1977: New Scientist's Brian Gardner urges Britain more proactively assist Portuguese adhesion to EEC in order to overcome the threat of forces blocking PS's efforts to return farmland to oligarchical landowners: "The drone of the bulldozer forms a continuous background to the building of new hotels, apartments and villas all along Portugal's single most important economic asset—the Algarve coast. There is, however, still the feeling that this improvement is tenuous and barely skin deep. But at least the return of "confidence" after the 1976 elections has meant a booming tourist trade this year.... the important thing for Portugal is that the foreigners are coming and spending their hard currency in Europe's last remaining tourist bargain basement. Even if the once uncrowded, unlittered and eternally beautiful Algarve is being rapidly converted into the Costa del Pigsty in the process, Dr Mario Soares's shaky Socialist government will have the currency earnings to convince the cold-eyed men from the IMF that Portugal is a worthy case for help and encouragement.... The profound damage that was done to Portugal's economy, industries and infrastructure in the post-revolutionary hiatus in 1975-1978 will take a very long time to heal. Time when the Neanderthals of the extreme Left and the extreme Right will have plenty of opportunities to stage a comeback. At present, Soares's minority government holds onto power through a loose coalition of the Centre. Disillusion with Soares could lead to the rise of a new coalition of the Left—with its centre nearer to the Communists than the Socialists... a step backwards for Portugal. ...

Much of Portugal's present troubles stem from the inevitable general input of European style social and economic problems since 1974. But their effects have been exacerbated by the fundamental damage done to the economy by the adolescent political experiments which followed the revolution. The biggest problem is of course, inflation. ... attempts by the Soares government to contain and reduce inflation have been disrupted by wage demands and industrial disputes in industries incapable of supporting even existing rates of pay. No industry was more disrupted by the post revolutionary political experimentation than agriculture. The large scale takeover of farms by Communist groups need not have been counterproductive in itself—if the process of farming had been carried on by the new landholders... the alternative provided by the

revolutionaries was even less productive. .... Driving across the rich Alentejo region in the spring of this year it was still too obvious that this inept management was continuing. ... Crucial to any solution of this problem will be the success or otherwise of Soares "disintervention" policy for agriculture. The government is now intending to hand back to private owners a million hectares or more of the two million grabbed by the Communists in the Alentejo and the Northern Province. A confrontation with the Communists is inevitable and this may well be the issue which decides Portugal's future for a long time to come... for the sake of European solidarity and peace in general, it is essential that the Portuguese boat is not rocked from outside. In particular, it is essential that the German and British governments slop their covert carping about the relatively miniscule costs of Portugal joining the European Community."

- 2 September 1977: Callaghan defends the economic record by declaring Scots were complaining about inflation in 1976, but in 1977 are talking only about unemployment. He believes "passionately" the battle against inflation must be the priority or "it won't be 200,000 in the balance in Scotland but the jobs of the entire work force."
- 3 September 1977: Socialist Worker reports on senior shop stewards' role in British Leyland Longbridge at first encouraging strike action then opposing it when only around two-thirds are in favour in Aug 1977: "There is one fundamental overwhelming reason: the collapse of the stewards' organisation at Longbridge. This is a direct result of measured day work and 'participation' with management. Participation has meant that the top stewards, and the works committee, have been taken outside the shop floor. They spend most of their time with management, not with us. Measured day work has cut out ail the little struggles from the shop floor. Many stewards don't even bother to go to joint meetings. Out of 700 stewards (there are 18,000 workers here), only about 70 (at the very most) regularly attend the monthly joint shop stewards meeting.... The workers and most shop stewards are kept in complete ignorance 90 per cent of the time... You can't tell people year after year that management is good for them, and then suddenly flick your fingers and call a strike."
- 3 September 1977: Kenya announces it wil end access to all flights to and from Tanzania starting from 1 Nov 1977.
- 4 September 1977: <u>New York Times</u> reports "slowing inflation, falling interest rates, and improving foreign trade position, expanding foreign currency reserves and wonder of wonders—a

rising pound, which traded last week at the highest levels in nearly a year. And, in the best summer the financial pages had reported in years, the London stock market climbed last week to a peak not seen since January 1973. The Financial Times index broke through the 500 mark, up 100 points from Easter and far, far above the 146 low hit in 1975. As foreign-exchange trading ended for the week in London, the pound stood at \$1.74. Virtually all of the good news could be traced to one source: North Sea oil. The black bonanza already provides almost half of Britain's fuel needs and will soon be meeting all of the nation's requirements with a healthy surplus left to sell abroad. The oil has also aroused the public's hopes for an end to the austerity and gloom of recent years, and therein lies the rub. Many working-class leaders are eager for a share of the emerging prosperity in the form of wage increases, which had been limited for two years... Next week the Trades Union Congress will meet to decide whether the keystone of the Government's wage policy—a 12-month gap between the increases—will be continued. The issue is considered so important that Prime Minister James Callaghan will personally try to persuade the union delegates to keep the wage restraint."

- 4 September 1977: James Prior, Conservative spokesman on Employment, tells a Conference of Conservative trade unionists that Britain needs a new attitude towards unemployment, urging acceptance that it may not be possible to ensure work for all despite North Sea oil.
- 5 September 1977: Hugh Scanlon is jeered, ends his speech early and is grabbed and jostled on his exit from the TUC podium. He has just indicated the AUEW will support the social contract pay limits in spite of a union conference decision for an immediate resumption of open collective bargaining. Shouts against him include: "You have sold us down the river again", "Coward", "Traitor".
- 5-7 September 1977: Talks between Spain and Britain over Gibraltar and trade terms. Foreign Minister Marcelino Oreja announces Prime Minister Suárez returns to London on 19 Oct 1977.
- 6 September 1977: Carter and Pinochet hold talks in the White House: On questions of 'human rights' Carter responds with general truisms before asserting his opinion to journalists: "I think the Chilean leaders, including President Pinochet, recognize that the reputation of their country has been very poor in the field of human rights. He acknowledged that they have had problems in the past. He claimed that progress had been made in recent months and told me that their plans are for an increase in human freedoms in the

future. But I think that he can describe plans for the future better than can I. He knows that this is a very serious problem for Chile."

6-7 September 1977: British Monopoly championships take place in a large hall of the working CEGB Oldbury nuclear power station. John Waddington, head of Waddington's the firm owning the Monopoly has been arranging the publicity coup since summer 1976. Passes, white clothing, gloves, film badges to allow monitoring of radiation levels, decontamination chambers before and after feature heavily. The cost of the procedures are borne by Waddington's and not the CEGB, which instead has publicised the event as proof of the safety of using nuclear materials, for over 6 months.

7 September 1977: James Callaghan addresses TUC.

Len Murray's TUC speech: "It will do us no good at all if we think that we can all catch up with what we have lost, and get a bit ahead by massive wage claims... We have done a bit these past two years to damp down inflation but the fire is not out yet, and if we stoke it up with shovels full of paper-money, we shall not just burn our fingers. We shall set light to our hopes for the future. ... Going back to voluntary collective bargaining cannot mean going back on our word, breaking our bargain. It must mean keeping the rule of 12 months between settlements. The 12-month rule is not only — not even mainly — a bargain we made with the Government. It is a bargain we made with each other in this congress... The brutal fact is that living standards are bound to be undermined if the economy sinks into a rundown condition, which is what has happened. These problems can't be swept away on a high tide of wage increases. They will be with us until we make our industries more efficient"

TUC votes by a narrow margin in favour of a commitment not to reopen pay settlements before they have run a full 12 months. It effectively endorses the idea of the voluntary 10% limit on earnings increases in Phase Three except for special cases about restoring "differentials" between skilled and unskilled or self-financed productivity deals. Self-financed productivity deals almost always mean the destruction of future jobs by speed-up or the replacement of human labour with capital.

Following the vote at the TUC in favour of pay restraint, the pound rises to its highest level since almost exactly a year ago, when the TUC had also voted for the social contract pay levels. It jumps from \$1.55:£1 to \$1.74:£1. This means firms holding sterling will be in a stronger position on the world market, ie more competitive compared to others, because the trade union danger is largely in the cage for another year. The main FT index also rises to 534.2, less than 10 points of its record level of 543.6, recorded on May 19, 1972.

- 7 September 1977: EEC finally announces almost 4 years after the militarist coup in Chile that it will move its Latin America bureau away from Santiago, to Venezuela.
- 8 September 1977: British firm Cadbury explains how limited the effects of Nigerianisation measures are, and also reports continuing profits rise: "Sales for the half-year at £401 million were 17.6% ahead of the same period in 1976. The main increase was in the United Kingdom to which sales of tea, coffee and food particularly contributed. The figures for North America are similar to those of 1976 at this stage, but for the year as a whole we expect a reversal of last year's adverse swing in the region's trading profits. Our North American drinks companies have continued their profitable growth, while Cadbury has improved its share of the confectionery market... Group trading profit rose by 24.4% and the margin on sales increased to just over 6%. Profit after interest rose by 16.9%, ... The tax rate is lower than last year, a reduction which should apply to the figures for the full year. The increase in minority interests is mainly due to higher profits in Australia and South Africa and to the public issue by Cadbury Nigeria Limited in 1976 when 40% of the equity was sold to Nigerian shareholders... The halfyear figures are encouraging and the Board expects the full year results to show a continued improvement. (Shareholders' Report, half-year Report)
- 8 September 1977: Police attack a San Sebastian march calling for amnesty for all political prisoners from the Franco era, commemorating the shooting dead of a Basque protester.
- 8 September 1977: William Simpson, chairman of the Health and Safety Commission, at a seminar organized by the Environmental Health Oficers1 Association, declares magistrates are imposing meaningless fines and ignoring increased penalties available under the Health and Safety at Work Act (1975). Although the maximum fine for a breach is at £400, the average fine is £87. He also notes infringements of the Act that have caused deaths of workers have received fines after conviction of only £200-£250.
- 9 September 1977: <u>New Statesman</u>'s Paul Johnson: "Why has the Party become a repository of destructive envy and militant failure, a party of green-eyed monsters! The answer is that Labour has starved itself of intellectual nourishment and the stimulus of debate ... It was inevitable that the Marxists should fill Labour's intellectual vacuum. Alas, Labour has never been able or willing to throw out Marxism bodily; it has always held that there must be something in it. Such feeble resistance as it once offered has been overwhelmed,

and the crudest kind of Marxists now roam through the Party at all levels"

- 9 September 1977: Australian government announces it will replace the aircraft-carrier HMAS Melbourne with a new carrier. Almost Inevitably this is good news for British producers, since RAN aircraft carriers are usually older British ones. Later it is decided the British aircraft carrier, HMS Invincible, will be sold as a replacement for HMAS Melbourne to Australia, although the Falklands conflict interferes with the scheme.
- 11 September 1977: Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service broadcasts reports police chief Datuk Abdul Rahman bin Ismail announcement that the Royal Malaysian Police will have radio communications with Interpol headquarters and member countries of the organization. The aim is to tighten communication for hot pursuit endeavours against the remnant guerrillas in Thailand and Burma.
- 11 September 1977: LWT begins its broadcast of situation comedy the Rag Trade. An update version of the 1960s version, it features fairly prominent actors and a prime-time weekend slot. The programme manages to attack trade union organisation by presenting the image of self-centred but perverse shop-steward (a militant) pulling behind her an essentially loyal (but naïve) workforce. Lightning strikes are shown in every episode, with the catchphrase of the series being 'Everybody Out'. A shrill call of this catchphrase without any discussion by the workers, and the workforce follow. The female shop steward is given a commonly male name suggestive of Irish origins in Paddy Fleming, and is the main target of the comedy. It paints the lower management in the form of the foreman as ineffectual and weak, but the owner is portrayed as essentially benevolent.
- 11 September 1977: Democracy-blessed Guardia civil police attack republican protesters in Barcelona leaving over 250 injured, 2 very severely, one of whom later dies in hospital after being shot by a rubber bullet.
- 12 September 1977: Announcing a new increase in RUC numbers, Roy Mason declares: "the myth of British withdrawal from Northern Ireland' is now dead."
- 13 September 1977: Norman Tebbit in <u>Daily Telegraph</u> compares the refusal to back Grunwick's owner, George Ward, as on a par with the "morality of Laval and Petain" notorious Hitler collaborators (also notorious colonialists).

- 13 September 1977: Carter meets Thatcher at the White House.
- 13 September 1977: Professor Ivan Tolstoy presents evidence about the long-term storage of highly radioactive waste after reprocessing of spent reactor fuel (including the planned use of plutonium-239 with a 24,400 year half-life). He states suitable waste disposal should be "an absolute prerequisite "before expansion. He also explains the economic advantages of waste reprocessing are hypothetical and ill-considered. He concludes "It shows a lack of perspective and indifference to the fate of future generations on a scale having few if any historical precedents."
- 13 September 1977: COHSE working party report advises members working in psychiatric hospitals not to carry out doctors' instructions in giving treatment to unwilling patients, warning that compulsory treatment might be illegal, since nowhere in the Mental Health Act 1959, is provision made for treatment to be administered "Not even section patients can be compulsorily compulsorily. treated in hospital other than in the case of the 'normal' emergency (where the common law permits non-negligent treatment in acute and psychiatric hospitals alike) or, as the other exception, where treatment is necessary to ensure the continued detention of the patient, in common with the right to apply physical restraint. Emergencies would almost certainly also cover the situation where a patient had become violently dangerous to other patients and staff. In these situations, and only these, we take the view that the compulsory administration of sedatives, say, is lawful. In all others, we must recommend that compulsory treatment without consent, whether section patients or informal, is probably unlawful; and that therefore members are advised that in no circumstances should they give or participate in such treatment, and 'treatment' here includes ordinary medication." Albert Spanswick, COHSE general secretary has told Ennals that the 1959 Act must be amended to give legal protection when instructions are followed.
- 14 September 1977: 3 women and 5 children are taken in at the Chiswick High Road Battered Women's Hostel, London, in defiance of a ruling by Acton Magistrates which has found legal owner Erin Pizzey guilty of permitting overcrowding in the refuge. In Dec 1977 the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act will be instituted in England and in April 1978 in Scotland, granting women victims of domestic abuse a legal right to be rehoused by their local authority. However enforcement of this right is severely restricted by government cuts to the rate support grant for local authorities.
- 15 September 1977: AP reports on Western weapons exports into Latin American nations, reaching embargoed states like Chile, via

increased sales to Brazil: "Restrictions on U.S. Military sales or aid to a number of Latin American countries are encouraging local arms industries and creating markets for European sellers... The country put in the greatest bind is Chile, which is under a total congressional cut-off for human rights transgressions. But even it has managed to find some interested arms merchants... According to the survey by AP Latin American correspondents, countries outside the hemisphere which are finding or looking for markets In Latin American Include Britain. France, West Germany, Israel and the Soviet Union. Some of these countries have long been selling in the region, but the US restrictions have led some governments to say they will be buying more from them. Brazil and Argentina, which rejected American military credits in March because they were conditioned on an improvement in human rights, are working harder to develop already significant arms industries on their own soil. Brazil is exporting heavily to the rest of the continent, and Argentina is becoming a place for advanced military training.

- 15 September 1977: CPSA Heathrow air traffic control assistants' shop stewards meet to discuss extension of picketing in the ongoing pay dispute. Its leadership has fairly unanimously warned against any attempt to involve the idea of mass pickets from South West London on the Grunwick's model.
- 15 September 1977: Samuel Brittan in the <u>Financial Times</u> argues that if financial receipts from North Sea oil money are invested in British industry profitability would collapse engendering deeper recession: "The most profitable domestic capital investment was already being undertaken before North Sea oil arrived. Companies give top priority to the projects with the best payoff prospects and move down the list as more resources become available. In the case of North Sea oil, we are talking about a really large increase in resources, equivalent to more than the whole of existing manufacturing investment. An attempt to invest all the gain in the UK would mean putting resources into less and less profitable projects and ultimately investing at a negative rate of return."
- 15 September 1977: 2 fire-fighters are killed in a collapse during fire-fighting at a builders' merchant in Reading.
- 16-18 September 1977: 10th International Council meeting of Amnesty International agrees that the organisation should refuse to endorse arrangements for the exchange of prisoners of conscience between ideologically opposed states. An Amnesty spokesman states "there should be no bargaining about human rights".

- 17 September 1977: <u>The Economist</u> concludes: "To judge by the performance of the stock market... a fair part of the City may still prefer the prospect of a continuing Labour Government to the Tory alternative."
- 18 September 1977: <u>Sunday Times</u> reviews the rise in the stock market at the same time as drop in output. Industrial output falls in July 1977 to a level lower than that reached during the three-day week in February 1977. One industrialist is quoted of the rise in share prices "they are playing with Monopoly money." (Sunday Times 18 Sep 1977)
- 20 September 1977: <u>Financial Times</u> reports: "the great upsurge of shopfloor militancy and massive wage demands which had been feared after the end of Phase Two has not materialised... For the moment the tide is running in the Government's favour."
- 20 September 1977: EEC Foreign Ministers, including Owen, approve a voluntary code of conduct for European companies operating in apartheid South Africa to follow in their dealings with employees. It has no bite.
- 20 September 1977: <u>Western Mail</u> reports NUT Wales criticising the structure of appointing teachers and headteachers in Wales noting many "cases where an appointment was clearly made on criteria other than professional ones with strong overtones of nepotism and political allegiance."
- 20 September 1977: 2 are killed in a bomb attack on leftist <u>Papus</u> magazine by hard-rightist Triple A Alianza Apostólica Anticomunista. Its claim for responsibility describes it as designed to avoid the nation being "submerged into chaos and into the arms of the terrible communist monstrosity" (My translation)
- 20 September 1977: Gould Report is published. The outcome of 2 years' worth of 'research', 55 pages long attacking Marxist tendency in higher education is published: "groups and individuals in the fields of education and culture have shown by their theory and, more importantly, by their practice that they reject key notions long associated with the idea of an open, plural society: notions such as freedom of expression and association."

Its authors include Julius Gould, long-term opponent of the Open University; Caroline Cox, Director of the Nursing Education Research Unit at Chelsea College, London University; David Martin, compiler of <u>Anarchy and Culture: the problem of the contemporary university</u> that attacks any moves for genuine student participation in curriculum; Anthony Flew, Professor of Philosophy at Reading University; Kenneth Minogue, Professor of Government at the LSE, Edward Shils, strident anticommunist, formerly political propaganda

analyst at CIA-funded Center for International Studies, and leading Congress for Cultural Freedom advocate, Sociology Professor at Cambridge; D.K. Watkins, former CPGBer ardent NATO fanatic Politics Professor at Sheffield University.

Advice to help produce it is taken from Brunei University's John Vaizey, Professor of Economics with a focus on educational output for industrial requirements, often funded by the Kellogg Foundation and Ford Foundation; (He later inserts the firm statement without irony "It was proved that Allende intended to murder his opponents on September 18 [1973]" to support the 1973 coup in his 1983 world modern history monograph 'The squandered peace: The world 1945-1975'); CIA funding recipient LSE's Stephen Haseler, Professor of Government, short-term Heritage Foundation scholar, author of The Death of British Democracy (1976) attacking trade unions as responsible for 'killing' British 'democracy'; C.B. Cox Birmingham University English Professor and leading contributor to the Black Report. Leading figures in the ISC: Brian Crozier, Iain Hamilton, Michael Goodwin and Rhodes Boyson MP are also consulted.

Media reporting does not examine why the CIA-sponsored and antidemocrats within higher education are keen on haranguing 'Marxists'. A report by Council for Academic Freedom and Democracy (CAFD) 'The attack on higher education: where does it come from?', 24 pages long and costing only 50p each is not reported at all by the national press, in spite of the ease with which it can be obtained. Nor are the very real assaults on 'academic freedom' by state authorities in northern Ireland and more widely by the increasing influence of business funding on universities. (Examining the effect of funding sources for university programmes must also lead one to exposure of funding of newspapers – an uncomfortable prospect.)

The Gould Report is taken seriously and supported by key academic managers including Lord Lionel Robbins, who has overseen the framework of expansion for higher education in the early 1960s. No action is ever taken against the denigration of university teachers.

21 September 1977: Prime Minister announces millionaire Harold Lever will lead a special enquiry into small businesses. It later reports and, back-dated to 27 Oct 1977, introduces 20% relief from capital transfer tax on transfers of minority shareholdings in unquoted companies.

It raises the threshold where capital transfer tax is payable from £15,000 to £25,000. It increases the exemption from apportionment of trading income from £5,000 to £25,000 and much else besides, easing the accumulation of capital to allow small businesses to become the future big businesses.

- 21 September 1977: A report from Commons Public Accounts Committee notes for Concorde there "appears to be no practical possibility of production beyond the 16 aircraft being authorised" It states "current manufacturing costs exceed the escalated sale price.. by so large an amount that even with a substantial new order, considerable losses would result If the run-down on production were reversed." Concorde is not renewed due to there being virtually zero prospect of exporting the aircraft anywhere.
- 23 September 1977: The Clash's Complete Control is released on CBS. Since the lyrics are very general even though they target music firms, the single is released. It becomes another financial success for CBS. "On the last tour my mates couldn't get in/ I'd open up the back door but they'd get run out again ... They said we'd be artistically free/ When we signed that bit of paper/ They meant let's make a lot of money/ And worry about it later"
- 23 September 1977: THES editorial is guarded in its criticism of the Gould Report, seeking the answer, by implication, in the replenishing of the centre: "perhaps Professor Gould has found a germ of truth. It is the decay of the centre which has allowed more radical ideologies to thrive. But it is also the disastrous decline in the self-confidence of the centre that has allowed bodies such as the right-wing Institute for the Study of Conflict to be taken more seriously."
- 23 September 1977: Conservatives announce details of their Assisted Places Scheme. It is broadly welcomed by the mainstream press as an imaginative idea to increase meritocracy in the system with the apparent state of grammar schools under attack. It is praised as preferable to the old system of "direct grant" education because 50% of beneficiaries are to be reserved from state primary schools, and the scheme will be means-tested. In December 1977 backlash is strengthened by Conservative planned measures for state schools that propose inquiries into "standards" in state schools. The themes are openly or surreptitiously the break up of large comprehensives with significant bargaining units; flexibility in the zoning system allowing oversubscribed comprehensive schools to select pupils for a given speciality; graded curricula for different ability groups, and mixed, with a return to "setting" as the best method internal selection; appointments procedures for school heads to be thoroughly overhauled throughout the country under the supervision of the Secretary of State to erase trade union influence; powers to force teachers already teaching to attend inservice training courses on the whim of headteachers or LEAs.
- 23 September 1977: 6000 armed police are massed in Communist Bologna to stand guard over a rally of 10,000 in protest at repression by authorities.

- 24 September 1977: At a recess in a meeting of the 20-nation IMF Interim Committee, US Treasury Secretary Blumenthal says finance ministers of key nations (implying the rest of the top IMF powers including Britain) doubt whether Federal Germany and Japan are doing enough to boost the world economy in their aid offers. US seeks to transfer the costs of maintaining the world economic system to its two main Western rivals.
- 24 September 1977: OECD's General Secretary announces that unemployment will persist: "In Western Europe the new forecasts seem likely to yield a growth rate significantly lower than that needed to raise capacity utilisation and reduce unemployment." (Financial Times, Sep 26 1977)
- 24 September 1977: <u>Toronto Star</u> reports in 'The New Spain A fascination with sex and politics': "The Pill is still banned in Catholic Spain, although 14 pharmaceutical companies are producing it and an estimated 1.5 million women are taking it. But when the editor of El Pais recently published a series of authoritative articles on the subject he was told that he would be prosecuted for contravening an old Francoist law which makes it a punishable offence to disseminate information about contraceptive methods or advocate their use. He faces a two-month jail sentence and \$600 fine."
- 25 September 1977: Interviewed by Brian Walden on LWT's <u>Weekend World</u> Thatcher, responding to differing centre-right opinion on how to subjugate the Grunwick struggle (personified into Sir Keith Joseph vs James Prior), says she would appeal to the population via referendum over serious industrial disputes. She states this would have been her course over the 1974 miners strike instead of Heath's general election strategy. Since Labour has used the referendum strategy over the Common Market, it mounts a solid defence against accusations of referendum-rigging for rubber-stamping militarist and authoritarian trends.
- 25 September 1977: South Africa announces it will extend its EEZ to 200 miles before the end of 1977.
- 26 September 1977: Sir Freddie Laker begins the era of no-frills anti-union air travel with the Laker 'Skytrain' between Gatwick and New York. It is marketed something along the lines of a 'people's' version of its competitors. Tickets are only sold in the few hours before take-off benefiting those with easy access airports at this time or those with the resources to hire someone to purchase tickets.

- 26 September 1977: <u>Jerusalem Post</u> editorial explains: "All Israeli Governments have called for and proposed negotiations and were determined to enter negotiations with no pre-conditions. Nevertheless, there are 77 pre-conditions, that is, the settlements on the Golan Heights, in the Jordan Valley, the Gaza Strip and elsewhere."
- 27 September 1977: UPI article 'Vanessa Redgrave as a Candidate' ostensibly about Redgrave's politics cannot help but collapse into an ugly sexism: "She is an exquisitely feminine specimen of great facial beauty, soft Titian hair... She gives the appearance of terminal shyness. On this particular occasion at 20th Century-Fox her demure blue eyes were timidly self-conscious. It was difficult to imagine her on a soapbox or buttonholing voters on the streets of London. A stately six feet tall, Vanessa would appear to be more at home in a drawing room sipping champagne."
- 27 September 1977: Born rich but now an advice worker, 27-year-old Peter Cooper, son of John Cooper (former chairman of Goodbans store in Chiswick London), carries a tape recorder to record Sir Richard Dobson make his speech at the private meeting of industrialists at the Twenty Club dinner evening at Dorchester Hotel. In the speech, Dobson criticises the <u>Daily Mail</u> for revealing the firm has a slush fund which bribes governments and firms, but ignoring "the perfectly respectable fact that it was bribing wogs". He also bitterly attacks trade unions and nationalised industry as a whole, even though he is chief of a nationalised firm.
- 27 September 1977: France institutes its new rules against immigrant workers' entry and extends official assistance for voluntary repatratrion.
- 28 September 1977: Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko proposes that Britain, US and Soviet Union suspend all underground nuclear tests. Britain and US illogically respond by declaring that they support an eventual permanent end to all nuclear tests, so they will not agree to any suspension.
- 28 September 1977: Grunwick's Strike Committee organises a lobby of TUC.
- 29 September 1977: Grunwick's Strike Committee calls for a mass picket on 17 Oct 1977 and weekly Monday mass pickets thereafter. APEX opposes the decision, believing pickets should be limited to only 50.

30 September 1977: NAFF rejects its categorisation as far-right and declares the NF and NP as "patently another variety of socialism": "What possible justification can there be for lumping various nonsocialist and free market liberal schools of thought (such as the Conservative Party, Aims for Freedom and Enterprise, and the National Association for Freedom) together with blatantly collectivist Nazi and fascist enemies of liberty and the market (such as the National Front and the National Party)? For too long Marxists and other socialists have got away with glossing over the nature and existence of the equally long-lived tradition of national socialist collectivism. The absurdity of linking the individualist, libertarian and free market traditions with what is patently only another variant of socialism, is strikingly apparent to any honest student of both the intellectual history and economic policy of Nazi and fascist movements." (Peter Diamond Research Department, National Association for Freedom)

October 1977: The month's Harper's, US liberal arts magazine, sees Norman Podhoretz explain British culture's dangerous effects. Bemoaning US public aversion to war since Vietnam "the undifferentiated fear, loathing and revulsion that the prospect of war now seems to inspire in the American mind". He states 1970s USA is similar to inter-war Britain where "the Iliad... could no longer be comfortably read", unlike present-day healthy, militarist Britain, and warns "that Auden and Burgess were both homosexuals clearly had something, perhaps everything, to do with their need completely and finally to rebel against England. And indeed it is impossible to read books like Children of the Sun or Paul Russell's The Great War and Modern Memory without being struck by the central role homosexuality played in the entire rebellious ethos of the interwar period in England....homosexual feeling also accounted for a good deal of the pacifism that rose out of the trenches and into the upper reaches of the culture after the war was over. ... No wonder, then, that so many of those who resented their own country... should have been or should have chosen to become homosexuals. For whatever else homosexuality may be, or may be caused by, to these young men of the English upper class it represented the refusal of fatherhood and all that fatherhood entailed: responsibility for a family and therefore an inescapable implication in the destiny of society as a whole... they were rejecting their birthright as successors to their own fathers in assuming a direct responsibility for the fate of the country... Anyone familiar with homosexual apologetics in America today will recognize these attitudes... the same sort of pacifism, hostility to one's own country and its putatively dreary middle-class way of life, and derision of the idea that it stands for anything worth defending

or that it is threatened by anything but its own stupidity and wickedness."

October 1977: Britain's Reader's Digest contains a detailed frontcover article entitled the 'Student Strife we cannot afford': "In the past 18 months student occupations have taken place in some 250 colleges to demonstrate about such issues as tuition fees, rent charges and unemployment. The procedures for direct action are virtually standardised. Beginning with the hastily convened student meeting, and shouted slogans, they often end in violence, resentment and police intervention. In consequence, although the vast majority of students are decent, courteous and law-abiding, the student body is today one of the most unpopular minority groups in the country. Why have students acquired such a had image? Mainly because all are now automatically recruited into a closed-shop student union movement more concerned with politics than education. And this student movement is run almost entirely on ratepayers' money." Designed to stoke backlash politics, it explains nothing of the ongoing degradation in colleges and schools but attacks any and all moves for economic and educational democracy.

October 1977: <u>Chemical Insight</u> notes that ICI's overseas sales, by receipts, are 61% of all its sales in 1976. ICI has expanded into Latin America attempting to rival DuPont and others.

October 1977: The Civic Trust publishes a report, Urban Wasteland, surveying 279 large waste sites across the country. It shows that 34% are owned by the local authorities, and 9% per cent by nationalised firms. It does not review Ministry of Defence waste sites. Local councils often hold onto waste land in an effort to sell it at greater prices at opportune times.

- 1 October 1977: New regulations impose a duty upon local authorities to describe a shortage of places in state (maintained or denominational) schools before it can apply to fund places in non-maintained private or grammar schools. The obvious loophole is that the freeze in teacher hiring and school building ensures that shortages of places are easy to find. Centrist councils and LEAs begin to deliberately starve state provision to prove the need for private education.
- 1 October 1977: Richard Francis, former BBC Controller Northern Ireland, begins his new post having been appointed BBC Director of news and current affairs. This post had originally been set aside for Bryan Cowgill, who then defected to become managing director of ITV's Thames Television.

- 1 October 1977: <u>Washington Post</u> reports "Israelis have trained Ethiopian government forces since 1975 and sometimes have taken a more direct hand in things... Israeli instructors are said to have trained a special force of 400 elite Ethiopian troops in 1975 and 1976 that now serves as the personal bodyguard of the strongman ruler, Lt. Col. Mengistu Haile Mariam. Twelve Israeli specialists last year trained 75 Ethiopian instructors who in turn trained the Flame Brigade, a force of 20 battalions and 10,000 troops, the defector said. "These troops are the most savage in our armed force," he said. The Israeli advisers played a direct role during the five-month rebel siege of the Ethiopian garrison at Naqfa earlier this year, the defector said.... Israel has provided spare parts for the U.S.-made F-5 jet fighters of Ethiopia's air force, he said, and it has also sold Ethiopia some Soviet arms, presumably captured from Arab forces in 1973."
- 2 October 1977: <u>Sunday Times</u> reports: "After the last meeting of the International Monetary Fund, 'one international official, asked to sum up the week's main events, put it in one short phrase: Japbashing"
- 2 October 1977: 25th anniversary of the declaration of the British colonial Kenya Emergency sees the première of Ngugi wa Thiongo's play, written with the help of Ngugi wa Mirii in ordinary Gikuyu, Ngaahika Ndeenda (I Will Marry When I Want). It is performed by farmworker and peasant actors in an open air theatre for fellow peasants in Limuru. It examines *kamatimu*, Kenyan collaborators alongside the British colonial Home Guard and depicts a struggle over land between a peasant farmer and a rich landowner. Within weeks of the staging of the play, a strike in a local shoe plant breaks out, leading to government censors viewing the play and in 16 Nov 1977 proscribing its performance on the grounds that it is "too provocative" and "would make some people bitter".
- 2 October 1977: Sir James Robertson, former Chief Constable, chairman of the standing conference for Voluntary Youth Organisations, says that 23 different groups are short of public funds. However his struggle against "delinquency" will continue regardless because "we are convinced, that by expanding our efforts in Glasgow we will reduce juvenile delinquency, disorder, and vandalism" These efforts involve the recruitment of more 2000 youth leaders as volunteers, without pay.
- 2 October 1977: Queen and Duke of Edinburgh attend a gathering of the British Driving Society, displaying luxury cars.
- 3 7 October 1977: Labour Conference.

- 3 October 1977: Tony Benn: "The annual loss of production from unemployment and idle capacity in Britain is now about twice as much each year as the maximum revenues we shall get out of the North Sea each year in the 1980s, when [oil] would be in full production"
- 4 October 1977: Michael Casey, chief executive of British Shipbuilders, welcomes government assistance for a £115m shipbuilding deal with 'Socialist' Poland for 22 bulk carriers (7 16,500 ton vessels and 15 4,500 ton vessels) and 2 crane ships. He states the ships built in Britain for the Polish state line PZM will not compete with British ships. He states that the ships will be used for transport in the Baltic or for reserved Polish cargos, where British vessels are largely excluded or absent. Casey also reiterates that in spite of the deal, only Appledore and Austin Pickersgill have full order books for the next 3 years, all the other British yards need orders with Govan, Robb Caledon's Dundee and Leith yards and Swan Hunter in danger of collapse.
- 5 October 1977: In an ugly backlash attack on any examination of social realities in youth behaviour, Labour councillor Allen Adams dismisses those who apparently say that youth vandalism's underlying cause is their "grannie's sex life."
- 5 October 1977: Labour Party Conference carries 6,248,000-91,000 a majority of over 6 million the motion: "This Conference believes that the House of Lords is a negation of democracy and calls upon the Government, the Parliamentary party and the NEC to take every possible step open to them to secure the total reform of Parliament into an efficient single-chamber legislating body without delay". The government fails to take any step towards abolishing the hereditary and appointed Lords chamber. Centre-right press begin an assault on the undemocratic features of the Labour Party: constituencies, block votes etc. in the wake of the resolution.
- 6 October 1977: Ealing Area Health Authority takes action ending a four-month long Hounslow Hospital work-in. Though marked for closure, nurses and sympathetic doctors have been continuing to operate the service. Local GPs support the action by continuing to send patients to Hounslow Hospital, seeing it as a far more satisfactory unit for the care of the local elderly, with relatives and family nearby, than a larger hospital far away. After evening meals are given, without anyone's knowledge, a squad of 40 consultants and hired porters march in, bundle the patients out of their beds, with only blankets slung round their shoulders, and cart them off to another hospital. The group then systematically pulls out

telephones, wrecks beds and destroys desks so it cannot be easily used for another work-in. Certainly many were bewildered, and some openly in tears, during the transfer. The raid involves private ambulances and private cars, because London Ambulance Service workers are deemed to unreliable to take part in the operation. AHA asserts that the patients must remain in West Middlesex Hospital, to which they are taken. West Middlesex's geriatric wards are already overflowing hence the new 40 patients are placed in psychiatric wards. The AHA claims it wants to re-open Hounslow Hospital, but that it lacks funds. A new hospital in Ealing had been due to open soon, but a cash shortage has delayed that until late 1978. It admits that there is a desperate shortage of hospital beds in the Hounslow-Hammersmith-Ealing area.

8-9 October 1977: EEC Foreign Ministers meet where Foreign Secretary Owen strongly supports inclusion of Spain and Portugal to weaken perceived major competitors' control over EEC decisions. Portugal and Spain have applied for membership on 28 Mar 1977 and 28 Jul 1977 respectively.

8 October 1977: Police Federation chairman Jim Jardine reveals that he has been threatened with prosecution under sec.53 of 1964 Police Act that forbids "causing disaffection" for declaring that the majority of police seek the right to strike.

9 October 1977: <u>Observer</u> reports on Callaghan acceding to exempting the 10% pay limit to Ford's in 1977 because of its productivity agreement, in exchange for Ford siting its new engine plant in Bridgend, South Wales, a marginal seat.

9 October 1977: 6,000 policemen are fielded in an operation costed at above £250,000 to defend a National Front march in Hyde, Manchester, led by Martin Webster.

Manchester Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen does not participate having declared "The situation is well looked after between the Manchester Jewish Representative Council and AJEX. This is more important than being fellow travellers with other political organisations".

A day before the march police say the march will not go ahead with police being given the right to ban the march from the local authority. In secret a back-up route is organised between GMP and NF organisers. Police assist the NF by secretly rerouting the demonstration. Anti-fascists divide into three groups.

One group of anti-fascists stay in Stockport. Press information seemed to suggest that if there was going to be an Front march, then it would begin there. Another group of 200 are in Hyde. Another group of 200 are in Manchester town centre. They were to be kept in reserve - in case either of the other two contingents were

caught out. One group of anti-fascists wait for a march that does not materialise at Town Hall. Antifascists trying to get closer to the NF are tracked overhead by police helicopters and blocked by police In Hyde, NF's press spokesman Martin Webster conducts a one-man march, defended solidly by over 2,500 officers forming a cushion of police around him. Ramula Patel, a member of the Asian Youth Movement, walks in front of the procession with a placard, saying "This man is a Nazi" police surround him.

A third group of anti-fascists - the reserve - find the NF assembling in Levenshulme. 150 anti-fascists in reserve attempted to block the NF, scuffles occur in Levenshulme and along towards Belle Vue. Marching columns of police clear protesters with relative ease. Several NF wear paramilitary fatigues."One or two NF marchers were warned by their [police] escorts, but there were no arrests - for incitement or for the paramilitary uniforms... refrains a Simon and Garfunkel song, perverted as "I'd rather be a nigger than a Jew" passed off without comment" (journalist from New Manchester Review).

- 10 October 1977: Nobel Peace Prize winners are announced as founders of Peace People Mairéad Corrigan and Betty Williams. UUP-dominated Belfast City Corporation refuse to hold a reception to celebrate the news in their buildings, signalling their rejection of Peace People. The associated prize money of £80,000 is later to be the source of controversy.
- 10 October 1977: <u>Financial Times</u>: "In the Western world demand for steel is falling when by the rules of the game it should be rising. No device employed by the companies or governments has been capable of restoring international steel demand to the levels that ruled before the 1974-75 international trading recession."
- 10 October 1977: <u>Financial Times</u> considers the opposition's new policies "credible" (a slight shift away from Labour). The idea that several government ministers will agree "at least in private" with Conservatives' plans in <u>The Right Approach to the Economy</u> "does not mean that the Tory Party is unable to present the electorate with a distinctive and credible set of policies".
- 11 October 1977: 3 Puma attack helicopters are transported to British Army bases in Belize aboard RAF Belfasts.
- 11 October 1977: Negotiations between EEC and developing world textile exports begin on new import quotas.
- 12 October 1977: Baroness Young, Deputy Chairman of Conservative Party, at its Conference, makes a backlash call against child benefit that assists mothers entering the workplace: "I believe that the decision of a wife whether to work, particularly after the birth of her children... should not be determined by the tax system.

- On this major issue the tax system should be neutral; it should neither encourage nor discourage wives"
- 12 October 1977: William Hague, a 16-year-old student at Wath Grammar School, studying A-Levels to gain a place in an elite university, gives a speech at Conservative Conference. Hague's parents own and operate a soft drinks firm.
- 12 October 1977: Ministry of Defence informs the press that diesel oil is needed in West Drayton for the generators that run the computer systems' air conditioning, without which the computers would stop and all military and civilian air flights would have to stop. Two computer systems run parallel but separate at West Drayton the London Air Traffic Control System for civilian flights, and the military flight monitoring system known as Myriad, run by the RAF. Ministry of Defence says Myriad is "essential for the effective defence of UK air space." and NATO itself is threatened (Daily Telegraph, 13 Oct 1977). MOD states: "If the computer stops, security would be impaired and it cannot be allowed to stop" (Guardian 13 Oct 1977)
- 13 October 1977 2am: Military tankers break through the civilian air traffic controller assistants' picket line. 60 police officers suddenly clear a dozen pickets from the gates of the West Drayton Air Traffic Control Centre and 12 military oil tankers driven by RAF personnel thunder into the base. A picket states: "The roar was incredible I thought the Third World War had started" (Morning Star 14 Oct 1977) The RAF swoop brings enough fuel to run the generators until mid-November.
- 13 October 1977: Ken Thomas, General Secretary of CPSA (Civil and Public Servants Association) rejects the claim that the move was essential for defence purposes, arguing that although both computers were supplied from the same fuel tank the civilian system could be isolated from the military one. But the government had not offered to isolate the military system and keep that running. "Military personnel are being used to break an industrial dispute", he states that without RAF intervention, the civilian computer would have had to have been halted.
- 13 October 1977: Nicaraguan military forces cross the border into Costa Rica, after weeks of tension. No outpouring of emotion and condemnation occurs unlike during the Sandinista era.
- 14 October 1977: Thatcher gives a backlash speech mobilising to secure credit for any success in the economic situation being due to centre-right prescriptions: "Twelve months ago the 4-Budget-A-Year man all but took the country over the cliff with him—until at

the eleventh hour he turned back from Heathrow in a panic and headed for home—to take out the most massive mortgage in our history. The prescription the IMF forced his government to swallow is the prescription we have long been advocating. A good, sound, sensible, Conservative prescription. So my message to Moses is this: keep taking the tablets. And if Labour wants an Election slogan, I suggest—it's just a thought but one likes to be helpful—"You know IMF Government works".

Some of the commentators are saying that the Prime Minister is stealing our clothes. Well, it's true that he's lost his own, but he's going to look pretty ridiculous walking around in mine. (Laughter and applause). Of course all of us are deeply thankful that the wealth of the North Sea has started to flow. But the North Sea is not a Socialist sea. Its oil is not Socialist oil. It was found by private enterprise, it was drilled by private enterprise, and it is being brought ashore by private enterprise.

The truth is we are still grinding along in bottom gear, with our factories producing less than they were when Labour came to power; that real profits, and therefore investment, are still abysmally low, and that the number of men and women without a job is the highest since the war. And that's bad news for Britain.

Now take prices—if you can catch them. The Government boasts of its success in bringing the rate of inflation down. But even if it falls as far as Mr. Healey predicts—and today not even his own [ Joel Barnett] number two believes him—prices in Britain will still be going up faster than in other countries....

Beware the leopard when it's quiet. It hasn't changed its spots. It just doesn't want its victim to know it's there. Why was it so quiet last week at Brighton? Because it wants the people to believe that it's a gentle, well-behaved, Social Democratic pussy-cat. ... Make a supreme effort and imagine Labour has won. What then? The trap is sprung. And Labour's extremists resume the drive towards a Britain modelled on Eastern Europe. It's the same Executive which produced 'Labour's Programme for Britain 1976'. That programme remains official Labour Party policy 1977. Mr. Benn was frank enough to say so, perhaps hoping the public wasn't listening. Nationalise the banks and insurance companies. That's Labour policy. Do you like the idea of their hands on your savings? How do you fancy Mr. Healey—or Mr. Benn—as your friendly neighbourhood bank manager? And they want to nationalise all the land. Not just some of it, all of it. They demand a free hand to take over almost any firm—big or small, the building industry, the food industry, fishing, forestry, ports and many more."

It calls for a stiffer resistance, adopting an underdog siege mentality to resist the government: "They want the power to make every business obey them. They want to cut tax relief for home buyers. They want higher income tax to pay for their plans. They want an immediate wealth tax, on top of Capital Gains Tax, on top of Capital Transfer Tax. What's the point of building up your savings or your own business if they're going to take it all away from you? But it's all there in their little red book. It's all official Labour Party policy. And to make it easier to ram through this frightening Socialist programme, they've just voted to abolish the House of Lords. Destroying freedoms we have cherished and defended down the centuries won't worry the far Left. They like everything about Eastern Europe — except, alas, going to live there — because after all the living standards there are very low."

It makes an open appeal for the moderates: "The disillusioned, the disenchanted, the courageous, the converted, we welcome them, one and all, to our cause. But the job of cleaning up Labour, the job of ditching the extremists, is not in our hands. It's in the hands of the people on that special Thursday for which we watch and wait and work.... And Britain will have a Conservative Government—a truly moderate government, moderate not by order of our foreign creditors, but by genuine conviction, in touch and in tune with the people, carrying out the sort of sensible, prudent, policies that work so well in other countries."

It smartly declares its happiness at being called 'reactionary': "let me tell you a little about my "extremism". I am extremely careful never to be extreme. I am extremely aware of the dangerous duplicity of Socialism, and extremely determined to turn back the tide before it destroys everything we hold dear. I am extremely disinclined to be deceived by the mask of moderation that Labour adopts whenever an Election is in the offing, a mask now being worn, as we saw last week, by all who would "keep the red flag flying here". Not if I can help it. The Conservative Party now and always flies the flag of one nation—and that flag is the Union Jack. If to react against the politics of the last few years, which undermined our way of life and devastated our economy—if that's reactionary then we are reactionary—and so are the vast majority of the British people."

The stakes are raised, particularly over oil, a key resource: "What worries Jack Jones is that the Leaders of his Party are living too well. What worries us is that ordinary people aren't living well enough. That's why the next Election will be so crucial. All elections are crucial; this time the choice could be decisive for a generation. Because this time how the country votes will settle which party is entrusted with the immense benefits of North Sea Oil."

Sensible rhetoric towards trade union members: "A Conservative Britain will be as much in the interest of Union members as of the rest of the community. They know that taxes today are too high, that they torpedo talent, that they must be cut. And that is what we Conservatives will do. We shall cut income tax so that once again it is worthwhile to work harder and to learn a skill. We want to keep our best brains in Britain and bring home some of those who have been driven abroad. We want to hold out to the enterprising businessman a reward which matches the risks of building up a firm... We want to leave everyone with more of his own money in his own pocket to spend as he pleases. *Our aim is to make tax collecting a declining industry.* There are more Civil Servants in the Inland Revenue than there are sailors in the British Navy. If Governments don't cut what they spend we have to cut what we spend. There's one hand out that people really want today. That's the Government's hand out of their pocket."

It strongly seeks to ramp up selection in education once again: "We have got to stop destroying good schools in the name of equality. The main victims of Labour's recent attack on the direct grant schools have been able children from the less well off families. People from my sort of background needed Grammar schools to compete with children from privileged homes like Shirley Williams and Anthony Wedgwood Benn.... Our aim in education is simple: it is to raise standards for all our children. That means fighting far more vigorously against that small minority which believes the principal purpose of education is to instil contempt for democratic institutions. That's not education, it's political propaganda. I see no reason why you and I and every other tax payer should pay for it. And these destroyers would also destroy respect for our laws and the order on which a civilised society is based."

She declares the vitality of law and order: "People have asked me whether I'm going to make the fight against crime an issue at the next election. No, I am not going to make it an issue, it's the people of Britain who are going to make it an issue. The old people in our city centres who are terrified to go out at night are going to make it an issue. The tax payers and rate payers who have to meet the bills for mindless vandalism are going to make it an issue. The parents worried sick when their children go out on their own are going to make it an issue. Yes, law and order will be an issue, and it will be a vital issue at the election. And if anyone thinks that's right wing, they should talk to the workers in the factory and the women in the supermarkets. The next Conservative Government will give more resources to the police. They are undermanned and poorly paid. We will bring them up to strength. We will give them the money to do the job. I do not intend to sit on the sidelines, wringing my hands, while London, Glasgow, Manchester, Birmingham and the rest of our cities go the way of New York."

She urges stiffening the armed forces in the six counties to help the cause of peace: "Today we express our deep and lasting admiration for Betty Williams and Mairead Corrigan, the Belfast Peace Women who have been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Their courage symbolises to us, and to the whole Western world, the yearning of the people of Ulster for peace. And we honour with them the Royal Ulster Constabulary, the Ulster Defence Regiment and our servicemen in Northern Ireland. I only wish that all the members of our armed forces who defend freedom, there, and in other parts of the world, had a higher place in Socialist priorities. What sort of Government is it that so neglects the welfare of our servicemen? What sort of Government forces front-line soldiers into claiming rent rebates, and makes many of them worse off than people who don't even try to work at all? Our armed forces are poorly paid. They are denied the equipment, the stores, the back-up and the training that they know are vital to the job they do. A Government which spends money on nationalisation while cutting spending on the defence of the realm ... Conservative Government will see that our troops are properly paid, increase defence spending so that we meet our obligations to our allies... restore the morale of our fighting services."

14 October 1977: Chief civil servant at the Treasury Sir Douglas Wass decides to pressure Healey against stimulus, and argue for continued retrenchment and slower gradual measures against unemployment: "Sir Douglas Wass agrees with the sentiments expressed in your minute of 13 October. He will be seeing the Chancellor briefly later this morning and will take the opportunity to voice his and your increasing unease about the tenor of policy" (K Watts, Sir Donald Wass's Private Secretary to F Atkinson)
Atkinson's original conclusion "I am beginning to feel uneasy about the tenor of policy. I think we should impress on the Chancellor that it may be very unwise to give any further stimulus to demand in the April Budget. I think we should regard 4 per cent expansion as the absolute maximum.... We have had terrible experiences of overrapid expansion. The last dash for growth in 1972/73 [spurred on by the effects of a series of large worker sit-ins and strikes] was

14 October 1977: <u>Times Educational Supplement</u> reports the absence of an education bill in the Queen's Speech means students in 'non-advanced' further education will continue to receive meagre

hand." (Atkinson to Wass 13 Oct 1977)

disastrous. We are in an alarming inflationary situation and we should not take any risks of overheating. The aim should be a steady and long continued expansion at a rate just sufficient to reduce unemployment gradually provided wages do not get out of

discretionary awards or nothing compared to student grants for university and polytechnic students.

14 October 1977: Tribune reports on the NCB-NUM productivity deal and bonus arrangements for miners: "non-faceworkers are being offered less — between £10 and £15 extra. Only when locally determined productivity targets are fully met will the maximum be payable. With the productivity deal finalised, the NUM claim for £135 a week for face workers (the current rate is £71), will still probably be submitted. But it will be irrelevant unless there has been a massive pay explosion by then. The likelihood is that the board will counter with a 10 per cent over, and the NUM will settle for around 15 per cent. Taken together with the productivity payments this could give face-workers well over £30 a week extra. It is far less than they might have settled for in other circumstances. And the penalty - acceptance of the divisive pit incentive arrangements - is considerable. In places like South Wales and Scotland the fear has always been that a return to local productivity arrangements will be a first step to the old days when the less productive pits in the more topographically difficult mining areas were closed in their hundreds. But miners' leaders admit that the pits are, as yet, in no mood for strike action. There is no prospect of TUC support this time, and they would be accused of facing a Labour Government with electoral disaster. So they are ready to settle."

The NCB productivity arrangement does not work to reduce absenteeism in any meaningful sense, it merely separates the workforce on grounds dictated by geology: "Between Jan 1978 and Dec 1979 there was no discernible change in the level of voluntary absenteeism and the percentage of the annual average workforce absent remained more-or-less stable. There is little evidence that the incentive schemes reduced voluntary absenteeism so indicating an increase in workforce commitment. The long-term path of productivity does show a change but this was the consequence of improvements in mining technology, the redevelopment of existing collieries and the closure of uneconomic pits."

- 15 October 1977: An important trade accord is signed between Federal Germany and PRC.
- 16 October 1977: First ever African-Arab trade union conference begins in Algiers. It adopts a resolution in favour of immigrant workers in Europe, urging against deportations and their integration into society. Unsurprisingly the demands are basically ignored, without action, which is then derided as disruptive, dangerous and backward etc.

17 October 1977: <u>U.S. News & World Report</u> records the attitude of new West Bank IDF-assisted settlement occupiers in Yateer, who have taken over Arab villages: "We shall hit them where it hurts. We shall set up fences around their land. We shall prevent them from leading their cattle to pasture. We shall deprive them of their means of livelihood and through this we hope that they will leave the area. We shall shoot any Arab who interferes with our expansionist plans."

17 October 1977: First Monday mass picket without the support of APEX but promoted by the Strike committee. Police with horses attack the picket of 5000.

17 October 1977: Police Federation launches a £12,000 advertising campaign in the press, with a photo of the famous injured policeman outside Grunwick's above the slogan "One way to earn £40 a week".

17 October 1977: Queen visits Ottawa, Canada to mass protests blocked by RCMP police regiments.

17 October 1977: U.S. Supreme Court overrules the New York Port Authority ban on Concorde flights in the New York area; regular Concorde service from London to Kennedy Airport begins later in 1977.

18 October 1977: Industrial action over pay in the electricity supply industry is stepped up. By the end of Oct 1977 management rationed power cuts occur across parts of the country.

The basic government approach is to let the stamp on the strike by promising future inquiries and mobilising middle-class unions to act as strikebreakers. No outright military intervention occurs since CEGB "did not consider that troops had the expertise to run or even close down the national grid in a crisis. They might even destroy it if they attempted to do so" (Brian Sedgemore). "In the autumn of 1977 the CCU commissioned Mr Richard Mottram of the Ministry of Defence to investigate the possibility of using troops [in a power workers dispute]. The conclusion was that there were not enough of them and that they were not up to it." (Peter Hennessy, The Times, 17 Nov 1979)

Organised local picketing groups are refused service in militant middle-class garages and shops. Many shop stewards report hearing echoes in telephone conversations, suggesting phone-tapping. At the height of the unofficial dispute, 65 out of 137 power stations in England & Wales are involved. Over 5,000 workers within the CEGB power supply industry take part.

18 October 1977: In Mogadishu, Somalia, 2 British SAS operatives assist Federal German special forces commanders as they seize back an Lufthansa Mallorca-Frankfurt airliner hijacked by guerrillas,

pleading for the release of 2 Turkish and 11 German political prisoners, shooting dead 3 of 4, and injuring the last. Timed to coincide with the event, in order to deliver a heavy propaganda blow, Federal German government announces the 'suicides' of Andreas Baader, Gudrun Ensslin and Jan-Carl Raspe with large weapons in their individual cells in a high-security wing of what is described during the detention as the most secure prison block in the world.

- 18 October 1977: Government signs a £5mil development loan to Mozambique "for the purchase of spare parts and maintenance equipment of British manufacture, to be mutually agreed by the Government of Mozambique and the Government of the United Kingdom" (Written answer, 15 Nov 1977). Foreign Secretary Owen later asserts the value of Mozambique: "President Machel has never doubted the need for a settlement in Rhodesia... He has constantly reiterated the need to retain white people [ie capitalist rent-seekers] in Mozambique."
- 18 October 1977: Bill Craig VUPP MP, constant proponent of shoot-to-kill, "tougher security measures" etc, is appointed by the Council of Europe to assist the updating of the European Convention on Human Rights.
- 18 October 1977: Police arrest \*\* antifascists at a 2,500 strong march, with a West Indian steel band, in East End. Several locals and NF supporters abuse, jeer and toss things as the march winds through estates between Whitechapel and Bow.
- 19 October 1977: British Aerospace led ESA Star consortium launches 2 International Sun-Earth Explorer satellites ISEE-B and ISEE-A.
- 19 October 1977: Another mass picket at Grunwick's. Yorkshire NUM are again present.
- 19 October 1977: Pre-dawn raids see the arrest and banning of 18 separate anti-apartheid organisations in South Africa.
- 20 October 1977: Thailand's latest militarist coup.
- 20 October 1977: IMG's paper <u>Socialist Challenge</u> reveals the speech made by British Leyland chairman, Sir Richard Dobson at the Twenty Club. The Twenty Club's chairman later gives a statement: "This breach of confidence is without precedent in the 78 years of the club's existence. I am quite sure that I can speak for all the members of the club in expressing our sincere regret to Sir Richard.... The tragedy of all this is here for us to see." The tragedy being the exertion of late but elementary procedures against the control of vast industries by hard-racialist pro-corruption

figures. He confirms that John Cooper has resigned from the club for failing to control his son, shortly after he discovers that his son has made the tape recording.

- 21 October 13 November 1977: Soviet personnel and advisers leave Somalia completely in one of the shortest ever withdrawals. USSR loses access to Mogadishu, its only major Indian Ocean deepsea terminal. This encourages it to think in terms of retaining the Red Sea ports of Ethiopia's northern coast, by supporting the Dergue militarists against the Eritrean guerrillas.
- 21 October 1977: Sir Richard Dobson resigns as chairman of British Leyland. Bernard Levin in <u>The Times</u> manages to blame <u>Socialist Challenge</u> for the events.
- 21 October 1977: South Africa's <u>Financial Mail</u> produces a "survey of Britain". "This country is steadily acquiring the capability to manufacture and assemble more and more goods which used to be imported. And, much of the time, it is South Africa's subsidiaries of UK companies which are doing it"

Britain remains South Africa's most vital market, essential to its hopes of keeping its trade with the EEC. By volume Britain is South Africa's number one sales market with 22.5% of its overseas exports. But the problem is long-term capital, in part maintained by British financial institutions: "increasingly over the past year, the view has been that South Africa is a bad credit risk. Accordingly, there has been a spontaneous boycott of finance for the Republic... The longer this boycott continues, the worse the credit risk of lending to SA could become. This is because many outsiders fear that the drying up of foreign capital will bring about a vicious political and economic circle.... South Africa is far more reliant on the UK than vice versa"

- 22 October 1977: Airey Neave "Governments must now look lo the only relevant punishment for the-deliberate shooting of the pilot of a passenger aircraft... and similar atrocities," he said. Terrorist killing should be a specific crime carrying the capital penalty In Individual countries and at International law. "Every time a terrorist killer la sentenced to Imprisonment, he or ahe becomes a symbol or a rallying point for a new campaign which may be carried owl after they are sentenced,"
- 22 October 1977: <u>Financial Times</u> reports the Cabinet is discussing plans to cut public expenditure's share in the economy from 46% of GDP to a maximum of 40% in 1979-80 and 1980-81 (Financial Times, Oct 22 1977).

- 23 October 1977: Callaghan addresses the Board of Deputies of British Jews celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Balfour Declaration.
- 23 October 1977: Northern Ireland Office plans on how to respond to the torture documented on a BBC documentary "the statement which is now being drafted, would make the following points: a) The current trend of allegations against the police is an international problem which stems largely from the growth of international terrorism... The cases referred to in the programme cannot be discussed in detail since many of them are presently in the process of being investigated in accordance with the legal procedure." When accusations are made against the rabble these are quickly transformed from suggestion, innuendo and slander into 'fact', whilst accusations against the powerful must be resisted until the outcome of 'impartial' 'British' law.
- 24 October 1977: Philippines <u>Business Day</u> discloses a report it has compiled over several months which has identified Sime Darby Holdings, a British controlled holding company registered in low-tax Singapore, as the largest company in 4 ASEAN nations (minus Indonesia, which has proved to opaque to fully examine). In terms of consolidated assets Sime Darby has over \$506mil of assets in plantation ownership, commodity trading schemes, equipment manufacture, tractor and motor vehicle manufacture, engineering, contractor property development, property insurance and moneybrokering. Inchcape is another strong British-controlled Singapore-registered firm that has thousands of significant shareholders in Britain, that comes third in the list of the top 100 ASEAN firms.
- 24 October 1977: Indonesian Defence Minister General Pangabean announces Indonesia is still facing a danger of Communist remnants and other extremist groups internally and externally. He states these forces must be overcome in the course of safeguarding the general assembly of the People's Congress in 1978, ie the maintenance of generalised proscriptions on political action and demonstrations.
- 24 October 1977 pm: Thailand's latest military leaders announce a tripartite administrative system where power will rest with the chief and secretary of the Revolutionary Council in power since the coup on 20 Oct 1977.
- 24 October 1977: Grunwick Strike Committee mass picket is broken up by police.
- 24 October 1977: British Army's Argyle and Southern Highlanders shoot dead a 16-year-old Michael Neill by Stanhope Street, Unity Flats, Belfast.

None of the clothes Michael Neill has been wearing are ever returned to the family. After an inquest they family also received a letter from the Northern Ireland Office stating that Michael was a terrorist and hence not entitled to compensation. Michael Neill was never claimed as a member of any illegal organisation or group. He is shot 3 times, once in the leg, and twice in the body. He dies in hospital several hours later. According to eyewitness, soldiers crowd to the scene but leave him lying on a footpath for some time before an ambulance is called.

British Army Press Office refuses to issue a statement, instead referring any questions regarding the shooting to the RUC. RUC issues a brief statement: "a number of shots were fired and one of the youths was taken to hospital where he died later." It claims Michael Neill is part of a bus hijacking and an imitation handgun, apparently found near the hijacking incident, might have belonged to Michael Neill. His family reject these claims, stating he is returning from a friend's home at the time he was shot dead.

An inquest into the killing of Michael Neill is held in Dec 1978. None of the British soldiers involved in the shooting attended any sessions. A military representative identifying the soldiers by letters, defends their conduct, allowing an open verdict to be returned.

24 October 1977: Police attack and arrest another 3 demonstrators outside Grunwick's in the morning. Police use mini-shields to clear the area around the Chapter Road entrance. "The bus had already successfully entered the factory and most people were drifting home when the police barged in. At least one person was arrested during this needless pushing and shoving."

24 October 1977: Peter Cooper, appears at a press conference with Tariq Ali to defend his tape recording of Sir Richard Dobson.

26 October 1977: Grunwick's strike committee, some of London district UPW and supporters lobby TUC headquarters to coincide with a meeting of TUC General Council. On the agenda for discussion at the meeting is the UPW's request for TUC support if the union's executive committee agrees on an official boycott of Grunwick's mail. Previous boycotts at Willesden sorting office have lead to UPW officials threatening members because of the legal danger they pose to union assets.

26 October 1977: Singapore Airlines announces an agreement with British Airways for a London to Singapore, via Bahrain, Concorde flight service to operate 3 times a week.

26 October 1977: 12th Budget, which Chancellor describes as "a budget of reward". Income tax is cut by raising immediately (backdated to the start of the financial year from Apr 1977) personal tax allowances in line with an expected rate of inflation

over the year until April 1978. The capital transfer tax is gutted by announcements of a capital transfer tax relief for new firms and the raising of the threshold of its application from £15,000 to £25,000. Restrictions on borrowings by foreign-controlled companies to finance capital expenditure in the UK are relaxed.

Singapore's <u>Straits Times</u> approves: "Knowing that too big a boost could fuel Inflation, he has opted for a cautious injection of about £1billion into the economy, which is probably just about the right size of stimulant in present conditions. Anything bigger at this time could waste the hard-earned gains of the past few months, and anything less would have had hardly any effect." (Straits Times, 28 Oct 1977)

Sunday Times is equally supportive: "Denis Healey has become the best Conservative Chancellor we have. In his latest Budget he again observed, almost entirely, the conditions laid down by the International Monetary Fund; he showed proper economic respect for the modern economic god called monetarism; and he brought substantial relief to the backbone of the Conservative Party, namely the small businessman." (30 Oct 1977)

27 October 1977: Chairman of British Steel Corporation, Sir Charles Villiers, chief of a nationalised industry, declares in a speech to the Northern Society of Accountants that "companies losing money at the rate that we are would now be in receivership or liquidation", trying to argue his case for 'de-nationalisation' to ensure the future profitability of the firm.

27 October 1977: Home Secretary announces the inquiry into Police Procedure under Lord Justice Edmund-Davies will include an investigation into police pay. This is correctly regarded as acceptance of an eventual higher police pay award.

- 27 October 1977: CILSS (Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel) makes an urgent appeal for 500,000 tons of cereal to combat food shortages in the region.
- 28 October 1977: Labour Left prospective MP Paul Rose blusters in <u>Labour Weekly</u> that antifascists should not counter-demonstrate the NF but instead: "If there is to be a confrontation let the antifascists choose the time and place and be there in such numbers that the NF will never march again."
- 28 October 1977: Labour Left Geoffrey Robinson charts a new corporatist course for British Leyland: "It remains a mystery to me how a Labour Government could have appointed someone like Sir Richard Dobson as the chairman of a major nationalised industry with a troubled history of industrial relations and which is vitally dependent on export markets. ... For whatever specious, nonsense

about the context of his remarks on "bribing wogs" and on trade unionists being bastards is pleaded in mitigation of them, the plain fact is that they are symptomatic of dangerously out-of-date, irrelevant and damaging attitudes. Furthermore, the cackle of supercilious laughter that accompanied Sir Richard's commonplace jibes suggested that such attitudes, may be distressingly widespread in British boardrooms. Such self-satisfied complacency seems incongruous, given the inferior performance in international markets of so much of British industry...We must have the imagination and self-confidence to risk unorthodox appointments of people who actually believe in public enterprise. Heaven knows, they could not make a worse hash of it than the likes of Sir Richard Dobson, although Michael Edwards appointment does not exactly break new ground or hold out great hopes in this respect....

[His proposals for structure] The four divisions should report directly to the National Enterprise Board as distinct entities. The best of the headquarters staff — and there are some very able people — should be re-deployed to the divisions with a nucleus going to the NEB to strengthen its monitoring and control function. There will be some local transitional problems but these would be far exceeded by the benefits, the most important of which would be the Immediate elimination of one unnecessary layer of review and source of abortive squabbling. There is no sense in the present Byzantine multiplication of review as between the divisions of the British Leyland board and the NEB with the Government itself not really sure who is in charge.... But whatever decision is taken on the structure of the car activities should not influence or delay the Government from taking steps to restore the National Enterprise Board's own credibility. The opponents of public enterprise are rubbing their hands with glee over our discomfort. There is little time to waste to get Leyland back on the road to success that lies at hand if only we will grasp it by getting the men and management working together in coherent entities with revived trust"

- 28 October 1977: Britain abstains as a UN General Assembly resolution overwhelmingly votes to condemn the construction of Israeli-only settlements in the occupied territories.
- 28 October 1977: UN Committee on Decolonisation condemns Federal Germany, Belgium, Italy, France, Britain, USA, Israel, Iran and Japan for their collaboration with South Africa.
- 29 October 1977: Sadat begins a visit to Socialist Romania, followed by Iran and Saudi Arabia, to encourage all 3 to move behind the Israel-Egypt rapprochement.

- 30 October 1977: South African press note a discreet poll of top British business leaders by the South African Foreign Trade Association, funded in part by the government. It reveals British companies are feeling increasing from some black African nations to cut ties with South Africa. Many feel competitors in black Africa (Johannesburg Sunday Times, Vorster Polls UK Firms, 30 Oct 1977)
- 30 October-9 November 1977: Field Marshal Lord Carver first visits Rhodesia to meet UN General Prem Chand; tribalist "internal settlement" advocates Muzorewa, Sithole and chief Chirau; Rhodesian Defence Force commanders and prime minister Smith; but no guerrillas or ordinary citizens without the presence of RDF. He then tours other African countries. Several senior Foreign Office officials stay in Rhodesia to discuss possible reintegration into the Commonwealth and US-British financial assistance with new constitutional arrangements.
- 31 October 1977: Grunwick Strike Committee mass picket.
- 31 October 1977: Police Federation accepts a 10% rise with the assurance that the government will accept the findings of the Inquiry into police pay set up in July 1977 under Lord Edmund Davies. No inquiry is offered to firefighters.

November 1977: A contract for BAe and Rolls-Royce to overhaul and maintain the Soviet-built MiG-21s, mainstay of the Egyptian Air Force. Since the expulsion of Soviet technicians in 1972, spare parts and maintenance facilities have been in short supply. Teams from both firms fly to Egypt before the end of the year.

- 1 November 1977: Air controller assistants return to normal working, achieving a limited success in their claim.
- 1 November 1977: Ministry of Defence says over 8,000 soldiers and 3,000 R.A.F. members are undergoing firefighting training by armed forces specialists to prepare a strikebreaking force. The government has already ordered over 100 reserve Green Goddess fire engines into military facilities for preparations.
- 1 November 1977: A Smith, chairman of Industrial Fire Protection Association, says as many as 50,000 workers in over 800 industrial firms have been trained as firefighters and many will be available for use in case of a strike.
- 1 November 1977 am: Tony Benn meets top civil servant, Permanent Secretary at the Department of Employment Conrad Heron "He said he thought the NUM militants would force through a high settlement ... this would be followed by a comparable increase for the electricity supply workers and that there would then be a balance of payments collapse. This would lead to statutory wage indexation and import restrictions. He thought a number of

- ministers now saw the dangers [of accepting 'high' wage settlements] ahead" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 1 November 1977: Result is announced that the overall NUM ballot has rejected the NUM Executive-supported NCB productivity deal. Gormley and his allies having hoped to use the wage increases that the incentives scheme would have meant in most areas to secure nationwide support. Instead it imposes against the NUM Constitution NUM Regional productivity votes.
- 1 November 1977: UN General Assembly votes reaffirming the principle of unity in the Comoros islands to ensure that the settler French colonial squirearchy in Mayotte cannot continue to dominate the indigenous population of its island with a breakaway France-backed departement status or independence, stating that it "calls upon the Government of the Comoros and the Government of France to work out a just and equitable settlement for the problem of the Comorian island of Mayotte which respect the political unity and territorial integrity of the Comoros, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly on this issue" (UNGA, Question of the Comorian Island of Mayotte, A/RES/32/7)
- 1 November 1977: South Africa activates its 200 mile EEZ fishing limit.
- 2 November 1977: Soviet Union proposal of the banning of all nuclear tests underground and overground for any length of time agreed with Western powers. It is rejected out of hand.
- 2 November 1977: Queen Elizabeth & Prince Philip return to London from Barbados by Concorde.
- 2 November 1977: Several temporary members of the UNSC take up a series of African states' resolutions that would allow the total economic and diplomatic blockade of South Africa. They force their resolutions to a vote and America, Britain and France exercise, once again, the triple veto.
- 2 November 1977: Addis Ababa official reports that 23 apparent "anarchists and reactionaries" have been killed, almost all of them members of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party (EPRP),
- 3 November 1977: Dundee University students' union passes a motion condemning Israeli state assaults on Lebanon. It is later met with condemnation from a large part of NOLS.
- 3 November 1977: Callaghan defends the record of 1976-7: "Britain is enjoying the agreeable experience of a massive improvement in our financial position. The exchange reserves are at record levels. Short-term interest rates have improved to the point that they are now about 5%... Let us take credit for this. Let industry take credit for this: with encouragement from the Government the volume of our exports has increased by about 10%, despite the depressed

level of world trade. Let us not discourage our exporters by saying that they have not done anything. They have done a good job. The most significant measure of Britain's success has been the continuing reduction month by month in the rate of inflation. Thanks to the co-operation of the trade unions and their members during the last two years we are now experiencing a most dramatic improvement in the rate of price increases. The sacrifices of the last two years have been worthwhile"

4 November 1977: Joel Barnett, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, calls for raising the prescription charge from 20p to 50p per item to produce an extra £45 million a year from the population.

4 November 1977: Kenyan government tender reveals the nature of EEC development aid to the Third World: "Veterinary Services Division of the Ministry of Agriculture invites tenders for the supply of following equipment: Twelve refrigerators, 8 microscopes, miscellaneous laboratory equipment, clinical equipment, technical books. The purchase of this equipment is lo be financed by the European Economic Community and it is required that the equipment be manufactured in one of the member states or in an ACP state in accordance with the Lomé Convention."

Industrial items, since they require production based on expertise with experience, inevitably draw orders to firms of EEC nations. EEC development aid largely being a convoluted form of subsidy to EEC-based firms.

5 November 1977: Several stores in central and west London are raided in the darkness of blackout caused by unofficial powerworkers' action. Police exaggeratedly issue press releases of handbag muggings in Reading during a blackout. In fact handbag muggings are broadly the same before and after the strike, nevertheless trade unionists causing 'chaos' is the main press theme. Their claims are for travel allowances and a £6-per-week increase in shift pay to offset falling real wages. The ETU leadership does not go on an all-out offensive although but once the work-to-rule is ended begins tightening control of branches in any way it can. Its basic attitude is summed up in this subsequent analysis: "whether the wildcat strikers in the vanguard were politically motivated, misled, sick-minded or just plain stupid, it was all far removed from trades unionism" (Frank Chapple, Sparks Fly!, 1984)

5 November 1977: USA's withdrawal from the ILO takes effect in protest as a warning against its publicising the dangers of multinational firms, and its having considered Palestinian workforces.

6 November 1977: John Lyons, General Secretary of EAMA, Engineers' and Managers' Association, announces a new strikebreaking drive. Engineers and managers begin handling coal and operating furnaces to drive power turbines, jobs which they usually supervise. CEGB notes "It will make a big difference when industry starts up tomorrow [Monday] morning".

6 November 1977: Sir Neville Mott, winner of the year's Nobel Prize, semiconductor physicist, Pugwash participant, Fellow of the Royal Society and former pupil of private school Clifton College, Bristol, gives a lecture at Clifton to celebrate 50 years of its science department first opened in 1927.

7 November 1977: Trial begins of Lt.-Col. David Randel, Ministry of Defence official adviser, and 2 former directors of electronics firm Racal BCC. It hears evidence of civil service complicity in corruption. The three are accused of bribes to ensure Chieftain tanks bought by Iran are equipped with Racal-manufactured radio equipment. The British state has paid £1mil+, in 1972, to Shapoor Reporter, a friend of the Shah for favourable deals with Iran. Sir Lester Suffield, at the time head of MoD Sales Department, says the money was authorised from a government-owned military sales agency. Shapoor Reporter was subsequently knighted for "services rendered to Britain in Iran."

7 November 1977: Normal working is resumed in many areas of the CEGB, with the attitude of the CMEA and others becoming apparent. Nonetheless CEGB managers shut down supplies to industrial centres in Yorkshire, the Midlands, London and southern England as power demands (on a Monday industrial start) outstrip stored electricity.

7 November 1977: Seychelles announces that its Assembly under President Albert 'Ti France' René has agreed that the country will rescind its status as a flag of convenience nation (driving down wages , taxation and conditions in shipping worldwide) from 31 March 1978.

7-9 November 1977: All 500 manual workers at Scotland's largest power station Longannet, Fife, participate in the unofficial strike action.

7 November 1977: Press attacks trade unionists. Headlines <u>Financial Times</u> 'Callaghan Warns of Winter Strikes; Labour Ready to Fight Unions on Pay'. <u>The Guardian</u>: 'PM Appeals for Restraint through Hard Winter'. <u>The Sun</u> 'I'll Stand up to Miners Says Jim', <u>Daily Mail</u> 'We'll Fight the Strikes', <u>The Times</u> 'Prime Minister

Appeals to the Nation for Support in Winter of Dislocation'. <u>Daily Mirror</u> 'Lights Stay Off; Blackout Threat to Kidney Patients' attacks power station workers.

7 November 1977: An 84-year-old woman dies in hospital. She has 3 heart attacks, one before, one during and one after a power cut affecting a hospital. Her operation takes place in a high-risk warning period but the generator fails when the power cut occurs. She is resuscitated and dies after the end of the power-cut after her final heart attack. The hospital standby generator's condition, essential for all climatic and incident eventualities, is the main culprit. Nevertheless the case is subsequently distorted as 'killed by power-workers denying hospitals power' and becomes a backlash cause celebre until the next under-investigated 'victim of trade unionism' story is created.

7 November 1977: A special conference of the FBU votes (against the wishes of the executive council) at an emergency session to start strike action on 14 Nov 1977 unless government produces an offer commensurate with the claim for a cut in hours from 48 to 42 per week, and a corresponding pay rise to cover this cut.

- 7 November 1977: 8,000 protesters attend a mass picket at Grunwick's. 243 pickets are injured, 113 arrested. Management does not change its position.
- 7 November 1977: Appeal in the House of Lords over Grunwick's begins.
- 7 November 1977: 26 British firms take part in the Machine Asia exhibition in Singapore, financed in part by the British Overseas Trade Board. Firms like Black & Decker South East Asia Ltd. dominate hand tools market.
- 8 November 1977: Malaysia's increasingly dictatorial premier Hussein Onn proclaims 'Emergency' in Kelantan, using laws in tact from the British colonial era.

8 November 1977: First day of committal proceedings in a London Magistrates' Court in the ABC case London where a 3-hour tape produced by phone-tapping is played in front of a cleared, empty court in which the prosecution alleges it is John Berry, former signals soldier, giving details of Britain's monitoring facilities to Duncan Campbell and Aubrey. The defence for John Berry led by Michael Mansfield says there is nothing in the tape detrimental to national security and playing the tape in secret means encouraging the jury to find the defendants guilty. Campbell's defence, Geoffrey Robertson, says the prosecution is mistaking investigative

journalism for subversion. He also accedes to suggestions that entry to the Soviet Union is somehow a threat by declaring that John Berry, was for only 2 post-discharge years, required to seek written permission to visit any country in the Soviet bloc, yet he was denied visiting <u>Time Out</u>.

8 November 1977: Every single national newspaper attacks the FBU decision for strike action. <u>Daily Mail</u>'s front page main headline states: "Would you refuse to rescue children? The answer with a roar from the firemen was YES".

8 November 1977: Unofficial power workers strike. Tony Benn: "I had a message from James Bretherton that had rung with regard to my favouring the unofficial strikers' demand that they shouldn't lose any pay. His men have been helping to cover the strikers' work. Lyons said that, if such payments were made, his members would withdraw their support I must say his [Lyons] influence throughout this dispute has been entirely unhelpful and negative."

8 November 1977: UPI reports on British millionaire film producer Stanley O'Toole reminiscing over the settled environment of Francoist Spain for film-making: "Once the western world's favourite movie location, Spain is rapidly losing that status because of sharply increased costs. In a country where the making of films ranging from the classic 'Doctor Zhivago' to Italian spaghetti westerns; once was a business involving hundreds of millions of dollars, no foreign movie has been made in months. Producer Stanley O' Toole has just moved the location of "The Boys From Brazil" from Spain to neighbouring Portugal. "Only 10 years ago, moviemakers flocked to Spain because costs were so low that they practically ruled cut any other country... Now the costs are prohibitive. Moreover, you're never quite sure what's going to happen next in Spain."

8 November 1977: Merlyn Rees meets the FBU leadership urging them to take undemocratic action and call off the strike action by some means. "I knew the Fire Brigades Union very well. I said to Terry Parry [FBU General Secretary] that you do realise we'll have to put the Green Goddesses in. I decided not to put them in the fire stations but in requisitioned buildings etc. — there was no point in having a great big punch-up with the firemen. And we had to use the police communications systems. The FBU knew we were going to do this; they made no protest. It wasn't a very contentious issue at all."

He announces in public: "Plans have been prepared by central government and by fire authorities, with the services, and will be ready to be put into operation on 14 November. Emergency fire appliances are being made available to fire authorities and

servicemen are being specially trained to man them." The operations control room has already been set up in the Home Office. He later states "what I authorised a day or two ago was for the chief executives, the chiefs of police, the chief fire officers and the local army commanders to talk together about all the problems" authorising total anti-democratic collusion.

- 9 November 1977: IDF aircraft launch multiple raids in southern Lebanon, the Lebanese government recording at 60 civilians killed as a result.
- 9 November 1977: Home Office writes to all fire authorities telling them that "in the current industrial situation in the fire service... contingency arrangements have been made under which it would be open to them [fire authorities] to seek military assistance in maintaining fire cover." (FIR/71 175/2/54)

This occurs before the local authorities responsible for the fire service have requested military intervention in their respective areas, as required by law.

Troops are mobilised under the authority of the Emergency Powers Act 1964, that permit military action on "urgent work of national importance" even though the Queen's Regulations, the armed forces' rule book, states that troops would only be used under this 1964 Act when the emergency is "limited and local". Service personnel aged under 21, although legally disallowed from driving lorries and long vehicles on the roads, nonetheless drive Green Goddesses and other military lorries.

- 9 November 1977: Hong Kong's Inland Revenue Service reports that 82 taxpayers have performed, over the past financial year, tax evasion close to HK\$1mil each.
- 9 November 1977: <u>BBC File at Four</u> interviews Martin Webster, leading NF TV spokesperson: "Martin Webster: I sometimes think it doesn't get across. The reason why we publish a poster saying 'the National Front is a racialist front' is because we are a racialist front. You must understand what that means. It means that we support the concept of the nation as the means whereby our society is to be organised and we believe the only rational basis for having nations is some kind of a degree of ethnic homogeneity.

Q: and if you're outside that degree of ethnic homogeneity your rights will be limited?

Martin Webster: Well you won't have any rights at all, because you won't be a citizen of the nation, because you won't be part of the community."

9 November 1977: Report of the Select Committee on Nationalised Industries, which has carried out a special survey from Apr 1976 to May 1977, on BSC and its future, is published.

- 9 November 1977: Swaziland Prime Minister states it will not allow its territory to be used as a base for terrorists, who have fled South Africa. He denies that there are training camps within Swaziland. Britain follows South Africa as the number two investor in Swaziland.
- 10 November 1977: Labour Left Leslie Huckfield highlights Britain's development programme's efforts for British profits: "Ministry of Overseas Development and the Department of Industry have been having discussions with Indian Government officials about the possibility of the Shipping Corporation of India purchasing ships from British yards."
- 10 November 1977: Government approves that BR fares will be increased by on average 14.5% on 1 Jan 1978, even though the Price Commission is investigating BR over its complaints of its prices.
- 10 November 1977: Orkney's local valuation appeal committee composed mainly of small businessmen — decides that the £105mil Flotta oil terminal is eligible for a tax break as under 'industrial derating'. It means multinational firms such as Occidental Petroleum, Getty Oil, Allied Chemicals and Thomson International (set up by publishing giant Lord Thomson) that jointly own the Piper and Claymore fields will pay only half the rates they have been assessed for. The terminal's rates assessment is cut from £1,348.182 to £674,091. George Marwick, Orkney Islands council convener, declares: "I am at a loss as to how one can classify what is basically a store installation as a processing or refining one" Sir Ron Gilbert, Orkney council's director of Finance, notes that of 1976's budget of £5.69mil it has received £1.02mil as a resources element grant from the Scottish Office and rates thus have to be increased for council residents to cover costs. Most Orkney residents pay an increase of between 35-50% in rates next FY.
- 10 November 1977: Geoffrey Shaw, Strathclyde region convener, appeals for the public to show a "good neighbour" attitude to elderly and disabled people who might be stranded in multi-storey blocks as a result of the continuing strike of lift maintenance workers. He notes of the 500 multi-storey blocks, some may have malfunctioned without lift engineers.
- 10 November 1977: Leaders of TUC Steel Committee meet BSC management to discuss Beswick Review proposals and mounting losses at the nationalised firm. Unions have already agreed to consider negotiations to begin on generous compensation schemes

for workers employed at plants the 1975 Beswick Review has recommended for closure.

- 10 November 1977: Chancellor announces that Bank of England measures to keep the sterling exchange rate stable by selling sterling will be abandoned because "there is clearly a limit to the ability of any Government to offset the effects of inflows [of foreign exchange and capital against sterling] in this way without beginning to distort the domestic financial system and to impose a monetary squeeze"
- 10 November 1977: Belfast defence lawyer P.J. McGrory writes to Northern Ireland Secretary Ruler Roy Mason on behalf of lawyers who share "the conviction that ill-treatment of suspects by police officers with the object of obtaining confessions is now common practice" in interrogation centres in Belfast notably Castlereagh Interrogation centre.
- 10 November 1977: Duke of Edinburgh at the Cambridge Union comments on a question about the IBA's banning of the Sex Pistols: "I thank we have got to operate civilisation and freedom of speech on the basis of self-restraint and we have got to put up with people who do not exercise self-restraint [however] I must congratulate you on being able to understand what is actually being said on a pop record"
- 10 November 1977: Guerrillas destroy the Bilbao offices of Babcock & Wilcox's Spanish subsidiary clearing the building of its workforce in advance. It is strongly suspected that that the workforce has cooperated with ETA guerrillas since there is no resistance to the request to leave nor do police arrive to apprehend the guerrillas until after the explosion.
- 10 November 1977: 3 power stations remain closed throughout the whole day due to the unofficial power workers' strike: Blyth, Northumberland, Fiddler's Ferry, Warrington-Cheshire and Wylfa, Anglesey. 5 other power stations continue to lose output due to stayaways. At a meeting of the shop stewards' national committee of power workers, a 24-2 vote declares in favour of a return to work. Dave Smith, chief of joint shop stewards committee admits: "We have lost the battle and we should accept the fact... the Government, and Trades Union Congress are all against us."
- 10 November 1977: Lesley Brown, a woman with tied fallopian tubes, married for 9 years, undergoes the updated experimental *in vitro* fertilization procedure, as designed by the team under Prof. Dr. Robert Edwards and Dr. Patrick Steptoe, chief gynaecologist at Oldham General Hospital, resulting in first successful IVF birth on 25

Jul 1978, a fully tangible success for a non-competitive 'monopoly' programme that has been sustained for well over 10 years.

- 11 November 1977: Lancashire Area NUM Executive votes 10-2 to seek an incentive scheme in line with NCB's plans.
- 11 November 1977: SNP's industrial officer attacks TUC-Labour collaboration in Scotland: "the STUC's campaign against unemployment in Scotland is no less dynamic and effective than its counterpart's campaign in England against the same opponent. Until the STUC realises that the Labour Government's survival comes second to the solving of Scotland's unemployment problems, then its credibility among rank-and-file Scottish trade unionist will continue to deteriorate."
- 11 November 1977: 5,000 NF members with Union flags march through Whitehall for Remembrance Day on a Friday away from the main Sunday Memorial Service.
- 11 November 1977: 3-hour meeting in Doncaster of power workers' national joint shop stewards' committee. It declares:"We are recommending a return to normal working as soon as possible" Ernie-Davidson says "Our dispute is over for the time being and what happens next is that we should be calling a shop stewards' delegate meeting and discussing all the claims that have been submitted by our union negotiators to the Central Electricity Generating Board.... It got to the stage where we felt everyone in the country was against us, management and Government knew they could take the tough line... We are just ordinary working men and we are not up to fighting the well-oiled public relations machinery of the management and the Government. We are just amateurs."

Glyn England, CEGB, welcomes the return saying: "Our first priority now is to restore public confidence in the electricity supply industry." He fails to note that many are cut off every week by disconnections.

11 November 1977: Troops begin deployment, even though some local authorities have still not asked for them. Commanding officer of 8th Signal Regiment recalls in relation to County Durham: "there was still no formal request for assistance, but preparations went ahead' [to take over for all County Durham]" (Colonel D.G. Cattermull, Journal of the Royal Signals Institution, Winter 1978) GLC makes no request until after the troops are in place. The aim is for the government to do what it can to sabotage in advance any attempt by local authorities to settle the dispute independently of central government, as happened in the 1970 local authority manual workers strike. Thousands of troops are undergoing firefighting training on this and following days.

- 12 November 1977: <u>The Economist</u> reports that the cost of living has risen by at least 15.5% in the first 9 months of the year, swamping the government's 10% pay limit. It estimates that the real standard of living of British workers has been cut by more than 8% on average in the year 1977. Prices remain uncontrolled and have soared.
- 12-20 November 1977: NUJ action at <u>The Scotsman</u> blocks its publication.
- 13 November 1977: Somalia renounces its 1974 Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation with the Soviet Union and orders the immediate return of all Soviet personnel and the departure of Soviet vessels. 600 Somali trainee officers are repatriated from the Soviet Union. It immediately begins overtures to the Western bloc.
- 14 November 1977: Tony Benn predicts of the FBU strike "These men of such courage, who lose a man a fortnight in fires and are paid below the national average income, are now being put in the dock.... Every time they show soldiers fighting fires, it draws attention to the tremendous dangers that face firemen. I don't think the Government is going to win on this." (Tony Benn's Diary). In fact the government does win.
- 14 November 1977 9am: Around 27,000 FBU firemen, in support of a claim to compensate for years of sub-inflation under-payment and overwork, stop work in their first ever national official strike. Union density is at just over 61%, nevertheless many non-union members also participate in the strike.

Operation Digest, the strikebreaking operation begins with 11,000 troops and 800 fire appliances. The FBU covering over 43,000 full-time firemen is replaced by a force a quarter of its size, but because of extended shifts and military-assistance in the provision of food and drink, soldiers fewer soldiers are able to cover larger areas.

(1,065 Green Goddess have been kept in 8 Home Office bases and regularly serviced ever since. Most only have a few hundred miles logged. They are nonetheless cumbersome, slow and prone to falling over on sharp bends. They have been designed, as 'civil defence' in the early 1950s, spreading water onto a post-nuclear simmering fire. They produce only 80lbf/in2, far below standard fire trucks)

RAF's Operation Burberry sees the ongoing training of 20,000 service personnel assume strikebreaking duties. Over 8,750 (Army and RAF) personnel are trained at the specialist RAF Regiment Depot and home of the RAF Fire Fighting and Rescue Squadron at RAF Catterick.

FBU leadership acts against attempts to dissuade soldiers from performing strikebreaking, nonetheless leaflets such as: "Would it surprise you to learn that 340 firemen are seriously injured on duty every year, compared with 384 soldiers in Northern Ireland? Have you heard that a fireman's real wage, taking in inflation, has fallen 20 percent in the last four years? Do you realise that the majority of firemen would support higher wages for soldiers, and for that matter for every underpaid worker? After reading this do you think it would be in the public interest (a) for the government to continue using you to do firemen's work? (b) for it to settle with the firemen?" are published.

In London, all 122 fire stations are closed but there is heavy Green Goddess cover. Other parts receive little cover. Cornwall as a whole has 2 'Green Goddesses' and Suffolk 1 'Green Goddess'.

Police warmly assist the strikebreaking in spite of earlier noises of apparent support for the FBU claim: "On the 'D' division we had the army and their green goddesses based at St Georges Barracks in Sutton Cold field which was on the D2 and on the D1 we had them based in the grounds of Fentham Road children's home in Erdington. Each base had attached to them a police motor cyclist [who] would not only escort the army with their green goddesses to the incident but naturally he had to show them where the emergency was as most of the army personnel were not from the Birmingham area... They were a fantastic bunch of people doing a very difficult job" (Nigel Weir, Memoirs of a Birmingham Policeman 1975-2005, p95)

Over the course of the strike over 22,000 troops are used during the 41-day strike. 1000 (out of a total of 1065) 'Green Goddesses' are operated by army strikebreakers. The CCU supervises 2 separate command systems feeding into it, the civilian and the military. The Home Office control the civilian side through its national co-ordinating centre [NCC] on the 6th floor of the Home Office building in Queen Anne's Gate, St. James's. The civilian tier of command below the Home Office is at county level, many 'wartime' county control rooms are brought into use and County Emergency Committees of councillors and officials meet as local agents for the Home Office to impose their instructions.

These county control rooms and operational centres gather strikebreaking senior fire brigade staff and chiefs of police, alongside a Military Liaison Cell, commanded by an army major or equivalent from the Royal Navy or RAF.

The military chain is run from the MoD Main Building in Whitehall and the army's operational headquarters at Wilton near Salisbury (HQ UK Land Forces) to the HQs of the ten geographical army districts into which Britain is divided. The Army District HQs control all military strikebreaking movements in their areas (involving

Army, Navy and RAF). The 10 districts also ensure that military liaison staff in each county control handle day-to-day deployment of troops in fire control. 999 calls that involve fire are most commonly rerouted to straight to Police Headquarters, who directly alert the nearest Green Goddess location and then notify the military liaison cell at the county control room.

15 November 1977: The Guardian reports on the first day of the FBU strike: "About two dozen firemen broke their strike last night to respond to a police call for help at a hospital fire.

When the army turned out to fight the fire at St Andrew's Hospital, Devon Road, Bow, East London, firemen left the picket line at Poplar fire station to help. Acrid smoke from the paper store in the basement filled the wards on three floors and most of the 110 patients had been removed before five Green Goddesses - the Civil Defence appliances taken out of mothballs - manned by 30 soldiers of the Royal Artillery Regiment arrived. Police evacuated the remainder of the patients but the army fighters found that without breathing apparatus they could not enter the thick smoke. Then, according to an army spokesman: "Some firemen turned up with breathing appliances and went in." One of the pickets said: "I am, after all, human. We cannot let people die."

A senior fire officer from the London brigade's headquarters said that if it had not been for the presence of a number of striking firemen with breathing apparatus "we'd have had a very, very nasty incident which would have got out of control."

Lieutenant Wills said that the fire fighting had been a cooperative effort between the police, the army and individual fire officers. The five Green Goddesses came from Iford and from a depot in City Road. The body of an 86-year-old pensioner, Mr Adam McAulay, was found last night in his cottage in the village of Bridge of Weir, near Glasgow, after neighbours had used a garden hose to put out a fire in the house. A spokesman for Strathclyde region said that Mr McAulay's death was not connected with the strike. "There was only ten minutes between the discovery of the fire by neighbours and them putting it out."...

Among the few big fires reported by last night, one was in a scrapyard at Brownhills, Staffordshire, where eight elderly Green Goddess fire appliances manned by soldiers turned out, another was in a paper factory at East Kilbride, near Glasgow. But a nation-wide survey by the Home Office suggested that, apart from hoax calls of which there were many - there seemed to have been fewer fire alarms than usual. In London, where the fire brigade normally handles several hundred calls a day, the number was well down, so that the army's Green Goddesses were not called out to a single fire until after midday. A brigade spokesman said that people were being more careful.

[FBU Assist Gen Sec] Dick Foggie, claimed that "for all practical purposes, the strike is solid."... Large numbers of part-time firemen - who belong to a different union not directly involved in the strike - were also available in rural areas. But only in a few parts of the country did the full-time day shift firemen stay at their post. In Hampshire, fire brigade headquarters reported that seven of the country's 11 fulltime stations were working normally, although a spokesman said that the position could change overnight as the shifts changes. At Oldham a 400-year-old farmhouse was saved when full-timers from Basingstoke helped to put out a blazing barn."

- 15 November 1977: Leo Abse, top Welsh Labour MP, opposes provisions for a referendum on a Wales assembly with raw unionist Wales nationalism and slanders: "The sick dynamic behind the Bill is an ugly and intemperate nationalism. The Bill is a capitulation. It yields to the fanatical exponents of a destructive doctrine who are prepared to use every chauvinistic and parochial ploy to obtain a separate Wales in which, I have no doubt, if they ever achieved their objective, the English-speaking majority would be condemned to be strangers in their own land".
- 15 November 1977: Thatcher commends the Small Business Bureau: "The Bureau is a great help to the Shadow Cabinet, and to me personally. You tell us exactly what those who run small businesses throughout the country are thinking. You are a stimulus and an encouragement to our MPs to fight, and fight hard, for a large and vigorous small business sector... small businesses are vital. Small means better personal service; small means better industrial relations"
- 15-23 November 1977: An annual NATO ACE exercise code named AVONEXPRESS, originally scheduled to take place in northern Turkey, takes place in southern England. Giant Galaxy and Hercules transport aircraft deliver over 7,000 mostly Federal German, Italian, Belgian, Canadian and US, NATO troops and equipment to airfields around Salisbury Plain from bases throughout Europe. 3,500 British troops play the role of Soviet forces, the others their opponents.
- 16 November 1977: Kenyan government officially bans further public performances of *Ngaabika Ndeenda* by withdrawing the license for any public gathering in the area.
- 16 November 1977: House of Commons Select Committee on Science and Technology sets up a sub-committee on genetic engineering. Ed Dart, ICI genetic engineering group.

- 16 November 1977: Strikebreaking manager firemaster James Anderson of Lothian and Borders area says soldiers are having to attend a "ridiculously high number" of fires in rubbish bins.
- 16 November 1977: Michael Edwardes, chief of British Leyland announces a reorganisation of firm structure, breaking away in part from Lord Ryder's recommendations. Leyland Cars, Truck and Bus, Leyland International and Leyland Special Products are to become registered limited liability companies.
- 16 November 1977: ITV newscaster Gordon Honeycombe, is forced to resign after being suspended over his article in support of FBU. He is a very 'loyal' figure having written popular best-sellers Red Watch (on the Fire Brigade) and Royal Wedding, but has crossed the line.
- 16 November 1977: Carter tells the Shah Iran's security is a matter of the highest priority and he will work alongside allies including Britain to meet its arms needs.
- 17 November 1977: An Army officer reports on the ongoing strikebreaking: "Luck was with us initially. Now we have had to face the full, harsh facts of what really big blazes can mean in terms of fatigue, danger, dirt, grime, and sweat. Our lads are getting very tired and we are worried that exhaustion will mean mistakes and someone our men will get killed."
- 17 November 1977: <u>The Times</u> reports the government's agreement to the sale of £850,000 armoured personnel carriers and other military equipment to El Salvador.

The government justification is fairly standard one:- non-recognised forces have used violence, cosmetic leadership changes must be reciprocated immediately, support for democratic reform can be suitably expressed through physical support to the most brutalising, hierarchical institution of a nation – its militarised armed and police forces, etc.

Foreign Office Minister: "the Government of El Salvador has a really difficult internal situation in which acts of terrorism from both Right and Left extremists are common occurrences. President Romero has not been in office more than about five months; but I think that it is fair to say that already he has given proof of his desire to engage in internal reforms and to moderate internal tensions. It would be wrong to condemn out of hand the new Government under President Romero. It would be most discouraging if we had not made this comparatively small sale to them of cars and equipment which, after all, are surplus to our own requirements in this country.... We are of course doing other things to help the forces of moderation and of constructive reform in El Salvador... we provide a very effective technical assistance programme.... helpful to the sons

and daughters of the less well-off in El Salvador, especially in the agricultural and related technical fields"

17 November 1977: An inspection of four NHS hospital laboratories in Hull (haematology, histology, bacteriology and biochemistry, and a small general purpose laboratory) "revealed several deficiencies in health and safety practice which would not be acceptable if the criteria and standards appertaining to factories were applied". The inspection is carried out by a local factory inspector and the employment medical advisor for Hull at the request of senior laboratory workers. It reveals "filthy walls", inadequate ventilation causing concentrations of toxic gases higher than government safety standards. In one 13-storey block, the laboratory is on the first floor, emissions at ground level are sucked back into the building. A report of the survey (in the Journal of the Society of Occupational Medicine, 148) states: "deficiencies in ventilation systems, local and general, gave cause for concern both from a toxic viewpoint and from an infectious risk". Among other hazards noted are bottles of liquefied petroleum gas lying around a laboratory facing sunlight; dangerous moving machinery with no guards; blocked fire exits; autoclaves sited badly near corridors where workforces are in the firing line in case of an autoclave explosion; poor standards of decoration and cleanliness, and there were simple. However, because hospitals are crown property, and the Factory Inspectorate cannot prosecute the crown, 'enforcement' opportunities are severely limited.

17 November 1977: Centre-right Deputy leader Willie Whitelaw addresses the Federation of Conservative Students at the London School of Economics, declaring that Labour is inappropriate to face up to the respect to the NF: "to attempt to respond with arrogance, slogans and street-battles is to act as the Socialist Workers' Party has done, as an unwitting recruitment officer of the National Front." He states that immigration 'alone' is the issue and it should not be ignored, presumably meaning immigrants should be placed under greater surveillance to reduce illegal immigration.

Chairman of FCS states its opposition to NUS policy refusing to give platforms to the NF: "This policy, we believe, has delayed any campaign against racialism in the student world for many years. It has played directly into the hands of the National Front and has been used as a justification by the ultra-Left, for the violence at Lewisham and Ladywood."

17 November 1977: Report, from the Diamond Commission on the Distribution of Income and Wealth, is published. It shows that in Sweden direct taxes and payments for social security cover 34.4% of total personal income. In West Germany the figure is 27.8%. In the UK it is 21.5%, in the USA 19.3%, in France 19.8% and in

Canada 20.1%. It estimates that total person wealth in mid-1975 was £238.927m. Of this 24.3% is held by the wealthiest 1%, over 60% is held by the top 10%. The average tax rate has increased from 10.5% in 1959 to 18.3% in 1974-75. Top Income earners, however, bear a relatively small proportion of this increased taxation. The fourth quintile, just above the bottom has showed the largest increases. The report also shows that about a quarter of all personal wealth has probably been inherited.

18 November 1977: Response to a backlash article full of inaccuracies about AUT pay claims. Honorary Secretary of Glasgow AUT: "First, meals. It is an unbending rule of the University Grants Committee that universities do not subsidise meals for any of their staff. If Mr Shields had eaten in Glasgow University he would have found clear evidence of this in both the prices and the quality. Next, car parking. Glasgow University stuff an charged £14 per year to park in the university grounds — cheap, perhaps, but how many other employers would dare to charge their employees it all for parking at their place of work? Then, holidays and working hours. A recent survey showed that academics work on average over 50 hours per week (no overtime payments, of course), most take less than the six weeks' holiday laid down in their contract. Finally, salaries. I challenge Mr Shields to find me a professor at Glasgow University who has negotiated a salary in the tele-star bracket; while at the bottom £3333 works out as little more than £40 per week... they receive salaries which are lower than those in any other branch of higher education and far lower than those in any comparable alternative employment."

18 November 1977: Court proceedings begin in the Rev Ian Paisley case. They are adjourned on account of his attendance at Westminster, a stunning exemption given to a hard-right figure.

18 November 1977: Geoffrey Drain, General Secretary of NALGO, states local authorities are being bled by the government and cannot cope with general price inflation: "The increase of 9 per cent in Government imposed cash limits will not keep up with the probable inflation in local authority costs."

18 November 1977: CPAG report *Poverty: The Facts in Scotland* is published noting: "There is no escaping the conclusion that when deprivation is measured at small area-level, Scotland and Clydeside have more of it than anywhere else." In Scotland, 136,000 adult males and 309,000 adult females are earning less than 90p per hour in 1975. Author Geoff Norris says: "That more people are poor in Scotland is a direct failure of the Scottish economy. It is the greater extent of unemployment and low pay north of the border which is the most important direct cause of poverty there"

- 19-21 November 1977: US SWP, under its NSCAR (National Student Coalition Against Racism) organisation hosts Bernadette Devlin McAliskey, former member of IRSP, as speaker at its conference in Boston University.
- 20 November 1977: <u>Daily Mirror</u> management starts a lock-out stopping publication in London from "until further notice". All London journalists are given an ultimatum the following day on industrial pence terms for a re-start of publication. The management statement warns: "Interference has reached such a magnitude that continued publication in London is now impossible." Production and publication of an England edition does take place in Manchester.
- 20 November 1977: Cliff Richard explains: "Punk rock? Crumbs, there's nothing new there, some of it is good and some of it is lousy, but what I don't like are the undertones of violence, both among the performers and the audience. There's so much 'aggro' in our lives, why do people want it when it comes to entertainment? I can't understand, either, why young punk rockers want to make themselves look so hideous and old. They'll get old soon enough.... Religious concerts are more important to me than a pop show. At a pop concert, my only responsibility is to entertain the audience. At a gospel concert I am singing in the name of Jesus."
- 21 November 1977: A detailed final agreement on voluntary participation, giving BNOC (British National Oil Corporation) the right to buy up to 51% of Shell and Esso's oil in the North Sea at market rates, is signed. Champagne is broken out in celebration in the Department of Energy Whitehall. Tony Benn leads the toast alongside Peter Baxendell, chairman of Shell UK, and Dr Austin Pearce, chairman and chief executive of Esso Petroleum.
- It covers commercial petroleum fields discovered under licences granted before 1977. Overall, Shell and Esso will be responsible for close to 50% of Britain's North Sea oil. These firms are happy because they will be "neither better nor worse off" under voluntary 'participation and have carefully worded "buy-buck arrangements" under which they can retain control of much of the oil of their various districts. BNOC becomes a joint licence holder with them in these fields.
- 21 November 1977: Bank of Scotland opens a branch for commercial deals in Moscow. Spearheading the drive for "transideological enterprise" are Lord Clydesmuir, the governor, Lord Balfour, a director, and several mangers. It is a joint venture between the firm and Soviet-owned Moscow Narodny Bank, and merchant bankers Morgan Grenfell. Moscow Narodny Bank is owned by the USSR Bank for Foreign Trade and various state

organisations. Lord Catto, chairman of Morgan Grenfell, states "We are delighted that it has been possible to achieve this unique partnership which will enable our three banks to continue and expand the important role they play in financing Anglo-Soviet trade and to contribute further to the expansion of economic relations between the east and west. Our new venture will combine the longstanding expertise of Moscow Narodny in the financing of east-west, trade with the experience of Morgan Grenfell and the Bank of Scotland in the arrangement and provision of ECGD-backed loans and the financing of major projects. This, together with the more sophisticated on-the-spot office facilities, will ensure that our clients will receive the finest and most comprehensive services available." The deal aims to maximise the deal opportunities opened by the 1975 Wilson-Kosygin agreement. So far only £450m of the £950m made available then has been filled. Major British firms that have profited thus far are Davy Power, Simon Carves around £77m, and Doberrow about £70m.

- 21 November 1977: Frank Chapple of ETU, under pressure from a rank and file movement says at the union conference "only a miracle" can avert a "catastrophic" strike if the government imposes the 10% limit. He says the hopes of 90,000 in the power supply industry cannot be achieved without "one bloody awful battle."
- 21 November 1977: More than 800 Glasgow employees of British Olivetti walk out on strike yesterday when they are told that their factory is being taken-over within 24 hours by US firm SCM Typewriters.
- 21 November 1977: Roy Mason suggests a 78-seat Stormont Assembly without legislative power but with consultative committees to rule from Westminster is the "way forward" for the six counties. Maintenance of anti-terrorist legislation is an unspoken given.
- 21 November 1977: 4 members of Grunwick's Strike Committee Jayaben Desai, Vipin Magdani, Johnny Patel and Yasu Patel begin a new hunger strike outside Congress House TUC, until the next TUC General Council meeting, in defiance of APEX Executive's warning. APEX suspend them from the union without any strike pay for 4 weeks.
- 21 November 1977: Trade Minister Varley and Polish Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade and Shipping Zylkowski assisted by a large subsidy tranche of £28 million from the shipbuilding intervention fund. It is backed by 100% credit— 30% through a British Shipbuilders 9% Eurobond issue and 70% on normal ECGD terms of 7% per cent repayable over 7 years.

- 21 November 1977: BFAWU officials agree to call off the work-torule in Scotland after talks with employers. A new pay settlement, within the government's 10% guideline is agreed.
- 22 November 1977: British Airways begins paying passenger Concorde services to New York from London Heathrow.
- 22 November 1977: In a display of growing Israeli-Egyptian 'peace' 3 leading Palestinian figures including the chief of Cairo's PLO office are exiled from Egypt.
- 23 November 1977: Important National Party candidate and leading economist, former South African negotiator at GATT and IMF team head, Dr. Robert Smit and his wife, Jeanne-Cora, are found murdered in their home in suspicious circumstances attempting to mimic 'a madcap murder'.
- "[Smit's routine activity] guarantees surveillance... most tapping was done by the Security Police and - interestingly enough -Military Intelligence. Let's assume Dr Smit uncovered some massive secret fund that was there illegally, and that he threatened the secrecy of the funds and the position of the people [corruptly] administering that fund... The so-called Defence Special Account was established for the purchase of weapons abroad after the UN imposed an embargo on South Africa. The law removed these funds from scrutiny, even by the Auditor General... Over the past 15 years [to 1987] they probably totalled R3billion." (Dr Eschel Rhoodie's interview in 1987). The TRC concludes in 1998 "members of the security forces" are responsible "it is known that Dr Smit was due to meet with Mr McDougal on the evening of his death. McDougal was the codename of a former Z Squad operative, Phil Freeman... the investigation into the killings, conducted by members of the East Rand Murder and Robbery Squad, sought to cover up security force involvement."
- 23-25 November 1977: Rhodesian forces launch an attack on 14 guerrilla and refugee camps, killing up to 5,000 including many civilians, later called the Chimoio Massacre, by the name of the largest complex massacred. It almost certainly features Rhodesian pilots, whom British pilots have trained in Oman, alongside Omani pilots, over the past years. (New African, Oct 1979)
- "A helicopter was hovering above me, spraying petrol down onto our building. I ducked inside as the soldier inside the helicopter started firing at me. I then pretended to be dead. The firing stopped and I managed to roll away from the building towards a 20-metre deep gully that was between our base and the Chitepo Hospital base. I momentarily fell. When I woke up, I saw dismembered bodies everywhere limbs torn apart, stomachs ripped and comrades lying dead. ... I ran away from the camp as fast as I

could. A bomb would drop every 100 metres. I did not think I would survive. At one point I thought I was running without legs because gunfire erupted right in front of me, knocked me down and shredded the ground to a ball of dust. When I woke up, my legs were covered in dust and I could not see them. It was terrible. I met with other survivors and we resolved to return to the camp to see how we could assist the seriously injured. It was getting very dark and an enemy helicopter spotted us as we walked. We hid in a gully and covered ourselves with some leaves. Every time anyone of us raised their head to make a move, we discovered there were about two big snakes close by which also raised their heads as if to strike, forcing us to remain in the gully. We later discovered the snakes actually protected us because when they finally left, it was now calm... In the next morning the planes bombed the camp again. They were following up on any survivors."

"We had several bases at Chimoio – farming, medicine, commissariat etc – and Chimoio was the headquarters. We saw planes, about ten initially, flying towards the camp. We did not suspect anything as we thought they were Mozambican. Rhodesian ground forces had already been dropped and had us surrounded, so the planes were targeting their bombs at our camp. As the bombs fell those who tried to escape faced helicopters which were targeting the outskirts of the camp. When the bombing was over, the Rhodesians rummaged through our things, food, clothing etc, those who survived and returned to the camp discovered that there was no food; if they found it it was poisoned. We lost a good number of survivors to food poisoning. Some who could not flee as a result of severe injuries were killed by the enemy."

"The attack began at dawn on 23 November 1977, and Samora Machel came to inform us, telling us not to go there yet, as people were still being killed. It was only three days later that we were allowed to return... While in Maputo, I gave a report on the massacre to President Mugabe. Two thirds of our dead were women. He said to me, "You know what, I am beginning to wonder whether this is worthwhile, with all these people dying." But I replied that we must go on to the end. His remark aroused in me a mixture of anger and disgust. After reporting to Mugabe, I had the difficult task of informing Simon Muzenda about the death of one of his daughters, Teresa. He did not take it badly. The matter of how we were going to report to the parents of all those who died was a real problem."

24 November 1977: Foreign Secretary Owen announces talks between Britain and Spain in Strasbourg over Gibraltar have been "friendly, cooperative and constructive".

24 November 1977: <u>New Scientist</u> runs an advertisement for ICI in the form of an interview, outlining ICI's case for firm-controlled participation: "Heller: Do you regard it as practicable, with a workforce of nearly 2,000 to involve people in important decisions that yon as a manager have to make?

Richards: Yes I do.... At Grangemouth we're making a large number of complex chemicals - everything from dyestuff to pharmaceuticals and agricultural chemicals, and the number of people engaged in each process is correspondingly small, in effect they form natural work groups of between six and ten people, including the appropriate supervisor and junior manager. Other work groups involve office staff too. What we decided to do was to involve all these small groups in consultation

Heller: What kind of information do they get?

Richards: Well for instance in Works Committee and Staff meetings I will tell them how well we are doing compared with our budget and previous performance. Not only that, but we discuss their own particular area of business, and the performance of their Division or ICI as a whole.

Heller: And this makes it easier to obtain improved working relationships?

Richards: One thing I've learned is that you often get better results by discussing problems and jointly evolving ways of doing things with the people concerned. Because then people have ownership of the system, which is terribly important. They want to make it work. Heller: Do employees themselves contribute a great deal?

Richards: They come up with plenty of ideas. For example, in the 1975 recession we got together to work out how to cope with reduced demand without having to lay people off, and without damaging the business. Joint groups have helped to solve all sorts of problems - from local matters like the introduction of a better shift system to national issues like whether the company should or should not opt out of the state pension system.

Heller: How have your employees reacted to all this?

Richards: On the whole, very well. But inevitably there are problems, because we're all learning The shop stewards are learning about some of the management's problems - about economics, the real uncertainties in the business world.

Heller: Has the works, derived any concrete, measurable benefit from the introduction of Work Groups?

Richards: Yes. Output per capita has grown al roughly twice our rate of the mid-sixties and the rate of profitability and therefore investment has increased quite markedly

Heller: Finally do you ever hanker for the simpler days when all decisions were taken by management alone?

Richards: No. That sort or simplicity would no longer work. People's needs and expectations have changed quite markedly over the years."

- 24 November 1977: NCB Pension Fund and Black Diamonds Pension purchase a total of 1,590.000 shares in British Investment Trust Ltd. Black Diamond Pensions is jointly owned by the NUM pension fund and the NCB. British Investment Trust makes significant investments in apartheid South Africa. This later leads to a miniscandal in 1979.
- 24 November 1977: Ross Stainton, Deputy Chairman of British Airways, announces it will order from US firms, principally America 20 replacements worth £120 million (eventually rising to 50) for their ageing Tridents.
- 24 November 1977: Northern Ireland Secretary Mason states: "My intention is to devolve back to Northern Ireland real powers, not necessarily legislative. There will be an Assembly based on proportional representation. It will have a consultative role regarding legislation, but the devolved powers, whether on transport, environment, planning or whatever, will go to committees."
- 24 November 1977: Environment Minister Shore says prospects for the private housebuilding industry are positive. He notes an "increased flow of mortgage money".
- 25 November 1977: <u>Financial Times</u> notes "Turkey is a bankrupt nation" it suggests monetarist medicine.
- 25 November 1977: Queen rejects a petition over 6000 Bermudans, collected in under 3 days, against the execution of 2 political assassins. She approves the order for their execution to be carried out 2 Dec 1977.
- 25 November 1977: 4 strikebreaking Army crews from Stirling and Grangemouth attempt to put a farm fire in Dunmore. They have the blaze under control, but running out of water they have incorrectly wasted, the fire starts up again.
- 25 November 1977: Victor Corpuz, Sen Benigno 'Ninoy' Aquino and CPP-NPA guerrilla leader Bernabe 'Kumander Dante' Buscayno are handed death sentences as punishment for subversion crimes. In response to a series of violent protests, Marcos on 29 Nov 1977 announces a retrial meaning they will be tried and sentenced to heavy imprisonment terms.
- 26 November 1977: A national FBU demonstration in London sees a a petition with over half a million signatures, collected since 14 Nov, handed in to Downing Street officials.
- 27 November 1977: Jo Grimond, Liberal stalwart, reasserts Liberal support for strikebreakers and calls for the Labour right to assert itself as the price of the continuation of the Lib-Lab Pact: "The root objection to the pact is the nature of the Labour Party. It is not

- liberal. It is not becoming more liberal. The social democrats remain ineffective, or sneak off, after preaching equality to everyone else, to some of the highest-paid jobs open to the British. As a final spectacle of degradation, they are to be seen intimidating the Grunwick workers" (Daily Mail, 28 Nov 1977)
- 27 November 1977: <u>Milliyet</u> 'A British firm is preparing the fifth plan for a metro system' for Istanbul reports that British firm BOTEK which did engineering preparatory work for the second Bosphorus bridge, has been engaged since Oct 1977 on another feasibility study for an underground rail system in Istanbul.
- 28 November-5 December 1977: PRC Minister of Trade meets industry leaders and government ministers on an official visit. This follows recent separate visits by the PRC Minister of Communications, and a press delegation taken to show-piece export-heavy industrial sites across the country.
- 28 November-1 December 1977: Export 1977, an exhibition of services to exporting firms takes place in London.
- 28 November 1977: PUWP leader Gierek visits Italy, where a number of significant Italian investment deals are signed in Socialist Poland.
- 28 November 1977: Moshe Dayan forcefully tells Schmidt, he does not want any EEC member, or EEC 9 as a whole, offering "substantive" proposals over Middle East negotiations. British Commissioner is made aware of the talks.
- 28 November 1977: Government-controlled Bank of England raises the MLR minimum lending rate to 7% from 5%.
- 28 November 1977: Amnesty International publishes a list of doctors held as political prisoners. Indonesia heads the list. Virtually zero press comment is made.
- 28 November 1977: UN General Assembly votes for, with Britain against, a resolution condemning Western powers for their support to South Africa.
- 29 November 1977: Neo-colonial elections administered by Britain and France in New Hebrides, which are boycotted by the significant national movement, the Vanua'aku (land is ours) Pati, advocates of 'Melanesian socialism'.
- 29 November 1977: Figures for applications to the Open University are down from 49,936 in 1976 compared to 45,293 in 1977. Even though more and more fields of work demand degrees, fees to study at the university have increased by over 100% since 1975.

21.2% of applicants are existing teachers. Many are aiming for a degree to avoid the chop as LEAs look to make savings.

29 November 1977: Hugh Trevelyan, diplomat, former charge d'affaires in PRC, ambassador to Egypt, to Iraq and to the Soviet Union eventually appointed a life peer, gives the Stevenson Lecture to the RIIA: "British policy should serve British interests... To be effective our policy should of course be founded on a clear understanding of the world as it is... It should be one that we and our allies can back up effectively by the economic and military power which we can together apply to a particular situation... A British Foreign Secretary... will reflect that there have been few periods of British history when Britain could act effectively on the world stage without allies. He must resist the temptation to be too active or to overplay his hand, but must use every bit of influence which the country inherits from the past and which it can still exercise effectively in spite of its relative loss of power. He must bear in mind that a country which appears to have lost confidence in itself will lose the confidence of others...

There is no reason to deprive ourselves of the advantages which both we and the Americans get from our habit of close consultation and mutual trust... it must not be at the expense of the Community, for as the integration of the Community becomes more complete, so our relations with the United States must increasingly become a part of the bilateral relations between the United States and the Community, while in the realm of defence they must continue to be channelled through NATO.

the Lomé Convention is of particular interest as showing the impact of new ideas on the Community's external relations... It is, I suggest, significant that a recent visitor to China found great interest being taken in the convention, presumably chiefly on political grounds, as a new system of relationship between the industrial states and the less-developed world....

Assistance and structural reforms will be needed in the weaker states during the negotiating period [into the EEC] to enable them to undertake the obligations of membership... Meanwhile, 'the best way for the Europeans to strengthen the Americans' commitment is to show them that all the members of NATO are ready to play a significant part in their own defence, which will mean an annual increase in defence spending of at least three per cent in real terms. It can be argued that on a strictly mathematical basis there is a case for a gradual reduction of our contribution to NATO or an increase by the other members. But the mathematical case misses the point that if we continue reducing our contribution, not only do we reduce the standard of our defence beyond acceptable limits, but we put ourselves into a lower category, a nation probably not worth helping, so that our action is in the end likely to produce only a false economy.

Of course, détente suits the Russians... But our question is whether it suits us....a deliberate refusal of détente by the West would not be accepted by the West Europeans who want disarmament and peace. It is not as if we even had the choice of accepting or refusing it. We must accept it, but negotiate its conditions in such a way as will suit our interests... while within détente the Western alliance assures the main balance of forces. ... We cannot accept the Soviet attempt to promote exceptions, such as the support of national liberation movements.

Nor do I consider that an atmosphere of détente will make it significantly easier for the Russians to pursue a forward policy outside Europe. At this point we have a major disagreement with them. They take the line that détente must apply everywhere, but their actions imply that détente is divisible and should in effect be confined to Europe. This we cannot accept ... without contravening our general rules we can influence the natural processes of change that occur in the Third World and even in the communist world in a direction favourable to Western ideas

We are founder members of the United Nations and a permanent member of the Security Council. It can be a highly irritating organisation [But] we can use the Security Council and the representatives of the smaller powers to work for a solution of points of conflict with which we are particularly concerned, such as Southern Africa and the Eastern Mediterranean, and can lobby the other missions in New York in favour of our views on a host of questions in which we have interests, such as civil aviation, the law of the sea... it is of interest that President Sadat seems anxious to keep in touch with Mr. Callaghan. Our old closeness to Middle Eastern affairs still has its effect... we should give Sadat such unobtrusive support as will not be an embarrassment to him, and publicly rest on the United Nations' resolutions to which we are already committed.

I can only hope that we keep all our options open and do not nail our colours to either mast [over Rhodesia, between Smith and guerrillas]. The situation is very fluid and may well have changed radically again by the time this lecture appears in print...

Katherine Whitehorn put it well in The Observer when she wrote: "Maybe it's our introspective obsession with our economic problems that makes us so incapable of rising out of them, and, if so, what we most need is a figure of fire to make us lift our heads." And I have sympathy for her comment that Mrs. Thatcher could be falling over backwards to be J. M. Keynes, when she ought to be Joan of Arc.... Anti-elitism is a poisonous British disease which is surely peculiar to ourselves. Must we in all walks of life strive to lower ourselves to the common denominator? ... I see every advantage in our asserting our right to take a prominent part in the conduct of international relations, in consultation with the other members of

the Community. We shall do better for the Western alliance on which we depend and for the Community if we too assert our individuality as a power in our own right. We, as a major industrial power, can exercise substantial influence in many fields, principally in the problems of the European Community and the East-West and North-South dialogues, provided we can present to ourselves and to the world at large a genuine image of a prosperous and confident state."

30 November 1977: A protest group of 250 gather in Hamilton, Bermuda to protest against the planned execution of 2 political assassins. (They had assassinated the Colonial Governor in Mar 1973 and supermarket owners thereafter) Police block their route and charge them. protesters are dispersed but more than an hour later head back towards Hamilton Police Station. Police cars are overturned forming barricades, the Riot Squad, on stand-by at Prospect, is called into action. Riot Squad Police fire warning shots in the air from the Police Station. Police charge to thoroughly protect the entrance to Magistrates Court. protesters are shut out of government buildings but hold firm outside the Police Station.

30 November 1977: A regular <u>Birmingham Post</u> columnist reports 'The Stark Truth About Handsworth'. The area is "a place where our new multiracial society sprawls drunkenly with all its conflicts raw, all its squalor exposed" because of the young population of minority races. He states: "While these people exist in rabbit-warrens of lawlessness, the police are hog-tied. How can we expect a force, one-fifth under strength, to restore civilisation to no-go streets and outlaw's alleys while politicians refuse to face the fact that, with one and a half million unemployment and a tangle of social stresses, coloured immigration is fuelling the furnaces of lawlessness?"

December 1977: CPGB in <u>Marxism Today</u> attack demonstrations by students against those active in destroying open education: "There has been a certain tendency to an incorrect and counter-productive reaction from some quarters on the Left seeking to deny the right of expression to the representatives of the Right. It is fundamentally wrong to seek to deny a platform to the spokesmen of the Right whether it is Eysenck, Sir Keith Joseph"

December 1977: Police arrest 9 Ugandan Asian building worker pickets during a Bethnal Green and Stepney Trades Council-supported dispute over a cut in wages at the Nat West Bank site in Alie Street E1. They are arrested for "wanton lighting of bonfires" an offence dating back to the 1830s, originally brought in to smash the 'Captain Swing' and hayrick burning. Their bonfire is a picket brazier essential to keep warmth during a cold winter. White strikers on three other gates to the site warming their hands in the same way are not approached or stopped by the police. The same brazier has

been used for many weeks by striking firemen across the road from the building site without police harassment. \*\*

December 1977: "Exchange control is a most sinister infringement of personal freedom and a foolish impediment to the creation of wealth. ... No amount of restriction on investment overseas is going to force people to invest in British industry so long as they judge the prospect of profit unpromising." \*\*

December 1977: UKAEA (United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority) defends its decision, in a public letter, to provide technological assistance to the Chile nuclear programme on the grounds that "the reactor does not belong to the military". The Chilean military appoint and can veto all personnel and administration of all universities, research institutions. It also can block publication of findings as they are screened by the Information Ministry.

December 1977: A survey by the Department of Trade shows at least 7 British firms - British Electric Traction, Burmah Oil, C.T. Browring, Delta Metal, Low and Bonar Group, and Turner and Newall - are paying wages in apartheid South Africa below the poverty datum line- the absolute starvation level that excludes costs for both rent and transport. Another 49 (a majority of the 96 companies that have provided complete or substantive information) paying below the minimum effective level (i.e. family subsistence level), the amount necessary for a worker to provide for a family including its rent/ with some minimum. Trade Minister declares progress. British companies have a majority shareholding in 10 of South Africa's top 100 industrial companies, and a further 10 of those top companies are partly owned by British firms. British "control" includes: Lonrho, that has control of South Africa's largest industrial holdings group; ICI, that has joint control with deBeers of South African chemicals giant, African Explosives and Chemical Industry (AECI); Charter Consolidated, that has majority stake in the Argus publishing group, publishers of many of the largest daily newspapers. Two British banks, Barclays International and Standard Bank, together control some 60% of all banking deposits in South Africa. Through their international links they have played key roles in South Africa's industrial development.

December 1977: Industrial output in Britain over the month is statistically recorded as still below the level during the 3-day week of Feb 1974. It is over 1% less than output in Dec 1976.

December 1977: As the Garners Steak Houses dispute continues, the basic working week of 55 hours and (sometimes compulsory) overtime at close to standard of around 15 hours, with a basic rate of £28.49 for a 55-hour week.

December 1977: Severe cutbacks are imposed on services for women. A sample in Leeds and Guildford: "Leeds Women's Aid faces

severe financial restrictions at the end of the year when funding from Job Creation Programs runs out. At that time there will be left only one full-time worker paid through Social Services. In Guildford, the local authority recently evicted twelve battered women and 21 children from a three-story dwelling and took them to a council reception center. The council claimed they were looking for another space in which to house them, but a member of Guildford Women's Aid said the alternative space offered was in appalling condition. Government Select Committee on Violence in Marriage said in 1975 that there should be at least one family place per 10,000 of population, but now there is only space for 15 families (according to the ratio there should be 50) in terraced houses due to be torn down in March [1978]. Leeds Women's Aid, which runs the refuge, is negotiating with the council for space to use during the time that the old refuge is demolished. One excuse the council is using is that the Leeds Federated Housing Association is building a hostel for women which could be used. However, the space accommodates only 15 families and cannot be for emergencies."

December 1977: United Kingdom High Commissioner in Tanzania issues a snapshot of all British official aid to the country. Project aid has increased as Tanzania has been forced away from its anti-Western bloc policies. Significantly aid is spent for British firms to complete infrastructure projects, and even the purchase of colonially-occupied farmland:

- Technical Cooperation... under а Technical Assistance Agreement signed in 1975. This envisaged an expenditure of £1 million a year but present expenditure is substantially in excess of this figure. At present we have about 25 Technical Co-operation Officers fully funded from UK and approximately 75 supplemented staff at the University and with ex-East African Community organisations such as the Harbours Corporation. It is expected that the TCO figure will double next year with the influx of experts for integrated regional development projects in Mtwara, Lindi and Tabora Regions. Training courses for Tanzanians in Britain are provided under an annual Training Grant. The Training Grant for 1977/78 has been estimated at £780,000, £521,000 of which will be for (about 200) new awards.
- (2) Programme Aid. i.e. aid to finance imports from Britain to ease the balance of payments problem, has been allocated as follows, Grant (No.2) 1975 £2.5 million

Grant (No.1) 1976 £5million which was supplemented by a further £2million specifically earmarked for railways

Grant (No.1) 1977 £3.5 million.

(3) Project Aid has been allocated as follows:

Grant (No.1) 1975 £10 million

Grant (No.2) 1977 £25 million.

Farm Purchase. Approximately £1 million for purchase of a number of British-owned mixed farms in West Kilimanjaro for transfer to ownership of the National Agriculture and Food Corporation.

West Kilimanjaro Re-equipment Project. £1 million over a period of 6 years for new equipment for the above farms. Initial order now placed.

Dodoma Village Water Supply. £285,000 for providing clean water to 7 villages in the Dodoma region. Consultants now to be appointed to supervise implementation.

Tabora Rural Development Project

- (i) Roads Component. £2.47 million plus £364,000 Technical Assistance. Consultants have been appointed.
- (ii) Land Use Planning-Technical Assistance of £1,405,000.

TAFICO (Tanzanian Fisheries Corporation) – purchase of 3 fishing vessels. Original allocation of £110,000 increased to £160,000. Vessels have been ordered and should arrive early next year.

Training for Maji (Ministry of Water)...buildings, equipment and tools increased to £120,000. An advance order of equipment has been placed and a TCO Training Officer is awaited.

Grain storage – Seasonal. £873,000 for construction of two godowns at Songea and Makambako. Tender of construction firm recommended by the consultants was above the cost budgeted for and London's authority to increase the allocation is awaited.

Grain storage – Strategic. £4,863,000 for 30,000 tonnes of storage capacity at Dodoma and 10,000 tonnes of storage capacity at Shinyanga to be built by 1979. Subject to a review of requirements by both Governments a further 10,000 tonnes of storage capacity should be completed at Shinyanga by mid-1981.

Upgrading of Songea-Makambako Road: Preliminary consultancy under way and final decision on UK contribution to be made early 1980.

Southern Regions Plan Support: It has been agreed that in future British development projects will be concentrated primarily in the southernmost regions of Lindi and Mtwara. A team of plan support officers will be recruited to reinforce existing regional planning capacity, and it is our intention that this team will at the same time help to identify a succession of capital projects for UK funding."

1 December 1977: Callaghan announces he would prefer a better system to collective bargaining but does not know what it is: "As for free collective bargaining, I ceased to worship that 10 years ago. Yes, I went to the TUC Congress and said it there. I do not think that collective bargaining is the means of obtaining justice and fair play in this country, but at the moment I do not know a better system. ... Its advantages—the main advantage is one that I wish to see the trade union leaders practise this year—lie in moderate wage claims. They do not have to claim excessive increases... in relation

to next year, I can say that if we have moderate settlements to look forward to—and we already have some in a number of areas—we can be certain that the retail price index will be so much lower next year that there will not be the same incentive to claim exceptional wage increases."

1 December 1977: Callaghan announces the Chairman of the Royal Commission to deal with police investigations, prosecution and evidence in criminal cases will be Sir Cyril Philips. It is expected not to give recommendations for at least 2 years.

1 December 1977: Housing (Homeless Person) Act 1977 comes into force in England & Wales. Its definition of priority cases is written into the Act along the lines recommended by the last Conservative Government in Department of Environment Circular 18/74, with Liberal and centrist labour support. It emerges from a long-standing desire in social work circles to see the housing of homeless people become a responsibility of housing authorities rather than social work authorities. There is a mood amongst local authorities to end the situation of catering to the homeless from other authorities borders "receiving homeless families from adjacent authorities" is the main problem to be eliminated in their eyes. It gives substantial legal discretion to local authorities to determine who is a homeless person, allowing them to discharge the unwanted into unsuited housing. Inevitably it sows the seeds of backlash politics since it is not a genuine measure to produce housing for all.

Some, including whole families, declare themselves homeless rather than wait for years on local authority waiting lists before being rehoused. In some areas this declaration is seen as a means for securing council housing more easily. To suppress demand, a set of hurdles are created through which local authorities delay the processing of applicants. Local authorities investigate and establish that people are 'homeless' and in 'priority need' (including vulnerable), plus their 'intentionality' and 'local connection' before a legal duty to accommodate/assist could be established. A legal minefield but rich rewards for lawyers. People abiding by the rules and staying in often unsuitable accommodation, appeared to be penalised compared to successful former homeless people. Centreright press campaigns focus on former drug abusers receiving housing compared to the suffering loyal British family. To stand a chance of getting housed, many had to have problems or gain problems that ensured they fitted into the vulnerability and priority need categories. Many adopt the label of mentally illness attempting to act in ways that proved they deserved housing. In general, because of insufficient government assistance and explanation, a significant majority assumes that because they are single, childless or with few children they will not be housed. Many never apply under the homeless legislation for housing, nor do they register on council waiting lists before they became effectively. Often they are recorded in official statistics, many remain stuck in hostels or episodically on the streets.

- 2 December 1977: In a major reverse for Thai guerrillas, the normalisation of relations between Thailand and 'Socialist' Vietnam. It means Vietnam's threat to supply excess firearms from its long war will not occur.
- 2 December 1977: Britain applies the death penalty in Bermuda, and executes the 2 political assassins.
- 2 December 1977: A patients' group report on NHS kidney dialysis notes there are large numbers of patients not receiving any and over 3,000 die prematurely owing to cuts and a lack of facilities.
- 2-7 December 1977: Israeli Prime Minister Begin holds talks with Callaghan and Owen on his first trip abroad since the Feb 1977 Jerusalem meeting with Sadat. Callaghan and Owen both encourage the overtures and offer no threats against the continued West Bank colonisation. On 6 Dec 1977 Begin addresses MPs in a House of Commons room. A few minor protests take place dominated by the NF, leading many to decide against protest on this basis.
- 2 December 1977: U.N. Workers in Geneva vote 1,253-712 (both the 783 rote workers and 1,363 professional staff) to hold a one-day strike against the decision to freeze present salaries and reduce the pay scales of general service employees by 17% beginning 1 Jan 1978. Typists, messengers and other rote workers have been deemed the best target for attack.
- 3 December 1977: An overwhelming majority of West Bank mayors and popular and civic organisations state: "We declare Palestinian rights affirmed by various resolutions of the UN are not subject to bargaining. In the forefront of these is the legitimate right to self-determination in its land in complete freedom. We reject any form of trusteeship regardless of its source and any solution which violates this people's independence and the independence of its will."
- 3 December 1977: Journalists and supporters began a hunger strike in Karachi Press Club in protest at the militarist shut-down of <u>Musawat</u>.
- 3 December 1977: <u>Sounds</u> magazine gives Siouxsie Sioux, lead musician in Siouxsie Sioux & the Banshees a clean bill of health, when asking her to explain her comment that there are "too many Jews for my liking" in the music industry. She says this simply means "too many fat businessmen". Siouxsie often goose-steps and

- occasionally right-arm salutes on stage and wears swastikas on her clothing both on- even off-stage.
- 3 December 1977: Another rubber stamp rigged election sees Mobutu secure a 3<sup>rd</sup> 7-year Presidential term.
- 3-9 December 1977: Britain enforces a 'State of Emergency' on Bermuda. 100 troops from colonial Belize and 150 from the British mainland enforce a strict curfew after the executions.
- 4 December 1977: Central African Republic becomes the Central African Empire where President Jean-Bedel Bokassa is crowned Emperor in a lavish ceremony.
- 4 December 1977: Margaret Thatcher holds talks with President Tito.
- 5 December 1977: Foreign Secretary Owen fails to explain anything of importance in discussing the application of the death penalty in a British colony stating only "I have given the facts and it is for the House to form a judgement. In Bermuda between 1958 and 1977 seven cases have been reprieved. The circumstances were unusual in this last case" [where 2 political assassins are executed]
- 5 December 1977: British press largely begin reporting Egypt's severing of diplomatic relations with Syria, Libya, Algeria and PDRY as a step towards 'peace', and a blow against 'rejectionists' of peace.
- 5 December 1977: Government announces "408 personnel are currently employed in the Defence Sales Organisation in Great Britain. In British embassies and high commissions overseas, the majority of Service attaches and advisers, together with senior civilian personnel in certain diplomatic posts, have responsibilities which include defence sales promotion and liaison to a greater or lesser degree: they, together with their United Kingdom-based supporting staff, number 344.... Seventy members of the United Kingdom Armed Forces are engaged mainly or exclusively in defence sales projects in countries of the Third world"
- 6 December 1977: USA announces its resumption of economic aid to Somalia.
- 6 December 1977: Kwai Yuk Tam, an 18-year-old from colonial Hong Kong arrives in the mainland. She has left home to ease the overcrowding in her slum home, where incidentally she is also beaten by her stepmother and has been raped twice by a half-brother. She is allowed to stay temporarily with her brother, a Chinese restaurant owner, who is charged with looking after her

since her being a colonial means she has "no recourse to public funds".

- 6 December 1977: Mirta and Leonardo Barragan are arrested and subsequently murdered from the military centre at the basement without ventilation of a police headquarters known as 'El Club Atlético'. As a survivor describes: "Inside the officers were listening to a cassette with speeches from Hitler at full volume with shouts and laughter of the officers as a psychological battle... one is not called by name... but by letter and number (in my case it was K-04)... for loss of identity. While being tortured, I wanted to die. In that moment the only thing that can save you from suffering is death." (Ana Maria Careaga (file No. 5139) as cited in Memoria del centro de detencion Club atletico, En San Telmo y sus alrededores No.77, Mar 2005)
- 7 December 1977: Over 2,000 United Nations employees hold a one-day strike in protest at proposals, due to begin in Jan 1978 to freeze or cut salaries. They include a total freeze on salaries for lower-grade staff and reduced salaries by 17% for maintenance workers and new office employees.
- 7 December 1977: Sussex reappoint cricketer Tony Greig as club captain for next season, after the High Court bans any restrictions imposed upon the Kerry Packer rebels. Greig, former England captain, had been affected by the Test and County Cricket Board ban on Packer players competing in the English county game.
- 8 December 1977: David Fairhall, defence correspondent of <u>The Guardian</u>, writes of a £40 millions deal, the first in what British arms "manufacturers hope will be a long term programme" to refurbish the Egyptian armed forces. The Swingfire missile is to be produced in a factory near Cairo. The next planned supply is for military helicopters.
- 8 December 1977: UN General Assembly votes to condemn human rights violations in Chile, despite
- 8 December 1977: NUM Executive agrees to uphold the TUC's 'twelve-month rule' (between pay awards) and delays it pay claims until Mar 1978 to allow local NCB productivity schemes to come into force, before the new pay claim is made. This means that officially no pay claim can be made until Mar 1979. From Mar 1978-Mar 1979 NUM can not under its acceptance of TUC rules take part in industrial action to further a pay claim. Over 1978 regional local productivity schemes are effectively agreed by all areas of the NUM, including Yorkshire, South Wales and Scotland.

- 8 December 1977: Mason praising the new 'Ulsterised' security measures, predicts: "The trend of violence over the past year has been unquestionably downwards. Inevitably there will be occasional shows of strength, but the general and accepted view is that this cannot be sustained. The partnership among the different arms of the security forces has now created a highly efficient team that is operating with great effectiveness against terrorism"
- 8 December 1977: A pub in Aberdeen bars a group of homosexuals wearing "Gay Lib" badges. "One of us went to the bar in the lounge for the drinks only to be told 'Go elsewhere, we don't want you here'... Yes, we were wearing badges. Some of us have even held hands in the bar, but we've done nothing outrageous."
- 9 December 1977: Meeting in Jamaica, boycotted by militarist Guatemala, over the future of Belize, where Britain succeeds in resolving issues with Mexico over its border and convinces a majority of regional powers to reject Guatemala's claim.
- 9 December 1977: UN formalises the creation of a body to verify the application of its total weapons embargo upon South Africa.
- 9 December 1977: <u>The Times</u> reports "Discontent with pay among British soldiers in Northern Ireland is causing an unprecedented number to apply for discharge by purchase. It has left those remaining in a mood of anger and frustration which has been little publicised because of military rules." In one artillery regiment "over the past five months 34 of the men have applied for premature voluntary release, compared with a total of 31 during the previous two years." In Apr 1978, the government agrees to significant pay increases, largely stabilising the situation.
- 9 December 1977: Joe Cooper, chairman of the Armagh Prison Board of Visitors, writes to N.I. Secretary Roy Mason describing his interview of 6 female prisoners who have been attacked by the RUC, whilst being returned from Armagh Courthouse to Armagh Jail. "The prisoners were in a very distressed and shocked condition. A couple had torn clothing and others had bruises and marks of having been recently physically assaulted by the RUC escort party" 9 December 1977: New York Times reports on Foreign Secretary Owen's support for the US position within NATO: "Foreign Secretary David Owen was retorted by the spokesman to have told the foreign ministers: "We have no criticism of the way the United States has consulted Europe on SALT. It is important not to feed the critics of the SALT process who are concerned with the minutiae of negotiations." West Germany also endorsed the American position.
- ... According to an American official, Mr. Vance said the Western countries were in "a fundamentally competitive situation" with the

Russians and this was unlikely to change even as "we try to regulate and evolve positions in which we can cooperate." Mr. Vance said the United States had resisted Soviet efforts to put limits on American planes based in Western Europe that protect the Atlantic alliance, had excluded from ceilings the British and French strategic forces... Mr. Vance also affirmed that a protocol to the longer-duration treaty would hold open the cruise missile option for Europeans by limiting deployment only for the three-year period of the protocol while testing could go ahead. The Europeans are interested in the ground-launched version of the cruise missile, which is a high-precision, pilotless craft, and fear that the ban on deployment would become permanent. The Americans said it would not necessarily become permanent and would be subject to new talks. Mr. Vance also insisted that generalized language against circumventing the treaty's terms would not amount to a ban on the transfer of technology and thus prevent the allies [ie European NATO members including Britain] from developing their own cruise missiles."

- 10 December 1977: Mairead Corrigan and Betty Williams of the Peace People are handed the Nobel Peace Prize in the official ceremony.
- 10 December 1977: Soares announces of his efforts to find a coalition partner: "one of my conditions is the restarting of talks with the International Monetary Fund."
- 10 December 1977: Nkomo names Vance and Owen as "inciting Smith against us" after their indication of a 'welcome' for the Salisbury 'internal settlement' talks while Rhodesian Army forces continue their onslaughts.
- 11 December 1977: Pulling back from direct confrontation, Peter Hain states: "We [ANL] are absolutely determined to avoid punchups. There will be no confrontation."
- 12 December 1977: Colm McNutt 18 year old INLA operative is shot dead by an undercover plain-clothes soldier of the 14th Intelligence Company. The British Army undercover operative is able to carry out the shooting of McNutt with the information passed on by security asset Raymond Gilmour. Raymond Gilmour and Colm McNutt together preparing a requisition raid sees Gilmour place himself as the robber and McNutt as getaway driver. Gilmour then passes on the information and location of the getaway car. McNutt is shot dead, no questions asked, by the plain-clothes operative. As a mole and later supergrass, Gilmour is instructed to leave INLA and enter the IRA by his handlers. His often questionable

supergrass evidence gathered on payment by results has convicted 35 republicans in Diplock courts by mid-1982. (Raymond Gilmour, Dead Ground Infiltrating the IRA, 1998)

- 12 December 1977: Tony Benn announces the government programme to insulate council housing to the minimum (not particularly rigid) standards of current building regulations is intended to take place over a period of 4 years. The programme will begin later in 1978 than intended and take longer to complete, as part of government cuts. The need is stark, elderly and young children continue to freeze under rising fuel costs, the but time scale is a long one. Benn fails to mention only 10 elderly or disabled people have claimed any help from the means-tested insulation assistance of the Housing Act (1974), which has been trumpeted as a great Labour success. Current insulation standards for newbuilds are significantly below the majority of EEC and COMECON countries. 12 December 1977: UN General Assembly adopts a series of
- resolutions in favour of disarmament.

  12 December 1977: First ever meeting of Health Ministers of EEC
- 12 December 1977: First ever meeting of Health Ministers of EEC members.
- 13 December 1977: Malaysian government bans Concorde from its airspace, meaning the London-Singapore service is suspended after only 3 flights.
- 13 December 1977: Arthur Scargill states miners in Yorkshire might go on strike against productivity incentive deal. On the table for the next Area Council meeting are requests for industrial action in support of a general non-productivity indexed £135-a-week pay claim. Only 5 out of 66 pits in Yorkshire have expressed any interest in the productivity incentive scheme.
- 13 December 1977: A strike of 1100 miners at Solsgirth pit, Clackmannanshire, begins. It attempts to provoke Scotland NUM Lodge into supporting the pro-incentive scheme stance of other NUM lodges. "After a mass meeting the men here decided to strike today against what amounts to a wage freeze imposed on them by their own union. We have broken one productivity record after another at this pit. We know we have been subsidising other pits in Scotland and we didn't mind but when we hear of other pits in England and Scotland getting incentive money then we want to know why we are to get nothing. "The men have agreed to stay out on strike until McGahey himself comes to Solsgirth to explain why we cannot negotiate our own productivity agreement with the NCB. We are certain we would qualify for a 100% productivity incentive scheme." An NCB spokesman states: "This is a guarrel between the men and their own union about their incentive scheme." No action is taken against the miners.

13 December 1977: Don McLean, Rolls Royce (1971)'s Scottish director and general manager, issues a leaflet to all workers in Scotland that they will close down their East Kilbride and Hillington plants on 16 Dec 1977 if the workforce does not lift its overtime ban. "The overtime ban, imposed on November 18, is making it impossible to maintain an efficient manufacturing operation. Engines and engine parts are not being delivered on time, subcontracting work has stopped, and the general maintenance of the plant and machinery is totally unsatisfactory."

Management states that if it offers more than the 10% laid down in government pay guidelines, the NEB is within its rights to cut off financial aid to the firm, hence no pay award is possible.

- 13 December 1977: Government announces a special joint session of the Lords and Commons will take place during arch-neo-colonialist President Giscard's visit to Britain.
- 13 December 1977: ECHR ruling states Britain has committed "inhuman treatment" of internees after 1971 in northern Ireland.
- 13-15 December 1977: British and Argentine delegations in New York conduct detailed talks over the Falklands-Malvinas. Under-Secretary Ted Rowlands and Rear-Admiral Jorge Gualter Allara head the negotiating teams. In conclusion, they jointly announce 2 joint working parties, one on sovereignty the other on economic development. The British choice of co-chairman on the sovereignty working committee is George Hall, Assistant Under-Secretary at the Foreign Office, also British delegate and chairman of the Antarctic Treaty conference held in London in Oct 1977. RN frigates in the South Atlantic archipelagos are pulled back from confrontation position.
- 14 December 1977: House of Lords, the highest court in the country, defies government legislation, upholding the judgement by the Court of Appeal that the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (ACAS) has abused its powers in recommending that APEX should be recognised at Grunwick's. This is the reward for George Ward expelling trade union members. Lord Diplock states: "An employer is under no legal obligation to co-operation with ACAS in its consultations or inquiries into a recognition issue".
- 14 December 1977: Labour Left Eric Heffer expresses his frustration: "Last week the Labour Party published its 36-page comment on the Housing Green Paper. Most of it was devoted to the question of restoring the cuts. As chairman of that committee I said publicly that these four volumes of the Green Paper on housing were not worth the paper on which they were printed until the cuts were reversed. But on what did the Press concentrate attention? It concentrated on cuts in tax relief on mortgages, where we said that

those getting relief above the standard rate, the very rich people, were virtually buying their houses for nothing, whereas poor people got relief at most at the standard rate of tax and that the ceiling of £20,000 mortgage on which tax relief is granted should be brought down nearer to the average. The subject of mortgages was all that interested the Press. With one exception, there was not a word about reversing the cuts."

- 14 December 1977: In a written answer government announces its support of plans for staff restructuring within the IMF: "it is proposed that the Governments of France, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States should finance an independent study of staff remuneration. It is estimated that the total cost of the study will not exceed \$300,000, to be shared equally between the five Governments."
- 14 December 1977: Agreement at GATT for the renewal of the multi-fibre accord for another 4 years. It retains textile machine tool production (to set up new textile plant) in the West and import quotas for textiles.
- 15 December 1977: Dr Donald Coggan gives the speech at the Johnian Society (old boys' network for St. John's College, Cambridge) annual dinner alongside Prof Mansergh, Lord Justice Brightman, Sir Henry Mance, Sir Ronald Radford, Sir Robert Somerville.
- 15 December 1977: Chairman and vice-chairman of SF in Belfast are detained in an operation involving nearly all the RUC Special Branch. Dozens of other Sinn Fein leaders are arrested.
- 15 December 1977: 30,000-strong AUT retreats from its national wage claim of a backdated 30% increase. Instead, the annual conference agrees to press for 10% backdated to Oct 1977, and the remaining 20% increase in October 1978. Gen Sec Laurie Sapper says all efforts have met with blank refusal. "We would like to go along and say we want 30% or else, but then the Government will turn round and say, 'Or else what?'".
- 15 December 1977: White Paper on Prevention and Health is published. It rules out any outright on cigarette advertising in sport.
- 16 December 1977: Midlothian Council opposes making a site available for travellers: "It seems to us rent and ratepayers that any problems that Edinburgh wishes to be relieved of are despatched to the Loganlea area" Residents have a petition against travellers.
- 16 December 1977: TUC's Steel Committee led by Bill Sirs comes to an agreement with British Steel Corporation for a plant-by-plant examination of closure timetable for the BSC Beswlck plants. It will

involve a higher redundancy/severance programme. Deputy General Secretary Bill Evans estimates that 10000 jobs will be lost as part of 'voluntary redundancies'.

- 16 December 1977: Protesters against military rule in Pakistan perform a pitch invasion in Lahore the site of the Pakistan v England Test match. The crowd destroys the special VIP enclosure full of pro-militarists and sets fire to ornamental luxuries. Riot police invade the stadium and a confrontation occurs. Within 20 minutes riot police armed with live rifles clear the arena of protesters, and a restart to the match is attempted but the wind-blown tear gas blinds the umpires, who call the match off. ECB makes no criticism declaring: "it gives people an opportunity they don't usually have of coming together, and cricket is caught in the middle."
- 16 December 1977: 115 sketches, preparation washes and paintings by modernists are sold by British firm Sotheby's in its end-of-season sale for a total of £218,000.
- 17 December 1977: PRC and Ghana agree a new commercial treaty. 17 December 1977: One millionth copy of 'Mull Of Kintyre' is sold to David Ackroyd, a Green Goddess strikebreaking soldier. He receives a gold disc, as well as a Christmas hamper from Wings in a special celebration ceremony at Paul McCartney's MPL offices in Soho Square, London, simply for having purchased a 7" single. Sceptics suggest a strikebreaker winning this special prize is no coincide.
- 17 December 1977: Ministry of Defence begins using those court-martialled, currently in military prisons, in the FBU strikebreaking operation. 'Loyal' soldiers who have been sent to the MCTC prison (military corrective training centre) in Colchester are used as part of 4 detachments to boost the strikebreaking force. Replacing them are soldiers who refuse to participate in strikebreaking.
- 17 December 1977: Life peer Lord Goodman, lawyer, current Master of University College Oxford, chairman of British Lion Films, chairman of The Observer Trust and the Newspaper Proprietors' Association, Wilson's former political advisor, former chairman of the Committee of Inquiry into Charity Law, persistent fraudster of 'charity' funds for private use (also responsible by using libel laws for suppressing journalistic investigation to expose stockbroker, shady-dealer Baron Boothby and others were responsible for protecting the Kray Twins from facing justice) receives the Lionel Cohen Award for Services to Humanity. Evelyn de Rothschild, Old Harrovian Sir Evelyn de Rothschild (resident and joint owner with the National Trust of the 3200-acre Ascott House stately home) The Economist Chairman, deputy chairman Milton Keynes Development Corporation, chairman at United Racecourses, director at De Beers Consolidated Mines, hands him the award on behalf of the Union of

Liberal and Progressive Synagogues. <u>Observer</u> editor David Astor, Dr Basil Bard, the Hon Hugh Cohen, James, Charles & William Cohen. Lord Donaldson of Klngsbriclge. Rabbi Dr Leslie Edgar, Lord Fisher of Camden, Lady Karminskl. Lord Kissin, Cabinet member City of London millionaire Harold Lever, Emertitus Professor of nutrition and physiology John Yudkin, hard Zionist and former governor of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Lord Lloyd of Hampstead. Eric Moonman, Labour MP and chairman of the Zionist Federation of Great Britain also attend the ceremony.

- 18 December 1977: Israeli Prime Minister Begin gives an interview on CBS 'Face the Nation' announcing his peace proposals protect the rights of Jews to settle on the West Bank.
- 18 December 1977: Woodrow Wyatt, Junior Minister under Attlee, explains: "The danger to our future is not the National Front. It is the ultra-left extremists in the Labour Party. They will once more be able to dominate Mr Callaghan and Labour policy if Labour wins outright. There will be no moderation or Lib-Lab pact forced by the need to keep a Commons majority. Even the House of Lords, which could be some sort of a check, will be abolished. Labour's Programme 1976 is official Labour policy. It requires the next Labour Government to turn us into something like an Eastern European state" (Sunday Mirror, 18 Dec 1977)
- 18 December 1977: Moonshot Club, Lewisham, a youth project run by West Indians, is burnt down as a result of a large fire-bomb, after receiving several NF threats, and earlier evening small-party NF attacks in Nov 1977.
- 19 December 1977: Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, Guildhall Dinner for charity as part of the Queen's Silver Jubilee Appeal sees the Duke of Gloucester attend.
- 19 December 1977: Ludovic Kennedy fairly softly interviews NF's media man Martin Webster on BBC's flagship Tonight programme. Martin Webster states he has "no ill feeling towards black people."
- 19 December 1977: (A day at random) <u>The Times</u> reports in its 'Social News' page in 'Latest Wills' wealth accumulated which is largely transferred to private families: "Ellice-Clark, Mr Stuart Tulk, of Bickley, Kent £369,412.

Cocks, Mr Charles Vernon Somers, of Moretonhampstead, Devon £175,088.

Curtis, Miss Amy, of Dunscroft, South Yorkshire £136,959.

Davies, Mr Thomas Evan, of Castle Caereinion, Welshpool, Powys, intestate £117,044.

- Fane, Mr Peter Gerard Scrope, of Saxmundham, Suffolk £290,688 King, Mr Desmond Carew, of Stroud, Gloucestershire £171,947"
- 19 December 1977: Admiral Sir David Williams, Commander-in-Chief, Naval Home Command, inspects officers under training passing out from Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, having undergone intensive courses in naval military practice. These include several officers and lieutenants from trusted Britain's neo-colonial partners in militarist Nigeria, militarist Kenya, militarist Ghana, the Shah's Iran, monarchical Kuwait, militarist Pakistan, militarist Bangladesh as well as Bahamas and Jamaica.
- 20 December 1977: UN General Assembly adopts resolutions in favour of the total non-militarisation of space.
- 20 December 1977: Callaghan meets Israeli prime minister Begin in Downing Street. Begin requests Britain continue the role offered by Carter of sounding out and preparing Sadat to make serious concessions, abandoning all demands for Palestinian rights.
- Herald is from a striking fireman: "The Government and sections of the media have, for their own reasons, nurtured the belief that the Servicemen are containing fires in the normal manner. Again, this is untrue. ... It is impossible to fight fires effectively by standing in the street, pouring water through the windows, Firemen are trained to penetrate deeply to the heart of the fire and extinguish it with the absolute minimum of water damage. In many cases the troops have caused more damage by excessive use of water than has been caused by the fire itself....These skills cannot be acquired by troops after a few hours' training and a month on fire-fighting duty. We have no wish to see the Armed Services doing our fob, their own is poorly paid and often hazardous. Unfortunately we have a Government which considers that neither we nor they deserve a living wage." 3 other letters are anti-strike.
- 21 December 1977: Carter appoints US Ambassador in Portugal 1975-7 Frank Carlucci as Deputy Director of the CIA.
- 21 December 1977: Government announces several exchange controls will be relaxed from the beginning of 1978, following agreement at Brussels. Capital movements within the EEC are to be freed. The 25% surrender rule, introduced in 1965 is to be abolished. This is a 25% of the value of a transaction gift to foreign currency securities speculators.
- 21 December 1977: Arthur Scargill comments: "I believe this judgement should firmly convince any trade unionist that it is useless hoping for justice in the courts of this land. The only way we

- are going to obtain justice in my view is by fighting for democracy as our forefathers did in establishing the trade union and labour movements" (Times, 22 Dec 1977) \*
- 21 December 1977: At a meeting of the TUC, its General Council agrees to refuse support the FBU in any meaningful form.
- 22 December 1977: Executive UPW, sole union in the nationalised firm where 'industrial democracy' is most advanced Royal Mail imposes £1,500 fines for blacking Grunwick's mail. John Taylor, London Eastern district official at Whitechapel and member of the executive council receives a £500 fine. Another 6 UPW reps also receive fines totalling £1,000. Jack Dromey, Grunwick's strike committee, Brent Trades Council head says: "I am stunned by the severity of the punishment meted out to the brave London postmen who supported the Grunwick strikers so well." UPW Executive's attitude can be summed up by a recollection "Tom Jackson once said to us, 'Who do you in London think you are, the conscience of the union?"
- 24 December 1977: <u>Sounds</u> magazine interviews Mark Perry, punk fanzine hero behind ATV and the original Sniffin' glue. He attacks 'reds' behind Rock and Against Racism: "RAR preach against the NF but their badge is a red star... I don't need to be told by a commie organisation to love blacks, the SWP and NF are as bad as each other." (Sounds, Interview with Mark Perry)
- 25 December 1977: New York Times journalists record that CIA has owned outright or directly subsidised over 50 newspapers, radio stations, and magazines, many of which are abroad. Earlier, Reporter Carl Bernstein of Watergate fame has estimated over 400 journalists are in collaboration with the CIA (Rolling Stone, Oct. 1977).
- 25 December 1977: Queen Christmas message sees her visit to Belfast and Jubilee celebrations in the 6 counties as a step forward to peace: "I shall never forget the scene outside Buckingham Palace on Jubilee Day. The cheerful crowd was symbolic of the hundreds of thousands of people who greeted us wherever we went in this Jubilee Year... it also revealed to the world that we can be a united people. It showed that all the artificial barriers which divide man from man and family from family can be broken down. The street parties and village fêtes, the presents, the flowers from the children, the mile upon mile of decorated streets and houses; these things suggest that the real value and pleasure of the celebration was that we all shared in it together. Last Christmas I said that my wish for 1977 was that it should be a year of reconciliation. You

have shown by the way in which you have celebrated the Jubilee that this was not an impossible dream... there is no doubt that people of goodwill in Northern Ireland were greatly heartened by the chance they had to share the celebrations with the rest of the nation and Commonwealth. Many people in all parts of the world have demonstrated this goodwill in a practical way by giving to the Silver Jubilee Appeal... The great resurgence of community spirit which has marked the celebrations has shown the value of the Christian ideal of loving our neighbours. If we can keep this spirit alive, life will become better for all of us."

- 25 December 1977: Rhodesian army kill 15 rural civilians near the southern town of West Nicholson. 5 adult males accused of guerrilla activity are taken in front of a gunpoint-assembled crowd of fellow villagers and shot as a warning.
- 25 December 1977: BBC broadcasts a series of pro-monarchist programmes as Christmas specials about the jubilee year including Jubilee '77.
- 25 December 1977: BBC1 entertainment show The Mike Yarwood Christmas Show is broadcast. Wings & Paul McCartney perform in a comedy sketch with Yarwood, dressed as a 'chunky punky', a punkrock version of Chancellor Dennis Healey. Paul McCartney plays on the piano, when Linda McCartney informs him that Dennis is dropping in to see him, he promptly hides a bundle of bank-notes in the lid of the piano. The clear implication is that Labour wants to drain away popular 's 'hard-earned' wealth.

Wings later perform a mimed version of 'Mull Of Kintyre' with the Campbeltown Pipes Band. Audience viewing figures are an estimated 21.4 million. Mull of Kintyre stays at number one for nine weeks. 'Mull Of Kintyre' will later (14 Jan 1978) go on to replace 'She Loves You' as Britain's biggest-selling record ever (until the Band Aid charity records). By the end of January 1978 it has sold over 2 million copies in the UK. In the USA, the record is fairly uniformly derided. It peaks at no33 on the back of much higher radio play of 'Girls School' also on the single.

- 26 December 1977: 38 are arrested as hundreds of Tottenham and Millwall fans confront one another on Old Kent Road.
- 26-27 December 1977: Phil Flynn, Deputy General Secretary of the Local Government and Public Services Union of Ireland is held for 2 days in a Liverpool police station under the powers of the PTA and is released after protests pickets outside.
- 28 December 1977: Domitila Barrios de Chungara, Aurora de Lora, Nelly de Paniagua, Angélica de Flores and Luzmila de Pimentel

FSTMB miners' wives, with their 14 children, begin a hunger strike in the offices of the Archbishop of La Paz, demanding a complete amnesty for around 340 trade union and political figures in exile.

29 December 1977: First export order is won by Hawker-Slddcley Hawk jets. Finland agrees to purchase 50 for £100m. Rolls Royce, that makes the Adour engines for Hawk says the deal will be worth £24mil for the film. Engine parts, made by British Aerospace and Turbomec of France, will assembled under license by Finnish firm Valmet. Colin Chandler, managing director of the Kingston division of British Aerospace, says: "Finland's decision to purchase the Hawk is a breakthrough of the first rank Into the highly competitive trainer market"

29 December 1977: <u>Financial Times</u> reports "Britain is likely to repay at least... £1.05 billion of its official overseas borrowings next year. This is equivalent to more than two-thirds of the expected current account surplus for 1978."

29 December 1977: Militarist Argentina signs a trade and commercial agreement with Somocist Nicaragua.

30 December: An LWT-ITV production Mind Your Language makes its début. On the very first episode it features several backlash themes. First the concept of an unmarried, harridan woman (who prefers to be called 'Miss') in Britain trying to restrict male opportunity, expecting failure from a male:"I distinctly requested the local authority send me a woman teacher... Typical of the male sex, no stamina."

Second the increasingly common media theme of unemployment benefits encouraging idleness (particularly amongst the foreign).

"I am Ali Nadim - I am from *Lahore*. I am working at the moment - not anywhere *at all*.(said in a staccato fashion to emphasise the internal rhyme)

Teacher: You're unemployed.

Ali Nadim: (enthusiastically) Yes please! Only one day a week I am working.

Teacher: What do you do then?

Ali Nadim: I am going to the unemployment exchange for to be collecting my *money*. Cor *blimey*! I get more money for not go working than when I am working.

Teacher: And before you discovered this secret of eternal wealth what did you do?"

The hero-underdog with whom we are to sympathise is the middleclass teacher Mr Brown, holding a "B.A. Hons" from Oxford University, fallen on hard times. He is a figure full of charm, who the French sex kitten au-pair Danielle finds irresistible. He is not caricatured as an Oxford graduate elite. There is a sense of playing up the very best of British characteristics "fair play to all" and "decency": "Apart from one attempted murder and a possible race riot, I seem to be coping reasonably well", "You are here to learn English not start a Holy War", "In this class all are equal" "Please, please let us have no racialism", "Yes well that's his opinion" to Sung Chu Li's insistence on Chairman Mao's thoughts.

Non-whites (with the exception of the Japanese figure as an 'honorary white') receive a more vicious caricaturing. Typifying the Asian woman, housewife Jamila Ranjan is submissive and constantly knits in the class. Sung Chu Li is a shrill 'Red Guard' caricature and single-minded repeats her insistence on Chairman Mao on the only two occasions she speaks for longer than a phrase. The 2 Asian males are caricatured the most unsympathetically of all. When offered a seat next to Ali Nadim, without speaking a word and seeing only his garagul hat marking him out as Pakistani and Muslim, Ranjeet Singh says 'It's impossible. I'm Sikh' as he walks past Ali Nadim his first word is 'Barbarian', whose his first word back is 'Infidel'. They are on the edge of violence on three separate occasions in the first ever lesson but are held to order by the supervision and authority of non-Asian, white Mr. Brown. Out of the whole cast, it is the only 2 non-white dark Asian head-geared (turban and males who use racial and homophobic epithets when arguing with one another: "You are asking for a kick up your big brown backside", "You are stupid poof", "Poof". Even though the Mediterranean lothario characters attempt to court sex object/sex kitten Danielle- it is Ranjeet who makes the sexist gesture aping the shape of her bottom, right behind her, when she stands up to answer a question.

Without comment are accepted Tado's assertion that Japanese industry is superior to German.

"Tado: Japanese much more efficient / German au pair: Nein, Germans are the best./ Tado: Japanese make much better televisions and cameras." He pointedly says: "Japan right wing. China left wing."

Even with the frame of exaggeration and caricature much makes no sense at all. We see Jamila Ranjan, who the teacher refers to as the "Indian lady" and Pakistani Ali Nadim conversing in a foreign language before the start of class. Yet Ali Nadim does not help the situation at all when she is incapable of saying her name. Ranjeet Singh a Sikh is immediately told "why don't you sit next to your countryman Ali Nadim?" who we have just learnt is from Lahore. Sung Chu Li describes herself as from the "Democratic Republic of China" even though she is secretary to a Chinese diplomat, both of whom would know their country's official name. Her 'Red Guard' Maoism is also utterly impossible when the PRC Embassy in Britain is run by committed bureaucrat supporters of the 'Four News'.

30 December 1977: Police in Italy report kidnappings have secured in ransoms over netted 30 billion lire, close to £20mil over the course of the year.

30 December 1977: In an end of year survey the <u>Financial Times</u> survey of profits shows that industrial companies have increased their trading profits by 27% compared to the same period in 1976.

31 December 1977: 12 Kenyan armed police arrest novelist and head of Literature Department, Nairobi University, Ngugi wa Thiong'o placing him under preventive detention and solitary confinement at Kamiti Maximum Security Prison. His library is ransacked and over 100 books are seized as "evidence" although no charges are ever brought under the 'Preservation of Public Security' laws. He remains imprisoned incommunicado without suitable food, no reading or writing material allowed for a year. The detention is primarily motivated by the publication in late Jul 1977 of Petals of Blood and recent preparations for future stagings without license of Ngaahika Ndeenda (I Will Marry When I Want).

<u>Petals of Blood</u> is Ngugi's first novel for over 10 years and the first to be set directly in contemporary Kenya. It depicts a strike by workers at a joint Western-Kenyan brewery firm with a trade unionist central character thinking: "Within only ten years-how time galloped, he thought Ilmorog peasants had been displaced from the land: some had joined the army of workers, others were semi-workers with one foot in a plot of land and one foot in a factory. while others became petty traders in hovels and shanties they did not even own. along the Trans-Africa Road or criminals and prostitutes"

The same figure tells others in the novel: "The trouble with our trade unions is that too often they are led by businessmen ...employers. How can an employer lead that which is fighting against employers? You cannot serve the interests of capital and labour at the same time. You cannot serve two opposed masters one master loses ...in this case labour the work the heat ...crumbs from the table I left ... I walked from Mombasa on foot... looked for jobs amongst agricultural plantation workers... But I could never stay more than two months ...slaves ... slavery... they are paid one hundred shillings a month ...and for that they sell their whole family labour... man. Wife and children ... living in one hut ... condemned to picking sisal and tealeaves and coffee ... Many times I would sit and think: we people ...we built Kenya. Before 1895 it was Arab slavers disrupting our agriculture. After 1895 it was the European colonist; first stealing our land, then our labour and our own wealth in the way of taxation...so we built Kenya. and-what were we getting out of the Kenya we had built on our sweat'!" [ellipsis sic]

- 31 December 1977: A group of 11 people join the Bolivian hunger strike, occupying the office of the daily newspaper <u>Presencia</u> in La Paz, family members of political prisoners, representatives of the Permanent Assembly for Human Rights, the Union of Bolivian Women and the Interdisciplinary Committee of the University of San Andrés and the Teatro Popular. It grows into a hunger strike of more than 1,000 participants across La Paz and elsewhere.
- 31 December 1977: Tony Benn reflects on the year: "The trade union leaders are so enjoying their corporatist relationship with the Government that they don't want to hear anything about socialism. The real battle is within the Labour Movement now and it is a struggle for the soul of the Movement. Jim Callaghan is riding high. The press loves him because he's openly right wing in the Cabinet, at public meetings and in the PLP."
- 1977 Round-up: 381,000 Commonwealth Citizens are admitted from Australia and New Zealand on student, work or family reunion reasons. By comparison India and Bangladesh, with a population over dozens of times greater are allowed 162,000 entrants.
- 1977 Round-up: The total of fines imposed in Hong Kong for the employment of children (under-14s) is £57,000.
- 1977 Round-up: 1977 becomes the 3rd straight year where company profits have risen sharply in real terms. The gain in company profits overall during that year, excluding stock appreciation and the North Sea oil sector, is put at over 30%. Between 1970-6 for all industrial and commercial firms, real profits rose by only 7%, however over this period, the top 25 firms' share of gross profits increases dramatically from about 20% of all profits to 40% of all industrial and commercial profits. Among the top firms are Tate & Lyle, ICI and Unilever, who are granted price increases by the Price Commission throughout 1978 as well.

January 1978: German Chamber of Commerce surveys 128 major German firms, including 49 in manufacturing, 26 electronics and 18 in pharmaceutical-chemical industries. Of the 72 firms questioned which do not at present manufacture in Britain, 23 say that they intended to in the future. Of 56 already operating in Britain, 48 reply that they intend to expand. The principal reasons given were lower manufacturing and labour costs, the availability of labour, government incentives, and that Britain is the "best potential stable market in Europe".

January 1978: Ian Smart urges greater research on nuclear weapons that can avoid detection by Soviet defences: "an unusually high priority must be attached, in the British case, to the choice of a

deterrent which can be expected to penetrate foreseeable Soviet defences" ('The Future of the British Nuclear Deterrent', Survival, Vol. 20, No. 1, Jan/Feb 1978, p23)

January 1978: Arnold Leese's <u>Jew-Wise</u> news-sheet continues with a common neo-fascist theme Jews as particularly corrupt - sexually and morally - culture.

"Isn't it then time the National Front started to inform the British Public about the Jews. The Front have no need to smear the Jews... simply tell the truth about them... THE JEW IS VILE... THROUGH AND THROUGH. This is not news to those who know what the Jews' book of instruction the Talmud contains. Those who are 'Jew Wise' know also that Pornography is Jewish. Two Jews making a fortune out of luring children into having photographs taken in the nude and committing sexual acts appeared in the London Evening News (16 December 1977). One of these poor persecuted Jews named 'JOSH' JOSHUA runs his filthy business from a small office above a chemists in Kensington High Street. In looks he has the appearance of an Indian... a good example of the Asiatic Jew."

Jan 1978: Church of Scotland's <u>Life and Work</u> editorialises against trades unionism: "The victims of Britain's new tribalism, which affects social and professional groups outside traditional trade unionism, are not those who are most involved but those who are most vulnerable. Even on the most practical level, it is now a matter of reacting to the organised self-interest (or self-seeking) not merely of industrial trade unions but of a range of pressure groups covering almost every profession, interest, and occupation. The groups most strongly represented in our congregations are as involved as any others." The vulnerable, apparently, are the victims of trades unionisation, not employers.

- 1 January 1978: Strikebreaking soldiers spend 5 hours trying to save an empty bingo hall, the Plaza Ballroom, in Stirling, although there are no people inside at the start of the fire.
- 1 January 1978: British Aircraft Corporation, Scottish Aviation and Hawker Siddeley subsidiaries H.S. Aviation and H.S. Dynamics merge to form a single firm British Aerospace (BAe). They no longer trade under individual company names. It becomes Britain's key aeronautic, aviation and military firm, after having been officially formed on 29 Apr 1977.
- 3 January 1978: Belfast City Council announces it will reconsider a proposal to give a grant to a community organisation following a claim by former SDLP councillor Paddy Devlin that it is an IRA front organisation.
- 3 January 1978: 5 teenagers are shot and injured in Glen Road, west Belfast, after soldiers opened fire on their joyride vehicle driving through a roadblock in the area.

- 3 January 1978: An evening property bombing of a Turkish bank in Haringey, London, is claimed by a telephone call to the Reuters news agency as being the action of the 'New Armenian Resistance'. Part of the residence of the Turkish embassy in Brussels, Belgium is bombed the same day.
- 3 January 1978: Graham Steel, Scottish NUM agent says: "It is my personal opinion that the miners should take industrial action in support of the firemen's case. We have a wage claim pending too and we are just as much in conflict with the Governments pay policy as the firemen. The miners have already demonstrated our support for the firemen financially" however no strike action occurs.
- 3 January 1978: British Airways extends it Concorde London-New York services from five to six round-flights a week. Occupancy is at 92-95% according to British Airways, Air France's similar service boasts only 65% occupancy.
- 3-12 January 1978: Callaghan's 10-day official visit to Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan with the private RAF VC10. In Dacca, he meets President General Zia ur-Rahman, in Delhi Janata prime minister, Morarji Desai and in Islamabad General Zia ul-Haq. As they meet in Pakistan, military curfews are extended to stop picketing activities by Pakistani cotton pickers, and street protests by PPP supporters and those in favour of a democratic constitution.
- 4 January 1978: Innocent Belmar, acting Grenadan agriculture minister is assassinated by members of the Mongoose clan Eric Gairy's secretive protection unit. From 1977-79, Grenada's parliament will meet for 14 days, most of it consumed by ceremony. National press reporting on human rights abuses under Gairy is very sparse as compared to the New Jewel Movement era.
- 4 January 1978: A <u>Glasgow Herald</u> journalist agonises over the new France in its Inside France column: "What do you do when you see an elderly woman ahead of you in the queue at the desk put on an expression of physical anguish and a "not long to live, dear" expression and walk out after paving for three Items in the official basket but not for the four others which you have seen her put in her shopping bag? Start a fuss, raise a furore, and then find maybe you're wrong? Millions of francs are now lost annually in this way. But for the first time the big French firms have conceded an important local defeat. A "Sodium" supermarket in Marseilles closed at the end of the year, having yielded best to a group o! youngsters, aged 15 to 20, who have regularly ransacked the shop, walked out without paying and fighting with anyone who tried to interfere. For good measure, slashing the tyres of customers' cars outside. The 34 employees of the shop will apparently be spread

around others in a total of 15 in Marseilles: the chain owners say they are prepared to close down a second if the raids go on."

4 January 1978: Nationalisation of all foreign banks in Mozambique. 4 January 1978: Chile's Consulta Nacional, plebiscite on Pinochet as President is held. The 'yes' box carrying the Chilean flag above it, the 'no' box a black square with the voting slip close to transparent, so as to ensure compliance in rural areas. It gives a 75% endorsement of Pinochet. The plebiscite strengthens further the personal rule of Pinochet as the Commander-in-Chief of the Army, National President as the sole patriotic leader, since he brings forward the vote.

5 January 1978: Car workers at Ford's Halewood Liverpool vote to strike on Monday 9 Jan 1978 over management changes to work schedules.

5 January 1978: Questioned over immigration in Britain, to the background of constant raids against Asians, limited student visas and 10-hour interrogation sessions in airports, Callaghan responds to Bangladeshi journalists: "Immigration is a problem for us and not for you. They are our laws and they will be administered as fairly and impartially as possible... in Britain you have mere justice than most other countries in the world" He refuses to answer on racism and the NF inspired attacks and arson: "These are domestic questions and I will deal with them in the British Parliament, not in Bangladesh."

5 January 1978: A British motor industry leader, David Plastow, president of the British Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, group managing director of Rolls-Royce Motors, speaks at a reception on the eve of the Brussels Motor Show. He makes a plea for European motor manufacturers to co-operate and develop products collectively. This will reduce costs for competing effectively against North America and Japanese firms.

5 January 1978: In the midst of massive cuts Strathclyde Regional Council's public relations department budget is increased by £50,000 for a new colour brochure of the region, and five quarterly magazines, apparently in a bid to attract investment.

5 January 1978: Riding international food markets, merchanting group S. & V. Berisford boosts profits to £23.6mil Jan 1977-Aug 1977, compared with £13.6mil over the same period the previous year year. The volatility of prices and famines prove good for business in short-term transactions.

6 January 1978: Over 100 firefighters hold a protest outside BBC offices in Queen Street, Edinburgh in protest at the lies and misrepresentations during the length of the strike.

6 January 1978: FBU Executive announces it will summon a delegate conference at which it will recommend acceptance of a sub-inflation deal with the government. The government offers 10% and a promise that wages will be raised by stages to reach parity with skilled industrial workers by Nov 1979. The government's plan is to squeeze pay in these industrial sectors as well.

Terry Parry, FBU General Secretary, announces the deal as "a very great victory". Dick Forgle, FBU assistant General Secretary, states it will organise a smooth return to work so that fire-fighters will not take action against strikebreakers on their return to work.

6 January 1978: A MSC report shows over 300 applications for 36 apprenticeships are made in 1977 for the British Leyland plant in Bathgate. Virtually all the applications are of a suitable standard with substantial qualifications. Given aptitude tests and interviews, according to the training manager "very few could be faulted on character or academic attainment."

6 January 1978: NATO Council meet and discuss the stationing of new nuclear weapons in Europe.

6 January 1978: Conclusion in R v John Kingsley Read case. Judge Neil McKinnon QC, a white Australian, sympathetic to the Liberal Party, at the time that it enforced the White Australia policy says to the jury, in his concluding remarks, using the terms "nigger", "coon", "wog" are not offensive or inflammatory because his own nickname at school was 'nigger' and he had not been offended to be called this. He states that Britain cannot accommodate an unlimited number of immigrants, immigrants take jobs and houses needed by the local population, and that people are entitled to propagate strong anti-immigrant views: "Of course we cannot accommodate here unlimited numbers of immigrants coming Into this country, it is not something to be ashamed of... In this country we find people who are opposed to the influx of immigrants or further immigrants and it is claimed that lobs will be lost. Goodness knows, we have one and a half million unemployed already and all immigrants are going to do is to occupy jobs that are needed by the local population. Homes are scarce. It is said that immigrants will occupy homes which are needed by ordinary English folk In this country. These are matters upon which people are entitled to hold find to declare strong views expressed in moderate terms... In this England of ours at the moment we are allowed to have our own views still, thank goodness." He asserts directly looking at John Kingsley Read in open court "You have been rightly acquitted... by all means propagate the views you have but try to avoid invoking the sort of action which has been taken against you, I wish you well". John Kingsley Read states: "The judge's advice was good. I Intend to take it"

- 6 January 1978: <u>Latin America Report</u> examines the detainees in Argentina and notes under 20% are guerillas, whilst 40% are industrial factory workers, invariably antiverticalista militants, the rest being professionals allied to progressive professional bodies.
- 7 January 1978: TGWU bus drivers and conductors go on strike against abuse from Rangers fans. "The men have taken this action in protest against the abuse that crew at the Ibrox garage -have suffered on previous occasions at this game. I understand that the men from other garages have supported them." (Andy Lynch senior shop steward, 4 Jan 1978)
- 7 January 1978: 400 workers at the Charrington Viyella works in the Falls, Belfast are made redundant.
- 7 January 1978: <u>The Times</u> reports "Spanish armed forces have launched a campaign to improve their political image, but coupled it with -a veiled reminder that they could intervene if civil authority breaks down. In newspaper articles marking the armed forces' celebration of the new year, senior generals reiterated their mission of neutrality and safeguarding the constitutional order and the independence, integrity and sovereignty of Spain. They mounted a public relations exercise alter press reports of dissent within the forces both on military reforms and political changes since the death of General Franco"
- 7 January 1978: Student protests in opposition to militarist control of universities and elections begin in Surabaya, Indonesia.
- 8 January 1978: In an interview on RTE radio Irish Taoiseach Jack Lynch reaffirms his government's commitment to 'peaceful' eventual unification, suggesting an amnesty to armed operative prisoners might be necessary in the process. Secretary Mason quickly attacks the comments.
- 8 January 1978: NEB-assisted firm Strathearn Audio, 150 employees accept voluntary redundancy in a NEB-supported restructuring.
- 8 January 1978: Labour Party Campaign Committee, chaired by Callaghan, blocks plans for a Labour Youth political broadcast due to the influence of Young Socialists Andy Bevan and Nick Bradley, members of Militant. A draft script includes contrasts of unemployed waiting for work versus exclusive shops with luxury items, and an interview with Tony Benn. Labour MP Joan Maynard, member of the NEC responds "I cannot see how Mr Callaghan's Campaign Committee can vote out any decision made by the National Executive" (The Sun, 9 Jan 1978) but no action is taken.

- 8 January 1978: 'Banned' leftist Natal University philosopher professor Richard 'Rick' Turner, is shot dead at his home by undercover police. He has been under sustained pressure and intimidation for living with his Muslim Indian wife Jane Turner. In the weeks prior to the death recently his motorbike burnt to ashes, his car destroyed, cement poured at night to block his door amongst other things. "A former BOSS member told the Commission he believed BOSS was behind the killing and may have set it up to look like the work of Scorpio, a right-wing group based in Cape Town" (TRC Report Part 3, p182)
- 9 January 1978: Seizing the opportunity OUP and DUP withdraw from talks with the Northern Ireland Office on "interim devolution" in protest against Jack Lynch's comments in favour of Irish reunification.
- 9 January 1978: Under strong pressure from Scottish FBU leadership with Bill Craig, chairman of Scotland Regional Committee: "No matter how bitter we may feel if that is the conference decision [on 12 Jan 1978] we will stand by it. We have stood together since the strike started". Pat Callaghan, chairman of the Strathclyde Brigade FBU: "There is no question of Scotland going it alone. Whatever the conference decision we will be bound by it" in response Scotland FBU votes to accept the result of the national decision on 12 Jan 1978.
- 9 January 14 April 1978: A course takes place in Ruskin College training useful and amenable trade union officials. Funding comes direct from the Ministry of Development and the TUC which receives some funding from the Employment Ministry for domestic and overseas trade unionist training. Senior trade union officials from Barbados Workers Union, Waterfront and Allied Workers Union of Dominica, Egypt's Union of Workers in Engineering, Metal and Electrical Industries, Pakistan's Post Office and Railway Mail Service Workers Federation, Pakistan's ICI Employees' Union, Pakistan's Punjab Road Transport Employees Federation, Pakistan's Printing Press and Graphic Art Workers Federation, Zambia Electricity Workers Union, and from unions in India and Tanzania participate. Principal lecturers are provided by the Department of Employment, Oxford University, Trades Union Congress, the Ministry of Overseas Development, and the FCO. (Written Answer 14 Dec 1978)
- 10 January 1978: A reception held at the Soviet Embassy headed by Soviet Ambassador Lunkov and media mogul/publishing chief Robert Maxwell presents <u>Brezhnev: A short biography</u>, the first volume of Maxwell's Pergammon's Leaders of the World Biography

- Series. This hagiography incorporates an introduction specially written for this edition by Leonid Brezhnev.
- 10 January 1978: Centre-right press attack Labour figures for passing a resolution verbally condemning (90 Labour MPs sign an EDM but can do nothing else against) Judge Neil McKinnon (who wished John Kingsley Read well in his efforts). The Sun's headline is "Wedgie in War on "Coon" Case Judge". Daily Mail attacks Labour NEC's unanimous resolution and blames Benn for browbeating others.
- 10 January 1978: Striking firemen in Belfast and Derry vote to accept FBU terms and end their strike.
- 10 January 1978: Gen William Evans, Commander Allied Air Forces Central Europe, opens the Tactical Leadership Programme (TLP) for all NATO officers at Furstenfeldbruck air base near Munich. RAF are among the first members of the directing staff. It is the brainchild of Sir Andrew Humphrey, first broached at a Ramstein Apr 1976 meeting of Chiefs of Air Staff of the Central Region.
- 11 January 1978: Friends of the Earth holds a protest outside the American Embassy over the environmental impact of new Coca Cola cans.
- 11 January 1978: In 1977 alone 1,074 Metropolitan Police officers resign their posts, prior to pension, from the (Hansard, 11th January 1978, WA, Col. 733)
- 11 January 1978: Sir Arthur Armitage's Committee on Political Activities of Civil Servants presents its Report (Cmnd. 7057). It proposes modest and meaningless changes to rules over political activity by civil servants. Highest grades of the Civil Service (196,000) are "politically restricted". At the lower end of the scale are the "politically free" (217,000) who may engage in any political activity. In between are "intermediate" grades (333,000) who must apply for permission to take part in national or local politics. The Armitage Report proposes the "intermediate" group should be increased by transferring 173,000 civil servants out of the "restricted" grade. The intermediate group can then cover about two-thirds of the Civil Service. The "politically free" can then cover 29% almost the as beforehand. For the majority of the Civil Service, political activity can then be judged on the merits of each case (not on grade).
- 12 January 1978: US State Department explains: "Our position is clear: we do not favor and would like to see Communist influence in any Western European country reduced. The United States and Italy share profound democratic values and interests, and we do not believe that the Communists share those values and interests. As

- the President said in Paris last week: 'It is precisely when democracy is up against difficult challenges that its leaders must show firmness in resisting the temptation of finding solutions in non-democratic forces.'"
- 12 January 1978: With around 155 out of 175 Garners' 175 employees as TGWU members, after failing to grant recognition for several months, (using ACAS that allows Garners much time to marshal its strikebreaking strategy), a meeting of 100 TGWUers gives firm notice of strike action after a week. Garners' immediately lock-outs a large part of the 155, before the strike has begun.
- 12 January 1978: FBU Special Conference sees a 70%-30% vote to accept an immediate 10% offer, and the promise of an eventual reduction in weekly hours to 42, ending the strike.
- 12 January 1978: Zaire armed forces obliterate the town of Mulemba, murdering dozens of followers of the religio-political movement of 'prophet' Martin Kasongo the "resurrected Mulele". Several days later Matende and Lukamba are also attacked.
- 13 January 1978: A row breaks out between USSR and EEC at Brussels over shipbuilding. EEC Commissioner Richard Burke, former Fine Gael Education Minister, accuses Soviet aid to its state-owned merchant shipping industry as "an abuse of the freedom of the seas". He charges that the Soviet cargo fleet is four times larger than it need be for its volume of trade, and is "undercutting" shipping trade in Western Europe. This reflects British, French and German concerns. The Soviet minister declares that presently less than 5% of cargo ships and less than 1% of container ships are Soviet.
- 14 January 1978: Britain officially informs EEC it will not be able eto conduct direct elections for EEC Parliamentary Elections in spring 1978.
- 14 January 1978: Claude Cheysson, EEC Development Commissioner, gives an interview in <u>La Croix</u>: "Third World countries want to develop themselves- it's a fact. Some of them have this possibility. This development means an increase in agricultural production. It also means increasing the market value of what is produced for export and cutting back on imports therefore industrialization. All this is obvious. This industrial development alters relationships: if one country develops a clothing

industry, it will have to be curtailed elsewhere. With industrialisation there is a capacity for exports that compete with us directly and this will have an effect on our development. Consequently, there is no doubt that industrialization of the Third-World will affect our economic structures and will mean recession for some sectors. But we should see the other side. Development of the Third World is done with machines, experts, patents, engineering, which are provided by us. Industrial development of the Third-World therefore increases our exports of services and goods by opening additional markets for them."

He celebrates the EEC endorsement of investment for South Africa: "The European Community adopted recently a 'Code of Good Conduct' for its companies opera1ting in South Africa. It requires that the companies treat their black workers the same as their white workers. I believe that this code will be respected: in fact, once a year, a report will be published on the way these rules are kept. The lies will be exposed, and the company that ignores this code is asking for trouble. Just think about the reaction of the trade unions in Europe."

He effectively congratulates the West's success in forcing military expenditures on the Soviet Union meaning it is the only alternative for development: "if there is no war, the developing countries must necessarily rely on the Western industrialized countries."

He supports the trooper operations to assist Mobutu in 1977: "There has been - on the French Government's part - help to some countries fighting to defend their freedom. When one looks at the situation in context, one understands the French policy. A friendly country is threatened - France sees a duty to help it and this awakens an emotion that proves France has understood an important aspect of the problem.... France helped Zaire to reestablish its unity."

16 January 1978: FBU returns to normal work, ending the strike. Report of the Chief Inspector of Fire Services for 1977 sees chief inspector, Ken Holland, conclude in Aug 1978 that "losses during the strike were roughly double what might have been expected had the strike not occurred."

16 January 1978: Callaghan summarises, in London, his VC10 aided trip to South Asia: "In all three countries there are many opportunities for the development of our bilateral trade. There are favourable prospects for British firms because of the good will that we enjoy in the sub-continent. The question of immigration did not figure prominently in the discussions which I had in South Asia. When it was raised with me, I made it clear that it was for the United Kingdom to take her own decisions in this matter."

Callaghan succeeds in extracting some trade concessions from Bangladesh and India: "President Zia [ur Rahman] emphasised... his wish to work with us closely on all matters. We discussed a number of specific questions of commercial and aid interest. One of them was an important project in which British companies might join for the development of natural gas resources....

"I raised the problem of our bilateral trade imbalance with India and of certain trade restrictions both with Mr. Desai and with his Ministers. They handed me a list of specific items of capital equipment which India would be interested in purchasing from Britain. We also discussed possible defence sales. At my request, Mr. Desai undertook to consider the possibility of Concorde being given permission to overfly India on the route to Singapore."

"I assured both Governments [India and Pakistan] that, if agreement could be reached among the countries directly concerned, Britain would be glad to lend experts and to contribute financially towards a study on the feasibility of [dam and power station projects over the Ganges] To carry it out would require international collaboration on a gigantic scale... it might take 20 years to complete"

Callaghan is optimistic about orders from India: "the businessmen I met, especially in Bombay, were of the opinion that this political visit would undoubtedly have a favourable impact upon trade and I was given a whole list of capital equipment—such as crawler tractors, fishing trawlers, specialised machine tools, diesel alternators, and refrigerated vans, and offshore drilling safety equipment—which I have sent to the Department of Trade and the Department of Industry. These were items that the Indian Government would be prepared to purchase from British firms"

"I was not slow to point out in both Bangladesh and Pakistan [over natural gas extraction] the advantages that could arise from British technology. There are already two British firms which have been approached—one of them approached me and the other I am in touch with —which would be able to help Bangladesh... General Zia was very keen that Britain should be associated with this development. I hope that British firms take it up. I am asking the Secretary of State for Industry to raise this matter in the appropriate quarters"

16 January 1978: On Pakistan, Callaghan makes the ludicrous claim that Pakistan will return to 'democracy' in 1978 under General Zai. It is only after Zia's death in 1988 that elections take place: "In Pakistan, I had a full talk with General Zia and had several opportunities to meet the leaders of the main political parties. General Zia assured me of his firm intention to restore democratic

government in Pakistan at the earliest possible date and described to me how he proposed to do this. During my visit, General Zia and his advisers reached a firm decision to set up a tractor assembly plant in conjunction with Massey Ferguson. We also discussed a number of other commercial projects that could interest British firms in investing in Pakistan, and we were able to clear some outstanding commercial difficulties out of the way. ... I had the opportunity of talking to a number of political leaders of that country — I was brought in contact with them by General Zia—and they are anxious that democracy should be restored there. They recognise that there are difficulties in doing it at present, but I have hopes, in the light of what I was told, that we shall see a full return to democracy during the course of 1978." General Zia until his death does not ever legalise the PPP.

16 January 1978: Callaghan reiterates the position against debt relief: "the developing countries are suffering very seriously from the increased indebtedness that has taken place as a result of the oil price increases, but I would not be in favour of generalised relief." The basic British aim is to divide the Third World bloc into those that might gain debt forgiveness, to various degrees (hence divided amongst themselves), on the condition of adopting Western policies, and those that are deemed ineligible. The rationale behind aid programmes: "The question of overseas aid is... of great value to Britain. It builds an economic infrastructure for Britain... In India the agreement has been signed... The figure was £144 million... I am confident that this aid has a very profound and beneficial impact upon Britain's commercial relations with India in a number of directions and is also a way in which to reach countries in which we sell now."

16 January-1 February 1978: Steve Jones and Paul Cook from the Sex Pistols visit Ronnie Biggs in Rio de Janeiro. They film scenes for a future film, and record the singles 'Belsen was a Gas' and 'No one is innocent', which features the words in jest: "God save Martin Boorman and Nazis on the run/ They wasn't being wicked God, that was their idea of fun/ God save Myra Hindley, God save Ian Brady/ Even though he's horrible and she ain't what you call a lady." The film is eventually released as The Great Rock 'n' Roll Swindle. The mockumentary shows the Sex Pistols with Biggs on a Rio de Janeiro beach with apparent Nazi fugitive Martin Bormann (played by an actor). It also features Sid Vicious wearing a Swastika T-Shirt in Paris's Jewish quarter assaulting a prostitute.

17 January 1978: Hearing at the ECHR, Strasbourg, begins over the British state's failure to restrict or outlaw the practice of birching against convicted children on the Isle of Man.

17 January 1978: Ministry of Defence welcomes the successful strikebreaking (MoD News Release 2/78, 17 Jan 1978).

"20,750 service personnel were directly involved, of whom 4,200 were Royal Navy, 1,350 Royal Marines, 10,000 army, and 5,200 RAF. At any one time there were about 11,000 men deployed in two shifts on actual firefighting duties; 5,000 were employed on command and control, whilst the remaining 4,750 acted as relief crews. The servicemen were equipped with just under 1,000 Green Goddesses based at some 389 emergency locations, mainly TAVR centres, but including Cadet Corps huts, police stations, a holiday camp and even Carlisle Castle." Official statistics released later estimate the total mobilised effort at 200,000 man-weeks of militarised labour.

17 January 1978: <u>Daily Mirror</u> defence correspondent Ellis Plaice: "Army chiefs admit, privately, that they have gained a great efficiency in operating control and communications centres in a High Street environment which would formerly have been a political minefield. One officer said: "We have got closer to the trust of the public. If it came to tanker drivers striking or anything like that, we would feel far more confident about our arrangements.""

This echoes the perspective of Col. Cattermull, chief of 8<sup>th</sup> Signals Division, noting the activity and the absence of organised opposition or subterfuge to discourage strikebreaking meant his very large regiment was welded together effectively and the Green Goddess crews "had matured almost overnight" more effectively than any training exercise in the barracks. Hence "it was a great experience." (Colonel D.G. Cattermull in Journal of the Royal Signals Institution Wint. 1978)

17 January 1978: Government stresses how limited immigration has now become after the Malawi Asians furore in 1976: "Excluding those heads of household who arrived with special vouchers, a total of 1,980 United Kingdom passport holders, mainly dependants, were admitted for settlement on arrival in the United Kingdom during the first six months of 1977"

17 January 1978: Stars of *Monty Python* express warmth towards tax exile Keith Moon, member of The Who "Keith is planning to have a suite built for himself in the Old House at Shepperton. He has positive ideas about the place - including a cricket pitch on the lawn. 'And football for the roadies' he adds. He's lived out of England for three years and has saved a large chunk of tax-free money as a result. He bought a house in Malibu Beach, for \$325,000, and since then a law has been passed banning sale of any more building land in this sought-after piece of California. All of

which is great for Moonie, who is hoping to get one million for his house. It's next door to Steve McQueen and Herb Alpert.... He's been a hit with all of us - less destructive, more gently jolly and humorous than I'd anticipated." (Michael Palin's Diary, Entry whilst on extended stay in Barbados)

- 18 January 1978: European Court of Human Rights makes its 100-page long judgement on Britain's ill-treatment of internees in northern Ireland in military centres and prisons in 1971-2. It agrees that internees have been subjected to "inhuman and degrading treatment" by British army and police forces.
- 18 January 1978: <u>The Times</u> approves of further changes in PCI behaviour in 'Italy's Communists Offer Themselves as Friends of the Entrepreneur'.
- 18 January 1978: In London, Foreign Secretary Owen warns Ethiopia's Deputy Foreign Minister of serious consequences if Soviet forces appear in Ethiopia in significant amounts in the Ogaden war.
- 19 January 1978: An exchange summarises the blocked path of the Labour Left. (Left Labour MP) Frank Allaun: asked the Prime Minister if he will instruct his Ministers to plan the conversion of manpower, money, material and research and development at present used by Departments for the military to non-military programmes. (Callaghan): No. (Hansard V.942 col.289) The Labour Left then trumpets the discovery of the fact that not a single civil servant at the Ministry of Defence is tasked with conversion of weaponry into non-lethal industrial products as a success.
- 20 January 1978: President Suharto bans several newspapers and institutes a new wave of student imprisonments. Virtually zero reporting or comment.
- 20 January 1978: David Steel welcomes the fruits of the Lib-Lab Pact: "Beyond the period of pay restraint such schemes could be encouraged by offering a deduction from corporation tax to companies operating them. Profit-sharing schemes In Britain would enable millions of shop floor workers to acquire an interest in their own companies' profits. It is one positive step which could begin to promote long-term industrial harmony."
- 21 January 1978: US officials and representatives of Britain, France, West Germany and Italy meet in Washington D.C. to discuss the conflict in the Horn of Africa.
- 21 January 1978: Airey Neave makes an important speech at Abingdon declaring that Labour is perverting democracy by granting citizenship rights and passports to so many non-British people to

form an ethnic block vote. He demands a full halt to immigration as soon as possible – this is later requested in Whitelaw's propsals.

22 January 1978: New York Times Flora Lewis reports on 'Sharing Italy Anxieties': "Because it is a member of the community, and a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Italy's affairs have become entangled with its partners. It sends almost half its exports to them, and receives 43.6% of its imports from them, an important market on which German, French, British factories depend for orders, and therefore jobs... The other eight members sent \$200 million in investments to Italy last year, increasing their stake in its fate, while they lost a third of the capital Italy had invested in their countries as the Italians drew down their assets to try to keep going. ... "Europe, especially Germany, just can't afford to let us go down the drain," Guido Carli, head of Italy's industrial association and former head of its central bank, said recently. Already, the pained steel industries of the others have moved to protect themselves against the "Brescia exporters," a group of small firms in northern Italy which have been working illegally outside the tax and labor structure which helped make the bigger companies non-competitive. The extent of the illegal economy in Italy "paleocapitalism" one French paper called it — has reached significant proportions with companies breaking up their production into small units, sort of computer-controlled cottage industries. They may prosper, but they undermine the basis of Common Market cooperation.... The Italian Communist Party, disturbed by the set-back to Euro-communism... is trying to reach out for contacts with European Socialists, which could bring more moderation to the Italians but could also radicalize the non-Communist left. The Europeans... worry at least as much as the United States about the effects on their defense policy if increased Communist power should tilt Italy toward neutralism. The rise of violence in Italy, which has links to extremists on both ends of the political spectrum in other countries, is largely based on the development of a new proletariat, outside the unions and the official economy. The Communists neither represent nor control these groups.... voice in its councils, a strategic peninsula jutting into the Mediterranean midway between the explosive Middle East and the Atlantic, facing uncertain Yugoslavia, all that cannot be ignored by the rest of Western Europe. The Italians have been rather more successful than others at maintaining good relations with the Arabs, a useful factor for a continent so dependent on oil. Africa, a French diplomat said recently, is now the soft underbelly of Europe, and the Italians point out with shrewd self-criticism that it starts slightly south of Rome."

- 23 January 1978: LBC phone-in programme discusses housing in London. Many callers complain of foreign occupancy or ownership of houses. One describes her daughter unable to move out because of the effect of Arabs in West Kensington 'pricing' people out: "This neighbourhood is fast becoming Saudi Arabia."
- 23 January 1978: Richard Wainwright, Liberal MP praises the effects of the Lib-Lab Pact at the Special Liberal Assembly discussing its future: "Since last November the results of this tough and unpopular struggle are being seen in a rise in real wages... success was made possible only by the pact... Just four years ago the miners in a confrontation had thrown the country into a three-day week... Today the miners have voted to dig more coal and to be paid by results." (Guardian, 23 Jan 1978) He does not mention that unemployment has continued to grow.
- 23 January 1978: Andrew Young and Foreign Secretary Owen meet in London to clarify their common front before meeting Nkomo and Mugabe in Malta.
- 24 January 1978: Tony Benn states: "Past achievements... and party loyalty are not sufficient to win the support of those we represent ... something more is needed and it is as well to spell it out clearly"
- 24 January 1978: Edmund Dell, Trade Minister, visits Spain to discuss British aircraft deals amongst other matters.
- 24 January 1978: Occidental Group confirms a custom-built support vessel for its North Sea oil fields, designed and managed by US firm SEDCO, will be purchased from Japanese shipbuilders. Benn's Department has urged firms to order from British shipbuilders, but does not reprimand Occidental for its behaviour.
- 24 January 1978: Glasgow Herald reports in 'It's a World Cup Bonanza' the rise of the Scotland team's promotion and advertising deals: "Sponsors currently range from the singer, Rod Stewart, to a bank... from a sports equipment manufacturer to a brewery, from a book publisher to a car maker, from an oil company to a whisky distiller. Negotiations have still to be completed with, among others, television, radio, and film interests. Stewart has already contributed £2500 to the pool... returns to Britain next month to make a record... with the squad. International Image Consultants, the Glasgow advertising and public relations company say that the proceeds will depend entirely on the record's success.... As well as Umbro, the sponsors identified so far include Valentine's, the card makers who have a licence to distribute a squad poster at home and overseas, and McKinlay's, who have a competition in mind, the details of which will be announced tomorrow... Tennant Caledonian

have an agreement to display players' pictures in bars and hotels and the Oxford Press are to produce binders notebooks and exercise books for school children. A bank, not yet named is to publish a World Cup book. A television commercial for Avenger cars, shot with 11 of the players in London at the weekend, is to be screened nationwide next month, and, on the face of it an improbable client, the World Foot Centre in Paris, is distributing yoghurt and a brand of soft drink carrying the team emblems of all the 16 competing countries."

24 January 1978: Lonrho's chief executive and managing director, Tiny Rowland announces its purchase of currently-profitable Tradewinds Airways that operates cargo flights between Gatwick, Africa and the Middle East.

24 January 1978: Scottish Economic Council sees appointments Jean Balfour, chairman of the Countryside Commission for Scotland, Ian Haris, director of BNOC, and Denys Milne, chief executive and managing director of BP Oil.

24 January 1978 AUEW Executive unanimously votes to accept its Midlands chief Terry Duffy's report on the situation at British Leyland. The report urges support for Edwardes' pay reform agreement made with the unions in 1977 in spite of the semi-leaked plans to restructure the car division into separate profit centres. Duffy's report dismisses reports of Leyland seeking 12,000 redundancies as part of its restructuring. Having weakened centres of resistance in 1974-7, BL management see a centralised, common pay settlement starting date, five-grade system as the best means to ensure trade union discipline. Alex Fletcher Conservative spokesman states: "Instead of being fascinated spectators watching Leyland go out of business, thousands of. people all over Britain could help to save British motor industry simply by buying British."

24-25 January 1978: Foreign Secretaries Owen and Rowlands hold talks with Belize premier George Price. Owen states on their conclusion: "I said that recent British discussions with the Guatemalans had been exploratory; various proposals, including the possibility of territorial adjustments, had been discussed but no agreements had been made or would be made which were not subject to the approval of the people of Belize. ... the British Government have no intention of agreeing to a sell-out. ... Premier Price has attended all the formal negotiations and has been kept fully informed of all our informal discussions with the Guatamalans, but he has not shifted from his basic position, nor do I think it appropriate for him to do so. The British Government do not accept that there should be any claim on the territory of Belize." Referring

to the border deployments ostensibly against Guatemalan military in actual fact assisting the hunt down of illegal immigrants, Owen declares "Over the last two years we have gone to the defence of the people of Belize and, if necessary, we shall do so again." (House of Commons 25 Jan 1978)

- 25 January 1978: Labour and Conservatives unite in Glasgow District Council to vote 22-6 to sell 3000 council louses (in Springburn, Springfield Road, Parkhead, Balornock, Cranhill, Robroyston, Milton, Barmulloch and elsewhere) to the Scottish Special Housing Association. Labour Group chief John Kerngahan states transfer will save the council the £30mil cost of modernisation.
- 25 January 1978: In the Scotland Assembly Referendum Bill, a Labour MP's amendment passes meaning the referendum will require 40% of the electorate to vote 'Yes' for its implementation, this stipulation was not placed upon the EEC referendum. Another Liberal amendment for Orkney and Shetland to hold a separate referendum on their participation in the Scottish assembly also passes both with opposition 'unionist' support.
- 25 January 1978: 2 SNP and 3 Labour MPs attempt to take direct action, obviously without warning whips, against the passage of these referendum amendments (that will make a Yes to Devolution more difficult) by hiding and refusing to come out of the division room so that the first division cannot be counted and the second division cannot be held. This poorly executed pseudo-protest is discovered and Michael Foot issues an apology.
- 25 January 1978: Enoch Powell, invited to a Publicity Club luncheon says Parliament is engaged in a process of self-destruction by acceding to devolution for Scotland: "It is a Bill which the majority of members of the House of Commons believe will, if put Into operation, lead to the ending of the Union, without the Union being replaced by any viable political structure, federal or non-federal. ... It is from the outside that Parliament has to be saved from itself. The public in Scotland indeed, in the United Kingdom as a whole, though the responsibility rests primarily in Scotland has still got the power to recall their representatives to their senses and tell them that they will exact retribution from those who, under official or party pressure, persist in sacrificing the common possession of Scotsmen and of Englishmen, the unity of the kingdom under a sovereign parliament."
- 25 January 1978: A week-long ban on schoolchildren in buses begins in Glasgow covering 3 schools in Cranhill St Andrew's, St Gregory's, and Cranhill Secondary. Drivers begin picking up only

adults at bus stops in the vicinity of the 3 schools. Greater Glasgow Passenger Transport Executive states: "The ban is unique because this time it is the management who have taken the decision to act. The ban is intended as a sharp warning that vandalism will not be tolerated. The decision was taken in consultation with union representatives because we have had persistent unruly behaviour since November. Over a thousand children will now hove to walk home at lunch time and in the evening but they will still be able to take the bus on their way to school in the mornings. We hope they will heed this lesson." Charles Mitchell, headteacher of St Gregory's states: "The trouble has been caused on the buses going to the Barinnark area. And none of our pupils come from there. A lot of Innocent children have already suffered by having to walk home In a snowstorm tonight but there is nothing I can do about it." A member of the Parent-Teachers Association of St Gregory's states: "We will be dis¬cussing this over the weekend, I feel It Is ridiculous that any children should be forced to walk home in this weather." (The evening sees a snowstorm)

- 25 January 1978: It is announced night that a 14-week ban on the No. 5 route into Castlemilk estate (the last half-mile of the route) is being lifted, after being assured that stone-throwing by youths has been dealt with.
- 25 January 1978: British Man-Made Fibres Federation statement yesterday for the notes a fall by over 10% in total output over 1977 to a little over 551,000 tonnes. It states an increase in production of more than 32% will be necessary over the year to match the 1973 pre-oil shock level.
- 25 January 1978: John Brown in a statement accompanying the interim dividends, forecast that for Jan-Mar 1978 profits before tax will exceed £20mil, a massive revitalisation since FY1974-75 when profits total under £0.5mil. "the shares are 271p are on a prospective yield of 4.7%... if dividend restraint is scrapped this John shareholders summer, Brown could be immediate beneficiaries... on the tiny tax charge that is anticipated the actual net cost of the dividend amounting to £1.4m will be covered nearly 12 times by actual net earnings. The two main planks of the John Brown business are [ship] constructors John Brown and John Engineering (Clydebank) who each con-tribute around a Brown third of group profits. Construction is having the busiest year in its history helped by major contracts for the Soviet Union... directors are hopeful that It will win enough new business to maintain current levels of activity.

John Brown Engineering is also selling a record number of gas turbines and Is making a good profit... The most disappointing activity bas been the Clydebank facility for making modules for offshore platforms. There are no orders available on acceptable terms so the plant has been put on a core and maintenance basis and about 600 people have lost their jobs... So far as the other operations are concerned Wickman, the machine tools subsidiary, is simply maintaining its profits at the 1976-77 level. Firth Brown Tools has eliminated its overseas losses and Is heading for a. useful profit and Firth Brown Steels is also doing well. The main on-going problem is the group's plastics machinery side which at best is only marginally profitable [For the future] besides building up on machine tools there is likely to be expansion by acquisition and chief executive John Mayhew-Sanders is making it clear that expansion could take the form of moving into new fields — perhaps with an aim of moving closer to the final consumer... come the next annual meeting Lord Aberconway will give up the chairmanship which he has held for 26 years but will continue on the board... Mayhew-Sanders will become chairman and combine the office" (Glasgow Herald City Comment, 26 Jan 1978)

25 January 1978: BNOC Chief Lord Kearton: "A major national effort must be made to ensure that we develop the North Sea properly over the next 25 years because it is still the best thins that ever happened to us... The biggest oil companies in the world are i. 'ins to be completely stretched to achieve...I put in a figure to the Department of Energy of future developments, costing £15,000m to £20,000m over the next 15 years. This wan originally regarded as nonsensical by the department. Then the industry, through the United Kingdom Offshore Operators Association, produced figures of up to £40,000m between 1980 and 2000."

Kearton Mid the corpora—tion, currently employing about 770 peopts directly, would require to recruit another 300. The bulk of the new jobi would be In Scotland.

The Thliile oil field in the North Sea, on which BNOC is for the first time an operator, though the biggest single shareholding [about 42%) is held by the west German State-sup-ported Demlnex group, Is coming on-stream, and Lord

Kearton said yesterday that whether or not its first oil consignment should go to West Germany had been left to the Department of Energy to decide.

Later a spokesman for the department said the first cargo, loaded on to a tanker •t sea, would probably be brought ashore In Britain. Some of It might later be shipped to VVcst Germany, depending on arrangements between Demlnex and refiners.

25 January 1978: Honeywell confirms it has told trade union officials it wants to reduce the workforce at Uddingston by 175 jobs by voluntary redundancies if possible. At the same time, it announces new technology investment this year at Uddingston and 3 other Lanarkshire factories. Jim McGregor, managing director of Honeywell's UK Control Systems Operations: "changing product demand together with the flat economies of West European countries" are responsible "... we shall need the co-operation and under¬standing of our workforce and its union representatives if we are to remain competitive in the markets that support us" He confirms that the general trend in manufacturing is towards technological capital investment and away from jobs.

25 January 1978: Carter holds talks with CPSU Secretary Boris Ponomarev, warning it against direct military involvement in the Ogaden War.

25 January 1978: Tony Benn extends the nuclear industry announcing the government will purchase 2 advanced gas-cooled reactors (AGRs), a British design, one for England and one for Scotland, will be ordered. This reverses the decision by Eric Varley in 1974 for a single Steam-Generating Heavy Water Reactor (SGHWR)[ aka Pressurised Water Reactor (PWR)].

AGRs and the associated equipment and construction means considerable benefit for British companies, unlike HWRs whose expertise is held by US firms. Babcock & Wilcox is the major beneficiary firm.

The Whitehall Ministry of Energy civil servants and managers of the CEGB prefer the SGHWRs because of the lower cost and greater export potential of the technology, along with industrialists like Sir Arnold Weinstock, whose GEC has the licence to build the American SGHWR, have argued in favour of the PWR, refusing to produce a paper for Benn in support of the AGR. Instead they bypass their own Minister and promoting the opposite view, via elements in the CPRS 'Think Tank' (part of the Cabinet Office) who contact other ministers to lobby them to reject Benn's conclusions at Cabinet stage.

"On the eve of putting in my paper I had the entire top brass of my Department come and sit across the table and say to me that their unanimous advice was that we should scrap the British system completely and go for a huge crash programme based on the American PWR.... [Using his two political advisers Frances Morrell and Francis Cripps to do the job instead of civil servants] It was very difficult to get an official even\_ to assist my advisers to help me prepare a paper. At that stage it was necessary for formal representations to be made to the highest echelons of the Department that a Minister was entitled to some assistance in

preparing a paper, even though he didn't take the view that his officials put to him." (Tony Benn, World in Action 1980)

South Scotland Electricity Board, which will be the site of an AGR states: "The board welcomes the Government's decision. We have a lot of confidence in the gas-cooled reactor. We think it is good for the consumers. No time will be lost in starting to order equipment and we hope very soon to begin preparation in work on the site if permission is given." Pete Roche, treasurer, of. the Scottish Campaign to Resist the Atomic Menace (SCRAM), attacks the decision for a AGR reactor in Torness.

25 January 1978: 14 neo-Mulelists including Martin Kasongo himself are executed. Zairean armed forces extend the repression beyond the leadership wreaking a terrible revenge over Idiofa in general around 2,000 are massacred (including Pierre Mulele's mother) in raids across villages are arrested and executed by soldiers of Mobutu. In total, the repression would have about five hundred dead. However, some sources state two thousand victims

26 January 1978: Government announces early payment of \$1bn to the IMF.

26 January 1978: Garners Steak Houses, owned by Cyril Margolis, dismisses 84 workers in various restaurants for trying to set up a TGWU branch when take-home pay is £28.49 for a minimum 55-hour week. The unrecognised branch has at the point of the retrenchment 80% membership of the total workforce.

26 January 1978: Mario Soares announces his full coalition cabinet. It includes 3 high-profile conservatives – their first entrance into government since 1974. Socialist International, Labour Party's International, takes no action against the PS. Soares has earlier "reached an agreement with the Center Democrats, Portugal's third largest party, that gave him a majority and enabled him to form a stronger new government... it binds the conservative Center Democrats to support the Socialists in Parliament until mandatory legislative elections in 1980. The two parties concurred on a plan to resolve Portugal's most pressing economic difficulties, the issue that led to the Socialist government's fall. Its foreign reserves almost exhausted, Portugal must adopt an austerity program to qualify for a \$750 million loan from the International Monetary Fund." (NYT, 22 Jan 1978)

26 January 1978: ITV Borders announces actor Moira Shearer, wife of prominent Liberal Ludovic Kennedy, will join the board of the firm.

26 January 1978: Callaghan defends British Leyland chief executive Michael Edwardes: "I am grateful that Michael Edwardes agreed to

take on the job — I'm sure there are many quieter ways of earning a living —. but already the critics are snapping around his heels. There have been complaints that he has been spending too much time with the dealers who sell the cars that Leyland make. Well, that's the sharp end, isn't It? That's what making cars is about.... I make no threats about withholding funds if targets are not met. That kind of language can lead to bloodymindedness — but I say to everyone in Leyland's that the way nemesis will come is when you have no customers left to sell to. It is up to Leyland to justify our faith from top to bottom, management and workers. I say to them all, give yourselves a chance and give Michael Edwardes a break. Do not look to the Government for any more solutions. We have done our part. Now it's up to you."

26 January 1978: Head of Greater Manchester Police James Anderton leads an operation to defend a NF meeting at Hyde Town Hall, Manchester. 9 anti-fascists are arrested and protesters cleared from the streets.

26 January 1978: TUC working party on homeworking publishes its report. Pay between £10-£15 a week is the going rate for more than 250,000 homeworkers in Britain:"It is, in most cases, only possible to earn a reasonable income through exceptionally hard work and long hours or by the assistance of children and other members of the family. It should also, be remembered that much homework consists of extremely tedious and repetitive work. Yet the rate of pay is only about a quarter of average earnings of women in full-time employment" Many homeworkers are "in a state of fear" knowing they may be evading the law in relation to national insurance contribution and PAYE. However they need money to look after families and are unable to challenge the employer because of their lack of legal protection of employment. (The majority of homeworkers are women with family commitments). It calls for legal minimum terms and conditions of employment set up by a statutory body similar to the Agricultural Wages Board.

27 January 1978: A demonstration against Garners', results in 43 of the workers being permanently sacked by letter.

27 January 1978: Thatcher on <u>World in Action</u> interviewed by Gordon Burns states "people are really rather afraid that this country might be rather swamped by people with a different culture and, you know, the British character has done so much for democracy, for law and done so much throughout the world that if there is any fear that it might be swamped people are going to react and be rather hostile to those coming in. So, if you want good race relations, you have got to allay peoples' fears on numbers. Now, the key to this [is as] Willie Whitelaw said ... we must hold out the clear prospect of an end to immigration.... we do have to hold out the

prospect of an end to immigration except, of course, for compassionate cases, we have got to look at the numbers who have a right to come in. There are a number of United Kingdom passport holders- for example, in East Africa- and what Keith and his committee are trying to do is to find out exactly how we are going to do it; who must come in; how you deal with the compassionate cases, but nevertheless, holding out the prospect of an end to immigration. ... my great fear is now that if we get them coming in at that rate people will turn round and we shall not have good race relations with those who are here... a lot of them [immigrants] too are fearful that their position might be put in jeopardy or people might be hostile to them unless we cut down the incoming numbers.... either you go on taking in 40 or 50,000 a year, which is far too many, or you say we must hold out the prospect of a clear end to immigration and that is the view we have taken and I am certain that is the right view to keep good race relations and to keep fundamental British characteristics which have done so much for the world... I think there is a feeling that the big political parties have not been talking about this and sometimes, you know, we are falsely accused of racial prejudice. I say 'falsely accused' and that means that we do not talk about it perhaps as much as we should. In my view, that is one thing that is driving some people to the National Front. They do not agree with the objectives of the National Front, but they say that at least they are talking about some of the problems. Now, we are a big political party. If we do not want people to go to extremes, and I do not, we ourselves must talk about this problem and we must show that we are prepared to deal with it. We are a British nation with British characteristics. Every country can take some small minorities and in many ways they add to the richness and variety of this country. The moment the minority threatens to become a big one, people get frightened." Thatcher later spells out its significance: "Before my interview, the opinion polls showed us level-pegging with Labour. Afterwards, they the Conservatives with an eleven-point lead. unintended effect of a spontaneous reply to an interviewer's question had important political consequences. Whatever Willie in his heart of hearts and my other colleagues felt about it, it provided a large and welcome boost at an extremely difficult time. It also sharpened up the discussion within the Shadow Cabinet of our proposals. Within weeks we had a comprehensive and agreed approach which satisfied all but the die-hard advocates of repatriation and which would see us through the general election." (Margaret Thatcher, The Path to Power, 409)

27 January 1978: Chancellor misleads the public. He states working parties on productivity in a number of industrial sectors mean it is "perfectly possible to increase the productivity of these sectors

sufficiently to improve our balance of payments by some £2½ billion in 1980—this is quite independent of the direct benefits of North Sea Oil" meaning the government will by that time be able "to run the economy at a level of demand sufficient to produce between half a million and one million additional jobs" (Glasgow, 27 Jan 1978 Newspaper Press Club luncheon)

27 January 1978: Foreign Office officials finally publicly announce the disbandment of the I.R.D. covert propaganda operation in Jun 1977, thus openly acknowledging its existence over 30 years after it begins its dangerous and anti-democratic operations. Its annual budget of £1mil has been rendered useless by press disclosures and discrediting of the recipients of this funding. They confirm the basic facts of an article in <u>The Guardian</u> under the headline: "Death of the Department That Never Was." Until 1977 it has sent hard-right intelligence briefings to the private addresses of selected journalists and MPs in plain envelopes, with instructions that they should not be shown to anyone and should be destroyed when no longer needed.

28 January 1978: William Dyer, president of the Association of Head Teachers (Scotland), at the association's council meeting in Glasgow, reiterates the standard headteacher position: "Our official view is that the elimination of corporal punishment is desirable but that its abolition must be opposed until effective alternatives have been agreed by the education authorities and the teaching profession. Those who have called most insistently for abolition noticeably reticent about suggesting alternatives. Without them, the ending of corporal punishment could lead, in my opinion, to a very damaging upsurge of indiscipline, very much to the detriment of the majority of pupils" He states that there is no doubt that corporal punishment is generally effective and there is evidence that a majority of pupils favour it as a punishment.

28 January 1978: <u>Financial Times</u> reports on the reasons behind government assistance to large clothing-involved firms: "Clothing is a major customer of the textile industry... and any major rundown could eventually work its way back through textiles to the chemical industry which provides the raw material for much of the textile industry's output." The government sets up the Clothing Industry Productivity Resources Agency, aiming to maintain output with less labour under the concept of "productive efficiency". No major firms producing just clothing remain in Britain, they have been vertically integrated into multi-product firms or outright conglomerates. Courtaulds, ICI, Burton group, Coats Paton, Great Universal, United Drapery, Raybeck and Selincourt dominate the sector.

- 28 January 1978: Minister from MOD answers question on foreign military training in the past year. Afghanistan, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei, Burma, Chile, Ecuador, Egypt, Gambia, Guyana, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Malawi, Malaysia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Upper Volta, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia are some of the non-NATO countries who have had military officers trained by the British military over the course of 1977.
- 29 January 1978: <u>Sunday Times</u> reports soldiers are being trained in tanker-driving in readiness over a TGWU petrol tanker drivers' overtime ban and possible work-to-rule. The following week newspapers report largely from military and government sources this preparation.
- 29 January 1978: Enoch Powell states on ITV's Weekend World, repatriation is the only way to avoid "tragedy and catastrophe". He says the immigrant population (naturally including those of immigrant parents) "increasing of necessity at the rate at which it is bound to increase" cannot continue in Britain "without destruction, destructive effects".
- 30 January 1978: John Chalmers, chairman of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions' shipbuilding committee, Gen Sec of GMB, says workers outside Swan Hunter should not assist the struggle against redundancies there. He says Govan workers should begin work immediately before any official union report.
- "T hope they will take what I am saying as an indication of the thinking of the unions that they must get cracking." Workers at the Govan shipyard must work on the three Polish ships transferred to Glasgow from the Swan Hunter complex on the Tyne as a result of a pay dispute.
- 30 January 1978: Gavin Laird, of AUEW, agrees that the Swan Hunter ships should be built in the yards to which they have been transferred because of a need to restore British shipbuilding's image in order to secure future foreign contracts. Michael Casey, chief executive of British Shipbuilders, returns from talks in Poland, confirming the importance of the speed of order completion for Poland.
- 30 January 1978: Liberal leader defends the Lib-Lab pact in the press: "We have stopped Labour's spendthrift and dangerous programme of nationalisation... we have a government backed by a

majority of public opinion. That is strong government" (David Steel, in The Sun, 30 Jan 1978)

- 31 January 1978: EEC negotiations over fishing rights collapse upon the national insistence of Britain's negotiators for national protected British zones.
- 31 January 1978: Treasury admits it has compiled a blacklist of 19 firms, who will be denied export credit guarantees and government contracts because they have breached the pay guidelines on not exceeding 10%.

David Page, Secretary of Welsh Housing Associations Committee, commented on the Welsh Office's inaction: "There is no strategy. What policy there is has been ad hoc. Meanwhile a quarter of a million Welsh people are living in houses unfit for human habitation. If present policies are pursued this will still be the situation by the time we reach the next century" (Western Mail, 31 Jan 1978)

- 31 January 1978: Home Secretary Rees warns a new, more stringent round up of television licence evaders will take place in 1978. He estimates a million licence evaders and blames this for £15m loss in government revenue.
- 31 January 1978: Ray Pennock, president of the CBI, outlines in a new CBI survey of business that any confidence in the financial sector is not feeding back to industry. Uncertainty and lack of confidence are the main features of the survey and in the export field, confidence has deteriorated even faster. It claims a strengthening sterling has it made it difficult to secure exports.
- 31 January 1978: Petrol tanker drivers begin an overtime ban in pursuit of their pay claim, after having been denied for several years. Newspaper reports begin reporting MoD statements of troops preparing to take over from drivers.

February 1978: <u>Conservative Monthly News</u> the main national newspaper for members, contacts and supporters leads with its front page large headline 'How Many More Immigrants?'

February 1978: TUC sends a letter to Newcastle Trades Council warning it against action in support of the Lucas Aerospace Corporate plan: "Thank you for sending the TUC a copy of your letter Co the Prime Minister expressing support for the Lucas Aerospace corporate plan. I really appreciate the strength of feeling in support of this corporate plan which your letter to the Prime Minister expressed. However, it is only right to remind your council of the advice against raising issues at national level on page 13 of the Trades Councils guide." At BAC (British Aircraft Corporation)'s Preston plant, negotiators have included in their wage claim a demand that 3% of firm profits should be ploughed back into

research and development on socially useful products; the Lucas have made a similar claim in 1977-8 and both have failed.

February 1978: Association of Professional Recording Studios launches a campaign against taxation. Its secretary Edward Masek says the first step is a letter to Chancellor Healey: "We aim to lay it on the line that the British tax system is threatening to cripple the entire recording industry. London was once the recording capital of the world. Even now we have some of the best studios and engineers. But there is no argument that we are in grave danger of losing big business to the US and to the newly emerging studio centers in other parts of the world." David Harries, manager of AIR Studios, London states: "We have to press the matter home as strongly as possible to get something going before the entire industry is brought to its knees " Often cited is the case of Rod Stewart, whose last album 'Foot Loose And Fancy-Free' has cost around \$200,000 to produce with at least half spent on studio costs in Los Angeles, rather than in London. Stewart's friend Liberal party leader David Steel states: "When I was in Los Angeles I was impressed by the number and quality of British stars now resident in California. But because of tax difficulties they are unable to record and publish records in Britain, even though many of them would prefer that. This in turn has led to the whole industry beginning to pack its bags and follow, and this has the effect of destroying a field in which we have held the lead for some 20 years."

February 1978: Energy Department issues a Green Paper on the nuclear industry announcing state aims: "the establishment of a thermal reactor, re-establishment of an industry which could build it; the guaranteeing of fast reactor technology."

February 1978: Scotland and England send teams to compete in the South Africa Open speedway motorcycle championships in Cape Town, once again defying the UN sporting and cultural boycott.

February 1978: Former Home Secretary Jenkins pushes towards the 'national government'-conciliationist approach to parliamentary politics: "when I left the House of Commons a year ago, it was a singularly dismal period in British politics. Partisanship seemed more important than national recovery. Controversial and unwanted measures were forced through a reluctant Parliament. Other Governments viewed from Westminster seemed less politically motivated, more courageous and certainly more effective: almost comparative paragons of political virtue" (Encounter, Feb 1978) echoing Harold Macmillan's Oct 1976 call.

February 1978: US Machine workers union international chief Ben Sharman explains its struggle: "we will put most of our efforts toward getting legislation changed so that it's more profitable for American-based companies to manufacture in this country rather than overseas." (February 1978, The Machinist, p5) The aim is *not* 

to erode profit into wages, but to ensure profits are higher on US territory compared to overseas, including Britain.

- \* February 1978: Callaghan speaks of unemployment: "Despite the fact that we have done more than any other country in Europe and can keep introducing as many palliatives as we like, I can see no basic solution to the problem"
- 30 January-1 February 1978: Britain-USA-PF negotiations end in Valetta, Malta's luxury Grand Hotel Verdala. Britain, adopting a modified Rhodesian business interest position, sees its negotiators maintain the plan for a British resident commissioner over a 1-year period, and acceptance of Rhodesian army forces joining guerrilla forces (rather face investigation and justice). US envoy Andrew Young says "the Popular Front knows Lord Carver better now, and though they do not entirely agree with him, they respect his competence and his determination." Foreign Secretary Owen declares some success at the close, stating his sense that guerrilla leaders are beginning to accept the idea independent Zimbabwe will include current Rhodesian armed forces. PF's chief negotiator Leo Baron, Mugabe and Nkomo announce they are impressed with the "sincerity" of the British and American positions.
- 1 February 1978: Black People's Organisations' Campaign Against Sus is launched at a meeting at John Evelyn school, Deptford, with Alex Lyon and Paul Boateng amongst others. It is another signpost of an increasing Labour Left attempt to co-opt independent black self-organisation. Alex Lyon and Paul Boateng address the meeting.
- 1 February 1978: <u>Glasgow Herald</u>'s main editorial: "The fact that there has been no really significant difference in the approach of both Labour and the Conservatives to immigration has undoubtedly limited open debate on the subject with the result that the fears to which Mrs. Thatcher referred have found expression through the National Front. Political leaders would be unwise to ignore this. ... As it is, both parties have their fair share of the racially prejudiced among their supporters. To use that to electoral advantage would be despicable. But to ignore it or disguise it will only benefit the National Front whose strongest claim is that it is the only party which cares about this question. Prejudices and fears will not be stifled by silence."
- 1 February 1978: Airey Neave announces Conservatives have ended their support of any power-sharing administration in northern Ireland.

1 February 1978: Glasgow Herald reports on the success of BAT's immigration into "cigarette growth areas": "Britain's international tobacco giant, BAT Industries, is increasing its share of the world cigarette market, which is itself expanding by over 5% a. year. This is reflected in an increase in BATs tobacco trading profits from £324m to £348m for the year to September. Together with a 56% leap to £53m in profits of the Wiggins Teape paper offshoot, this was largely behind the 11% rise to £416m in pre-tax profits by the BAT group. With 87% of profits coming from overseas, the results have been hit by the use in sterling. Expressed in the currencies of the countries of operation, profits growth was considerably higher. BAT is well represented in the main cigarette growth areas of Latin America, the Middle East, the Far East, and Africa. Good expansion in these areas has offset largely static consumption in North America and Europe. Brazil is a strong growth area and it is interesting to note that production of BAT's offshoot, Souza Cruz, equals the consumption of the UK. The big Jump in Wiggins Teape profits is attributed mainly to a decision not to cut prices. Margins were maintained and productivity improved further. Exports reached 30% pf domestic output." (BAT to draw more from world cigarette market, Glasgow Herald, 1 Feb 1978, p9)

1 February 1978: New Statesman journalist summarises the government's success in breaking unified action in the NUM: "The majority [against productivity deals] in the ballot was secured by heavy votes in the big districts (Wales, Scotland and Yorkshire) but a majority of districts voted for acceptance. So the Board — with the connivance of some NUM leaders in no mood for a strike — went ahead and introduced the bonus scheme where it was locally acceptable. The effect was to set one district against another. ...Nottingham pits were soon putting an extra £23 a week in their pockets by meeting the productivity conditions, while those working in Yorkshire a few miles across the county line (including men who live in the same villages) were stuck at their old rates. Miners at a large Scottish pit [Solsgirth], where the seams are easy and extra output presents few problems, rebelled against their district leadership and demanded a productivity deal. Scotland's NUM leaders, who are Communists and a regular target for the press, had to reverse their stand. Wales has followed suit. In Yorkshire, the militant district secretary, Arthur Scargill, has declared that he still detests the productivity plan but won't allow his members to take home lower wages than miners elsewhere. The long-term consequences of the productivity system, especially on health and safety, may well be unhappy... we may see a return to the old days when miners migrated from county to county in search of better wage-packets." (Lucky Jim puts out the firemen, Feb 1978, p10)

- 1 February 1978: Joint meeting of 650 British Leyland management and British Leyland's senior shop stewards in Coventry. Sir Michael Edwardes announces plans to split the car division into three and to make 12,500 redundant by the end of the year. BL Divisions are to sell their own product worldwide. He pledges to continue the management shake-up, a "reorganisation" and new structure to be phased in over the next year. He reasserts his support for the pay bargaining reforms which are leading to centralised negotiations. He notes that British Leyland's market share has fallen from 33% at one point to 25% in 1977 to 21% in January 1978. He attacks all strikes at the firm declaring they have meant the loss of 250,000 cars in production. "If the customer doesn't support us the Japanese will export their unemployment to Britain. No one will have a grain of sympathy for us if we act like a great dinosaur lumbering around making a lot of noise but not making a lot of headway. We are in a mess. Those 250,000 vehicles we lost last year coupled with very bad quality on many of the cars we did produce have put the whole British Leyland car business at risk. Nothing is more damning a than our steady decline in market share against a rising market; people are literally walking past our showrooms without a second look. Even if we have no disruptions for the rest of 1978, our loss of market share everywhere in the world means we will not be able to sell more than 89,000- vehicles - and that's assuming a 27% share of the UK market whereas we look like getting only 21% in January."
- 1 February 1978: Government announces it might reconsider the provision of economic aid to Gairy's Grenada since it has purchased military equipment from Chile. Grenada's fault appears to be not to have purchased from its traditional source, Britain, since the military regime in Brazil has concluded both sales and purchases Chile without receiving such warnings. (Brazil also make significant military purchases from Britain)
- 1 February 1978: Roman Polanski, after failing to turn up at a Californian court awaiting sentencing for the rape of a 13-year-old girl at the home of actor Jack Nicholson, flies into London on a first-class on seat on a British Airways plane from Los Angeles.
- 1 February 1978: About 8000 TGWU drivers in Shell, BP, Esso and Texaco begin an overtime ban. Transport Ministry has condemned the action previously in advance: "the ban would have serious consequences for industry and our economy"
- 1 February 1978: EEC Fisheries Commissioner Finnish Olav Gundelach comments on the breakdown of EEC fishery talks that all EEC aid for fishing industries has been blocked by Britain's refusal to join the other 8 EEC members in accepting an EEC fisheries

- policy. 2 Feb 1978 French fisheries Minister Marcel Cavaille remarks: "Britain's obstinacy in maintaining her demand for her [national] coastal zones has put an end to the hopes of a rapid settlement"
- 1 February 1978: Esther Rantzen, presenter of <u>That's Life</u>, issues photographs of her new baby with her husband BBC general and entertainment director Desmond Wilcox, to various media products.
- 1 February 1978: Large crowds estimated at well over 100,000 hear Mengistu speak and then many protest outside British, US, Federal German embassies against Western assistance to the Somalian invasion of Ethiopia's Ogaden.
- 2 February 1978: "Fred Mulley has based his recommendations on charts from the NATO generals showing the growth of Soviet military expenditure since 1968.... Charts showing the balance of available forces for central Europe, but they left out entirely a quarter of a million French troops... He also included battle tanks but not tactical nuclear weapons. The White Paper looked like a campaign document for higher military expenditure... It would serve as a Tory propaganda sheet for rearmament. (Tony Benn's Diary) 2 February 1978: Sir Martin Furnival, head of MI5, Jones is interviewed and photographed for The Mirror, in a sympathetic pro-MI5 & MI6 light.
- 2 February 1978: Frank Chapple, under pressure from his base, warns of considering official industrial action after 17 Mar 1978, speaking after a meeting between the four unions in the industry and the Electricity Council in London. The current offer is 10% on earnings and a productivity deal worth about £3 a week. Chapple instead of arguing for an increase in the flat wage rate, argues for more in the productivity aspect. He says the productivity deal "had to resemble the £11 which is paid to underground miners not working on the face... We have said that if there is no improvement they should gird their loins for possible industrial action following that date [17 Mar 1978]" Under previous productivity agreements, electricity workers have lost over 65,000 jobs in the sector since 1967.
- 2 February 1978: Arthur Scargill attacks the government's pay limits in the NUM-NCB negotiations: "These were non-negotiations. The Government was saying here is a sum of money and you can distribute it as you will." He and Emlyn Williams, NUM South Wales president, move at the NUM Executive a vote for recommending moves for industrial action. It is defeated 23-2.

- 2 February 1978: New Scientist reports on how limited government disclosure of nuclear breaches is: "Those expecting Ron Gausden, Britain's chief inspector of nuclear installations, to produce a report densely packed with data will be disappointed. ... There is, for no tabulation of incidents at various example, nuclear establishments, although the report does select illustrative examples"
- 2 February 1978: Callaghan reads a religious lesson honouring the memory of Senator Hubert Humphrey, who took over the US Vice-President role in Jan 1965 to provide solid support for Johnson's full-scale invasion of Vietnam.
- 2 February 1978: At the dedication of a war memorial in Motherwell, Archbishop Thomas Winning of Glasgow says Britain has embraced much of Nazi-style philosophies by endorsing terminations for foetuses. "The Nazis used to sterilise people who couldn't contribute to pure, healthy. Aryan stock. Is the screening of the unborn to detect deformity and eliminate it merely a more refined, more euphemistic way of achieving the same end? No more need we be burdened by the care of suffering humanity. We have outlawed war but have become a nation of militants.-Militants for justice, for our own rights — no matter how we violate the rights of others in achieving our own. We wage war against deprivation, and want and disease, not by showing care and love to those who are their victims, but by a subtle process of elimination before they become victims. We guard society against physical and mental deformity, but spiritual deformity is encouraged. We are becoming a nation of spiritual dwarfs."
- 2 February 1978: The merger between British Steel Corporation and Graham Wood Steel Group is not referred to the Monopolies Commission, even though the BSC is in a massive drive to cut jobs, which will eventually culminate in the 1980 steel dispute.
- 2 February 1978: Opinion Research Centre issues its report (commissioned by a cross-section of British companies at a cost of £100,000) into top managers in Britain. 84% of managers surveyed say the government's attitude to managerial pay and taxation encourages people to break the law. 72% of senior managers say they are open to considering a job abroad, and 15% of senior managers in leading companies have already begun seeking positions abroad. It comments "this survey demonstrates clearly that senior managers are a far worse case [than middle managers]. They are more bitter and resentful. Their morale is almost certainly lower. They have had a harder time financially. Their living standards have fallen more. Their future expectations have been more disappointed and are to a greater extent having to draw on capital for current income."

- 2 February 1978: Shop stewards of the Singer plant in Clydebank, that is cutting its 5000 workforce by 900, meet the firm's European directors including Europe chief Ed Keehn in a bid to save 200 of the 900 jobs. They plead to ensure that production of a new range of industrial sewing machines are manufactured in Britain and not elsewhere.
- 2 February 1978: An appeals committee meeting decides against 93 dockers at Greenock Containers Ship Terminal over suspension imposed on them by the disciplinary committee of the National Dock labour Board. They have been sentenced for refusing to handle losing equipment because straddle carriers used to move containers were unsafe.
- 2 February 1978: Industrialists and officials of the Offshore Supplies Office hold talks with Western Australia's Government officials to discuss the £1.7bn north-west shelf offshore natural gas project. This is a venture controlled by a consortium comprising BP, Shell, BHP Co, California Asiatic Oil Co and Woodside Petroleum. Andrew Mensaros, Western Australia Liberal Minister for Industrial Development, Mines and Fuel and Energy says: "We are looking for companies in the UK that have expertise, particularly in the development of North Sea oil and gas and have entrepreneurial spirit to enter into joint ventures or licensing arrangements." Contracts for platforms, seabed and overland pipelines, gas separation plants are considered for British firms.
- 2 February 1978: In his annual report to Congress Carter's Defence Secretary Harold Brown announces it will increase defence expenditure by at least 3% a year above inflation over the next five years. He states this will include reinforcements for NATO. He plans an increase from his requested 1978-9 budget of \$126billion to \$172.7billion in 1982-3. He proposes an extra 5 divisions and 60 squadrons of aircraft which to be added to the 5 and 2/3 divisions and 28 squadrons already stationed in Europe. He speaks of US dependence on imported raw materials such as oil as a justification for the measures. He states the militarisation of space might become necessary to knock out Soviet intelligence satellites: "It now seems possible that activities in space could become more competitive, and that we might have to take steps to deter attacks on our satellites and to destroy Soviet satellites if necessary"
- 2 February 1978: STUC Conference in Motherwell sees [CPGB executive member] James Milne, STUC's General secretary urge the government: "Unless a firm stand is taken, Scotland could finish up with Ravenscraig and little else. Present short-term problems should

not prevent intelligent provision being made for the future.... We are particularly worried about Glengarnock Works, Ayrshire, where, if all 1200 jobs are lost, the unemployment level could reach an intolerable 35%." STUC resolves to urge workers not to accept British Steel Corporation's redundancy payments.

- 2 February 1978: Joel Barnett, Chief Secretary at the Treasury, announces government will introduce legislation by summer 1978 for a profit-sharing scheme for British industry where employees will have rights to purchase £500 worth of their firm's shares every year out of tax-free income. The suggestions hinge around bonuses in shares there are three methods suggested for the legislation:
- 1 Allocation of a part of firm profits to a scheme where bonuses are provided for employees only on the condition that —after tax has been deducted from the bonus under PAYE the net amount is used to acquire shares in the company.
- 2. A share incentive arrangement where an employee uses money lent by the employer, the loan being repaid out of future earnings or if the shares are sold, to buy the shares.
- 3. A firm allocates a sum to buy shares which would then be apportioned between employees, retained by a trust. As a general rule, it is possible for an employee to-sell his block until at least five years.
- 3 February 1978: British Leyland chairman appoints an American Wilium Pratt Thompson, former deputy chief of electronics firm Bowthorpe-Hellerman (one of Leyland's suppliers), as managing director of Jaguar-Rover-Triumph. British Leyland declares "Mr Edwardes is on the look-out for the best in management and Mr Pratt Thompson has been working in England for 10 years... We do not think it will be a controversial announcement."
- 3 February 1978: A report is published by the Low Pay Unit entitled 'The Charge of the Wages Brigade'. It highlights the pay inspector blitzes that have taken place in towns across the country have still not produced the required results. Over a quarter of employers in retailing, catering, and hairdressing industries all controlled by wages councils paid its employees below the accepted wage council rate in 1977.
- 3 February 1978: Ian Paisley's lawyer accuses the justice system of "kicking into the ground an elected representative" for continuing to set a date for Ian Paisley's trial.
- 3 February 1978: Home Office, Merlyn Rees, releases provisional estimates indicating that new Commonwealth and Pakistan

immigration have fallen year-to-year by 11,000. Rees defends his record on immigration using these figures showing the drastic drop accusing the Thatcher government of being 'unrealistic' over immigration: "she has given no indication whatsoever of precisely how she would do this without breaking the pledges of successive governments including the one in which she was Cabinet Minister." The Thatcher's central point of dividing workforce in British and immigrant is implicitly accepted.

- 3 February 1978: Glasgow Herald editorialises: "If the official guidelines become largely irrelevant the Government will be faced with 'awkward questions. The new spirit of optimism in the economy, which Ministers profess to see, is founded on the safety net afforded by the International Monetary Fund deal, and that deal would not have been possible without a considerable measure of domestic restraint. For a time, it appeared as if the unions were willing to undertake restraint, even if insufficiently and too late for comfort. The Government, too, paid attention to its spending priorities, and to its borrowing requirement [ie imposing cuts]. Britain cannot afford to dispense with the apparatus of restraint unpleasant though its effects have been. The Government will have a hard task enforcing its will against the miners, the power workers, and other resolute groups. ... Strenuous efforts will take place in the next few months to reach an acceptable settlement with the miners. When Mr Edward Heath lost patience On the pay restraint front, he unwisely tackled the mine is head-on. Mr Callaghan will not make that mistake."
- 3 February 1978: General Zia ul Haq announces a list of 89 individuals who are to be referred to disqualification tribunals. On 28 Feb 1978 the order is tightened to stipulate anyone whose case has been referred to a disqualification tribunal will be barred from until he is cleared by the (largely military-appointed) court.
- 4 February 1978: <u>Irish Times</u> reports British soldiers in burglary rings against small stores in Catholic areas: "instead of guarding Belfast city centre eight British soldiers were burgling it, a judge said at Belfast City Commission yesterday. The eight accused had admitted stealing or handling goods worth £2,570 in five separate burglaries of city centre stores. All five men were members of the 25th Field Regiment Royal Artillery... The goods were taken to the regiment's headquarters in the Grand Central Hotel in Royal Avenue, in an Army Land Rover. Sergeant Myers, known in the regiment as "the Dealer", did not take part in the burglaries but bought the goods and sold them to other soldiers"

4 February 1978: Weekend World television report on immigration:

"Q: What you really mean is that immigration control is a device to keep out coloured people?

Merlyn Rees: That is what it is"

4 February 1978: John Lennon and Yoko Ono purchase a farm site in land in Delaware County, New York for \$178,000, announcing they intend to use it as a holiday home and to raise Regis Holstein cows.

6 February 1978: Walter Terry in <u>The Sun</u> calls for Tony Benn to be sacked in 'Why Jim is Wild about Tony'

6 February 1978: Israeli Foreign Minister Dayan announces on radio in public for the first time it has sold weapons to the Marxist dergue government in Ethiopia. Dayan states there is no longer any need to hide the fact that Israel is selling weapons to Ethiopia.

7 February 1978: Government states "we do not intend at present to table a formal item concerning the question of disappearance of people in Argentina at the United Nations Human Rights Commission" This, in part, reflects, hope that the Argentinian-British rapprochement over the Falklands can continue with talks in Geneva ongoing.

7 February 1978: BBC news journalists Richard Baker and Angela Rippon sing at a Royal Albert Hall concert of the Royal Marines Band, celebrating the 25d\* anniversary of the Duke of Edinburgh becoming its Captain General. The Queen, Duke of Edinburgh and other royals attend.

7 February 1978: 28,000 members of BFAWU begin a short-lived bakery strike.

7 February 1978: New York Times: "Here in the capital, there are signs that Somali diplomatic attempts to fan such a response from the West are flagging as military operations shift from offense to defense. Several diplomats here, from Western and Arab nations, and some Somali officials as well, expressed the belief that Washington and Moscow might have come to an informal understanding. They fear an agreement under which the United States agrees to restrain such Somali supporters as Iran and Saudi Arabia from stepping up assistance, in exchange for a Soviet pledge to rein in Ethiopia."

8 February 1978: Lilley International, Middle East subsidiary of the British firm Lilley, has won a £4mil order from Dubai Water Supply for the construction of a 12mil gallon circular water storage tank and ancillary works.

- 8 February 1978: Riding the tourist boom, Trust Houses Forte, owners of Travelodge, increases profits by 60% from Jan 1978-Sep 1978 to reach £38mil. Higher occupancy rates particularly in London, where several hotels are wholly fully booked, have boosted profits. The 1975-76 purchases of hotels from Lyons and the USA Knott chain have also been absorbed and rationalised in terms of workforces.
- 8 February 1978: Consultative Committee of Accountancy Bodies tells the Inland Revenue that rates of personal taxation are "unacceptably high". It urges the simplification of tax laws.
- 8 February 1978: Babcock & Wilcox and Northern Engineering. Industries agree that the nucleus of the board of the new merged company can begin planning how to combine the firms, inevitably meaning future redundancies. They can thus secure their competitive position more fully when united rather than apart.
- 8 February 1978: SDLP MPs, concerned at Labour and Conservative attempts alike to secure 'Unionist' votes in Parliament, meets Callaghan to warn him that SDLP support is not automatic.
- 8 February 1978: 300 female workers at the Peter England shirt factory in Deny begin a strike to claim parity in wages with other plants.
- 8 February 1978: The Times interviews Lord Watkinson, CBI President, reaffirmed the CBI's position against 'industrial democracy' and threatening withdrawal of co-operation, outright sabotage of government efforts, if the government goes ahead with the Bullock Committee's Majority Report: "If in spite of this, the Government decides to go ahead with legislation based on the Bullock majority report... it will also be showing complete disregard for the efficient management of our major companies on which the economic future of the country depends."
- 8 February 1978: A man and woman jointly self-immolate in West Berlin in protest at EEC and Western sustenance of world hunger.
- 8 February 1978: Guerrillas kidnap a retired British army officer farm-owner near Penhalonga, Rhodesia, and take him to Mozambique as a hostage for dozens of arrested blacks.
- 8 February 1978: "Lunch with Frances Morrell at the Stock Exchange on the invitation of John Wall... McMaster and Moore... representatives of Hill Samuel, Lazard Brothers, Norwich Union, Guardian Royal Exchange, Kleinwort Benson, Barclays Bank" (Bernard Donoughue's Diary)

- 9 February 1978: Another SADF raid operation into Angola.
- 9 February 1978: British Airways officials announce imminent regular 44-seater aircraft services between Lerwick and Aberdeen.
- 9 February 1978: Midland Bank announces it is sponsoring a newly created chair in export management at City University, London, in collaboration with the Institute of Export, at a cost of over £250,000.
- 9 February 1978: NUM full executive votes to to abandon their claim for £135 a week for face-workers and settle under the 10% guidelines and bind the miners to TUC 12-month, making it impossible for it to go back to industrial action until Feb 1979. Joe Gormley says he has warned 4 Ministers Chancellor Healey, Albert Booth, Energy Benn, and Alex Eadie for endangering the Labour Party for sticking to the 10% limit but "they were adamant the Government would not move from the 10% and I think our negotiators recognised we were in an inescapable position. Our committee recognised the facts of life". Arthur Scargill states: "This is a very disappointing day for the miners" and asserts the turning point for the NUM has come in recent decisions of various NUM Areas to accept incentive bonus schemes (against the overwhelming majority of the nationwide vote) taking the sting out of the basic wage claim.
- 9 February 1978: Callaghan and Owen meet Sadat in the Heathrow VIP airport lounge with bulletproof shutters, ringed by policemen, hidden armed police on rooftops, soldiers in armoured cars were stationed on approach roads. Sadat declares: "I have chosen my fate. There is always a limit to everything. Let us hope that not much time will elapse until we resume the whole process again. If the right conception prevails on the other side, in a week we can reach an agreement. There is no difficulty."
- 9 February 1978: Somalia announces its plans for imminent mass mobilisation of civilians in its Ogaden war. Britain announces it has not yet rejected Somalia's 3-week request for arms supplies.
- 9 February 1978: Egypt, anticipating an imminent deal with Israel announces it has promised exploring rights in parts of western Sinai peninsula to 2 US oil firms.
- 9 February 1978: Ted Rowlands holds talks with Argentine Dr. Juan Carlos Rubinstein (FCO7/3451 Report of Talks)

- 10 February 1978: <u>New York Times</u> reports US State Department human rights report on Indonesia is "gentle on alleged atrocities in East Timor, asserting that most lives were lost before Indonesia's intervention in the former Portuguese colony" a wholly false assertion.
- 10 February 1978: Government states of its dealings with Iraq: "the Commercial Section at the British Embassy, Baghdad, is providing an efficient service for British industry and commerce."
- 10 February 1978: Conservative Manchester Council offer the Bolton Town Hall to the NF. An ANL protest takes place but police allow through NF supporters and speaker chairman John Tyndall.
- 10 February 1978: Donald McHenry, Chief US State Department negotiator states the South West Africa talks in New York are not at a "make-or-break" stage and failure to reach agreement will involve no specific consequences but the continuation of efforts at a later date. It effectively gives South Africa the green light for guarded sabotage.
- 10 February 1978: Britain announces it has notified Soviet Union of consequences of greater involvement of Soviet advisers in Ethiopia against the thrust from Somalia. Soviet Union reiterates that Ethiopia will not infringe Somali territories.
- 11 February 1978: <u>Socialist Worker</u> publishes a leaked government plan for Operation RAGLAN, drawn up the Civil Contingencies Unit as instructed by the Civil Contingencies Committee, towards the end of Jan 1978. If the situation warrants it i.e. a strike develops, oil industry vehicles are to be requisitioned and 3,000 soldiers will become strikebreaking lorry-drivers.
- "The [Civil Contingencies] Unit was constantly meeting when Labour was in power and preparing behind the scenes for troops to break strikes." (Brian Sedgemore, The Secret Constitution, p132)
- 11 February 1978: Foreign Secretary Owen meets (alongside Hans-Dietrich Genscher, Cyrus Vance and Louis de Guiringaud, Donald Jamieson) South African Foreign Minister Botha and declares that differences between the Western 5 and South Africa over Namibia are not wide. The Western 5 propose the phased reduction but not total withdrawal of South African troops and replacement by a UN force.
- 11 February 1978: Somalia announces further escalation of its at first invasion and subsequent war in Ethiopia's Ogaden declaring a state of emergency "for the defence of the unity and existence of the Somali nation."

12 February 1978: Thatcher makes a heavily reported and discussed speech at the Young Conservatives' conference at Harrogate: "the shouts of the left cannot drown the voices of anxiety. We have to remove uncertainty where we can. Racial harmony in Great Britain will benefit most if some of the doubts about the future are removed: doubts on numbers and doubts on commitments. I believe we shall only succeed in maintaining and securing our traditional tolerance and fairness in this country if we cut the number of immigrants coming in now. For the future, I have repeated the pledges given by Mr Whitelaw at our 1976 Party Conference, which are well known. Now that the subject is being discussed, loopholes will be closed, and numbers will begin to fall. But we also have to remove doubts about our commitments. The Conservative Party, which has done so much for our immigrant community, will honour in full our legal commitments to United Kingdom passport holders in East Africa and to the immediate dependants of all those who were settled here as of right before 1973 [ie raids to root out irregularities will continue]. We will honour those commitments. Those smokescreen makers have tried to distract attention from the real world: the world where our city centres decay, homelessness increases and jobs are hard to find.... I do not believe we have any hope of promoting the sort of society which we want unless we are to follow a policy which is clearly designed to work towards an end of immigration as we have seen it in this country in the postwar years. I believe there can be honestly no question other than facing this harsh and realistic fact. That is why we have to speak out loudly and clearly. We have to work towards the ending of immigration in this country and we have to have the policies designed to do so. ... A Government which is going to protect people and property must be committed to law and lawful behaviour from its very roots.... But Labour Ministers have put politics before the law. They have attacked the judiciary. They confronted the police on the Grunwick picket line." When questioned over the limited amnesties she states she has been opposed to any concept of citizenship for those with irregularities however "the fact is that once a person has been 'legalized' for permanent settlement, you cannot then take away a legality that has been given, and we have to face that"

12 February 1978: Union of Concerned Scientists sends an open letter to Philippine government warning it fears US-manufactured nuclear power plants being supplied it are technically flawed, incapable of providing reliable power, and potentially dangerous. It notes that Japan, with considerably more technical capacity, is experiencing severe difficulties with its 14 US plants. They have achieved only 35% of their production capacity in 1977 because of breakdowns. UCS's director Daniel Ford, visiting Manila during an

Asian study tour of nuclear power projects, says the US is selling plants overseas for which domestic demand has fallen because of technical problems. On the \$500mil plant on sale by the Westinghouse Corp. partly financed by the US Export-Import Bank, the letter notes the design of the Philippines plant was virtually a replica of plants in the US and Europe which had developed problems: "If with all their technical sophistication, the US and Japan are unable to operate nuclear plants reliably, the prospects for successful nuclear power plant performance in the developing countries is tenuous at the best."

- 12 February 1978: PS succeeding in pushing through a heavy new austerity economic programme through Parliament, in effective coalition with the centre-right. Afraid of bringing down the government, PCP and PSD members cannot unite to reject the cuts. Socialist International's figureheads again in alliance with rightists and hard-rights.
- 12 February 1978: US Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal alongside Fed Chairman, Dr. Arthur Burns, holds talks with Chancellor Healey and finance ministers of France, Federal Germany and Japan. The aim is to calibrate Western anti-inflation, 'steady currency' and petrodollar recycling strategies.
- 13 February 1978: <u>Daily Mail</u> publishes analysis of its NOP opinion poll, attempting to further enflame immigrant-vs-resident division, suggesting the anti-immigrant feeling is an unstoppable force so long as immigration remains. The NOP poll records an 11% Conservative lead compared to a 2% deficit in mid-Jan 1978.
- 13 February 1978: Bruno Trentini, CGIL chief, explains: "Terrorism is reactionary, as well as criminal."
- 13-19 February 1978: Strident anticommunist Senator Henry Jackson holds talk with PRC officials on a week-long official visit. PRC Foreign Minister Huang Hua urges continued NATO expenditure.
- 14 February 1978: Britain and France again successfully impede economic sanction proposals against South Africa in the EEC. At a EEC foreign ministers' meeting Foreign Secretary Owen says it is incorrect to take new action against South Africa until both Rhodesia and South-West Africa disputes have been resolved. EEC concludes to discuss the matter again in future.
- 14 February 1978: Callaghan calls for talks between the leaders of all 3 parties to produce a 'national' approach to immigration. The

implicit acceptance is that the centre-right backlash needs to be accommodated for in the 'national interest'.

- 15 February 1978: Sir Douglas Wass, Permanent Secretary at the Treasury lectures on 'The Changing Problems of Economic Management" at the Johnian Society Cambridge University. He states "this increasing internationalisation of economic and financial activity [is] the single most important structural change in the world economy in the second half of the twentieth century. Its the for independence of national implications economic management are still not fully grasped." \*\* This reality
- 15 February 1978: Kenya discovers Egyptian military aircraft flying over its territory heading for Somalia loaded with armaments. No British action or condemnation is recorded.
- 15 February 1978: Foreign Office Minister again attacks Soviet behaviour in Africa as a crime against détente (but fails to consider British, US and French behaviour in Africa): "We repeat once more that détente is indivisible; that if it is not promoted in Africa, it can hardly flourish in Europe. That is a message that we hope those who, for whatever reason, are involved from outside, including the Russians and the Cubans, will consider seriously."
- 15 February 1978: Merlyn Rees gives a speech at the Parliament press gallery lunch declaring the Conservative proposal on limiting immigration is already the policy of the Labour government. It is "a policy which is clearly designed to work towards an end of immigration as we have seen it in this country in the post-war years." He states "abuses" must be ended but immigration, thanks to Labour, is a trickle: "on any estimate the figures do not mean we are about to be swamped... In 1976 about 26.000 wives and children from the New Commonwealth and Pakistan were accepted for settlement on arrival. So were 1800 husbands. All the others who were not special voucher holders were mainly .dependants and amounted to about 5000. For 1977 the estimated figures are 22000, 1000. and 3000 respectively." He insists any changes that can be made would have little effect on numbers.
- 15 February 1978: George Lindo is convicted of an offence of robbery, using false, corrupted police evidence. An enormous 18-month campaign continues to struggle for his release which is eventually secured by the Appeal Court on 8 Jun 1979 after constant demonstrations by the George Lindo Action Committee (GLAC).

15 February 1978: TGWU Tanker drivers accept a revised pay offer, under union leadership/encouragement ending their work-to-rule.

15 February 1978 pm: After the 37th round of 'internal settlement' talks Smith, Muzorewa, Chirau and Dr. Elliott Gabellah, representing Sithole, announce full agreement for Rhodesia's future. A constitution (that blocks nationalisation measures) requiring three-quarters majority for modification, and an assembly with 72 black seats (for Rhodesia's 7 million blacks) and 28 white seats (for Rhodesia's 268,000 whites). [At least 150,000 of Rhodesia's whites have been imported via Britain's 1945-62 state-subsidised emigration schemes to intensify exploitation of the black population.]

16 February 1978: "I had a strange minute asking my authority for the AEA to dispose of (I think) 540 kg of highly enriched uranium with a value of about £8 million. The AEA didn't need that amount and could sell it to the Americans in return for natural or lowenriched uranium, but this would upset the Common Market, which does need highly enriched uranium. The French would be able to get hold of it under the Euratom Treaty agreement, and if they enriched it further it would be weapons- grade material. The proposal was to blend it and sell it. It seemed to me very suspicious. I raised a lot of questions with the Department: how and when the problem arose; why it was urgent; why the AEA had ordered it; what had changed that made it unnecessary now; whether there had been any pressure from the Common Market to buy uranium and if so when it had begun. In fact there had been pressure: the Common Market had written to say they would like to buy some uranium from us. I was told that the Euratom safeguard procedures meant that there had to be full disclosure on stocks of uranium. I asked why we couldn't do a swap in this country - the military needed weapons-grade uranium and they could provide us with low- enriched uranium. But I was told we couldn't do that because the high-enriched uranium, when bought by the AEA, was subject to 'end-use' restrictions. 'Why not keep it?' I asked. 'It must be appreciating in value.' The Department just couldn't answer my questions, so I shall see Sir John Hill to get to the bottom of it. I have been caught so many times by half-truths and lies from the nuclear lobby." (Tony Benn's Diary)

Cabinet discusses Scotland and oil revenues in conclusion: "the end of the saga of the oil revenues. They are now a part of the general public expenditure. Now that we have got money... We are not putting it into capital expenditure or public investment of one kind or another; we are going to give it away in tax cuts: that is the measure of a Labour government." (Tony Benn's Diary)

16 February 1978: Commons votes to accept PR-based elections for

the EEC Parliament.

- 16 February 1978 pm: Foreign Secretary Owen describes the Salisbury anti-guerilla 'internal settlement' agreement as "a significant step toward majority rule." He states he is ready to meet Muzorewa and Sithole over the 'internal settlement'.
- 17 February 1978: John Stenhouse, becomes chair of financial firm Stenhouse, (minority stakeholders in Noble Crossart, the merchant bank) and recent takeover absorbers of Candian insurance firm Reed Shaw Osier. This firm is later renamed Reed Stenhouse Companies. Former Stenhouse chair Hugh Boyd remains a director of Stenhouse, continuing as chairman of Scottish Opera and a director of Ferranti and STV.
- 17 February 1978: Michael Casey, chief of nationalised British Shipbuilders, says he will not support a call by trade unions at Ailsa shipyard, Troon, for its nationalisation: "I have no views on Ailsa. This is a question for their [private] management. We will consider any approach but I cannot predict the outcome." He reiterates that orders from India have been won at "a normal commercial price" without any significant extra state support, and export locations must be found.
- 17-21 February 1978: British Chieftain tanks, driven by Iranian officers, lay siege to Tabriz in Azeri Iran, demolishing the town, bombing and killing hundreds.
- 18 February 1978: Guardian reports Chancellor's speech to Labour Economic, Finance and Taxation Association: "World trade was growing more slowly than the Treasury had expected; that sterling had appreciated; and that earnings growth now looked like being above 10 per cent. This all meant that on present policies the balance of payments would be worse than expected... There was a danger that too rapid an expansion might create balance of payments problems by sucking in imports..... and we might run into this sooner than in previous expansions, because there had been so little investment and because the pattern of demand might have changed. Another problem was our industrial costs. "Earnings in this country are likely to rise very substantially faster than in most of the countries that compete with us although our productivity is very much lower." Deliberate devaluing would not help. "I believe you can lose as much from inflation in a year or two as you gain by devaluing"".
- 18 February 1978: UPI reports: "Employment remains only slightly above the 1970 level, from which it has never diverged by more

than 1.5 percent over the past seven years. During the same period, unemployment has more than doubled...

OECD forecasts assume Callaghan will succeed in enforcing the 10 percent pay limit, set by the government to curb inflation, on the 7.3 million public sector employees — 30 percent of the national labor force, and that private enterprise will not run roughshod over it. So far Callaghan has held the 10 percent line and made a special point of refusing to consider striking firefighters a special case ... But the crunch has come this month with 2.7 million public workers busy negotiating new wage contracts. They include railroad workers, power men and coal miners whose pay raise demands range from 40 to 92 percent.

Private sector wage deals have been averaging 12 percent, but wide-ranging productivity clauses are tacking on up to 5 percent in many cases. Treasury officials now concede the public sector average will probably spill over the 10 percent barrier to about 12 or 13 percent, including productivity sweeteners. "

It notes the complete isolation of most workplace struggles: "Although British workers have the reputation of downing tools at the drop of a tea cup. 98 percent of the nation's firms have never had a strike."

- 18 February 1978: John Methven, CBI chief: "On this [reducing inflation] rests all our hopes for the future. To be truly competitive we need our inflation rate down by the middle of 1978 to the average of our competitors and to stay down"... Healey: "North Sea oil offers us the chance of sustaining for well over a decade a higher level of growth in output, employment and living standards than we have known for any similar period in the past."
- 18 February 1978: US Defense Department announces it will sell Indonesia 16 surplus Northrop F-5 fighters for over \$125 million.
- 19 February 1978: "Roy Mason commented "Thatcher is deliberately highlighting the security of the state, and stimulating fear, with talk of hooligans, armament, defence and more money for law and order" ... we were being told we would have to move towards Mrs Thatcher on these issues." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 19 February 1978: New York Times Southern Africa expert analyses: "the front-line states' commitment to the Patriotic Front may prove less obdurate than their public pronouncements have suggested. Probably the most committed supporter of the alliance is ... Nyerere, enormously influential in the politics of the nonaligned bloc but not as directly involved in the Rhodesian dispute as are his counterparts in Botswana, Mozambique and Zambia [that] have suffered severe economic losses as a result of the guerrilla war, which in the case of Mozambique and Zambia has led to the borders

being closed.... Mozambique, which says it lost \$150 million in annual trade and transport fees (about half its foreign exchange earnings) when it closed its frontier two years ago, would also welcome a settlement. The Mozambican port of Beira, the second largest city in the country, has become almost a ghost town since the railway linking it to Rhodesia was shutdown.... Machel is described by British and American negotiators as the most pragmatic of the leaders involved in the Rhodesian discussions... there have been signs that Mr. Machel is tiring of the military as well as the economic burdens of the conflict, much of which is carried on from bases in Mozambique's western provinces. According to one account, the Mozambican leader ordered the Patriotic Front to get more than 1,000 guerrillas out of the bases and across the border into Rhodesia... Privately, those involved in the negotiations have said that the two governments would be extremely loathe to alienate a coalition of black and developing states by backing a settlement that excluded the Patriotic Front. Britain seems resigned to eventual acceptance or the so-called internal settlement, with all its flaws. While Andrew Young, the United States delegate to the United Nations who has been active in the Rhodesian negotiations, says Mr. Smith has only laid the basis for a black civil war, David Owen, the British Foreign Secretary and Mr. Young's negotiating partner, calls the agreement "a significant step toward majority rule." Dr. Owen stresses the importance of bringing Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe, the guerrilla' leaders, into the Salisbury talks, but also says that if the Smith agreement is acceptable to the majority of Rhodesian blacks, it is acceptable to the British Government as well.

... If Mr. Smith's difficulties had been purely military, he might have been able to cling to power much longer. But the war, costing nearly \$1million a day and absorbing nearly a third of the country's skilled white manpower, was the straw that finally brought the sanctions-weakened economy to the point of collapse. ... Without British and American support, any black government that emerged from the new accord, even if it demonstrated its popularity In an election, would inherit the crippling handicaps that forced Mr. Smith to sue for a surrender of power in the first place. Those handicaps were not primarily military, but economic.... a black government would be no better placed than Mr. Smith, and possibly in worse condition, since white emigration, already serious, could increase sharply."

21 February 1978: Thatcher, in a bye-election tour of llford North, states of her 'being swamped' comments: "I shall stick clearly and staunchly to my views. ... I have my views, I have noted that I have been bullied and intimidated in the House and outside."

She states that she has spoken on immigration only 3 times but since then she has been "vilified and treated to malicious attacks." She states the police (not local authority or the local population) must decide whether a NF march in Ilford should be re-routed. William Shelton Streatham MP urges steps "to allay fears once and for all" including a year's moratorium on all immigration "during the year's moratorium, we must prepare a register, to include the dependent wives and children of those already here and those who for whatever reason, must in honour be permitted eventually to find a home here. At the end of the year with a British nationality law established and an understanding of the numbers of those who have a genuine claim on us, immigration can again be restarted at a level which our community can assimilate" Shadow Home Office Whitelaw states that criticism of Thatcher's speech is simply an empty smokescreen to hide Labour failures.

- 21 February 1978: Britain's first combined heat-and-power scheme proposed by an area electricity board is approved by Tony Benn. It is an oil-fired power station at Moorfields, Hereford for the Midlands Electricity Board to provide electricity for the national grid and steam for local firms.
- 21 February 1978: Government announces that the Porton Down chemical and biological weapons facility will retain a measure of "defence analysis", even though control will be handed over to the non-military civil service the Home Office and Public Health Laboratory Service.
- 22 February 1978: After just under 4 years since entering office, government secures legislation for Scottish assembly devolution votes.
- 23 February 1978: Australian prime minister Fraser, announces in Parliament a new range of measures to counter terrorism in Australia. He announces Sir Robert Mark, recently retired Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, will visit Australia to advise Australian police forces.
- 24 February 1978: Talks between Foreign Minister Owen, Rev. Sithole, internal settlement's strongest supporter and Richard Moose, US Ass. Sec. for African Affairs in London end with a joint announcement that Britain will begin a new effort for Nkomo and Mugabe to guarantee property for whites in exchange for elections.
- 25 February 1978: Kwai Yuk Tam's deportation occurs. Merlyn Rees's Home Office statement says: "Inquiries have failed to disclose that Miss Tam's circumstances deserve exceptional treatment."

25 February 1978: NF completes its 'mass canvas' with hundreds of supporters walking Ilford streets in groups, and meeting in a local school. Antifascists turnout in large numbers to monitor the NF and distribute mostly ANL leaflets against an NF vote. They picket the school. 21 are arrested – all antifascists – by a police presence of over 5,000. The Metropolitan Police have earlier banned all political demonstrations for 2 months. Shops largely close down and immigrants stay away from the streets.

ANL later explains: "The Nazis were going to march, but they were banned. We too were banned from marching. This was a big test for us, and for Peter Hain. Traditionally, the Socialist Workers Party would have defied the ban. This time, we accepted it. But we took 2,000 people and leafleted the entire constituency. Peter was with me the entire afternoon. A steward with maps had responsibility for each ward. He was very impressed by our capacity to mobilize people, and also by our discipline." (Paul Holborow, ANL chief, in Renton, When we touched the sky). The leaflets are generic Don't vote NF/NF have distant Nazi origins leaflets.

- 25 February-6 September 1978: Gerry Adams' trial facing charges of being a paramilitary and a member of IRA, sees an exceedingly long trial that fritters the resources of the republican movement, eventually securing a not guilty verdict.
- 27 February 1978: <u>La Prensa</u> reports 12 are killed, over 40 injured in anti-Somoza protests as Nicaraguan National Guardsmen use armoured vehicles and machine guns to fire on large crowds.
- 27 February 1978: Zaire Committee announces from its sources inside Zaire over 250 officers have been arrested 20-25 Feb in connection with a coup attempt. It also reports severe massacres in the Idlofa region numbering many hundreds and if sources in Zaire are believed over 2000 victims.
- 27 February 1978: "Jim said women hated strikes and men who strike, and Labour was best able to deal with industrial relations; women like harmony and unity. He himself was going to speak for the Townswoman's Guilds and the WRVS as an indication of his desire to get out into non-Labour organisations. ... Eric Heffer thought young women were very selfish, particularly about the old." (Tony Benn's Diary) WRVS are a volunteer-based charity that provide meals on wheels payment for the managers, but not for the actual productive workers, it is dominated by middle-class housewives eager to propagandise the superiority of 'middle-class values'.

28 February 1978: Guardian interviews Brian Moran, deserter from British army, in Sweden: "I wanted a bit of adventure and travel and I decided I stood a better chance in the commandos. I like the life and I liked being a soldier. But on my last tour of duty in Northern Ireland in 1976 my eyes were opened. ... We were supposed to be there to keep the peace, but I found a lot of prejudice in the Marines against ordinary Catholics. They gave people a lot of public abuse on the streets. It was always covert when there weren't any newspaper reporters about. There was one particular incident, when I was part of a snatch squad sent in to quell a riot. It was in April, 1976... attitude was that you went in and hit anyone in sight. A woman was hit over the head by a so-called friend of mine. I know the difference between right and wrong and that was wrong. That shouldn't be part of the job. I still think I made the right decision. They are being sympathetic to me here. They offered to pay for my hotel accommodation and one Customs officer said I could stay at his home. I am in no way political but I should like to see a united Ireland where people can live in peace."

28 February 1978: Official sources report another Rhodesian thrust into Botswana, killing 15 Botswana soldiers and injuring others.

28 February 1978: Indonesian National security chief Admiral Sudorno announces a 'week of tranquility' before the meeting of Congresses to re-elect Suharto. It means extra military roadblocks and armed riot police at road corners until at least 11 Mar 1978.

28 February 1978: Federal German police block and charge an Iranian student and socialist demonstration heading for Democratic Germany's consulate in Bonn to protest DDR arrests the day before.

March 1978: Manchester Council's Chief Education Officer expresses exasperation over national politics effectively blocking non-racist education efforts: "A number of organisations have asked that the Education Committee should clearly state their opposition to any attempts by the National Front to infiltrate schools. It has to be acknowledged that the nature of parts of the current national debate and events beyond the scope of the education service are not at present helping schools to evolve good multicultural teaching."

March 1978: John Berry in <u>The Leveller</u> reports on NF expansion in football grounds. He reports several weeks of a chant at White Hart Lane "Tyn-dall/ Tyn-dall": "Martin H is twenty-one. Half of that time has been spent in children's homes, detention centres, community school and Borstal. His parents are divorced. He never went to school except when he was in care and barely able to read. Most of the time he reads war comics in which gigantic and heroic British

army sergeants single-handedly decimate battalions of Huns to whom they frequently refer as 'Nazi scum'. Martin wasn't recruited at a football match. He joined the NF about 18 months ago with 'a friend' but admits to persuading several mates to join at matches and that is something which is generally encouraged. In his own words Martin joined because 'the Front stands up for English people. The socialists want more n\*ggers and Pakis here because they vote for them. We kick the f\*ck out of the wogs. The reds are always stirring up trouble. Someone's got to stop them."

March 1978: Professor Hayek in Encounter explains in The Miscarriage of the Democratic Ideal, in a roundabout way, why democracy must be limited: "It is no longer possible to ignore that more and more thoughtful and well-meaning people are slowly losing their faith in what was to them once the inspiring ideal of democracy. This is happening at the same time as, and in part perhaps in consequence of, a constant extension of the field to which the principle of democracy is being applied... It is not that the governments serve an agreed opinion of the majority, but that they are bound to serve the several interests of a conglomerate of numerous groups which is the cause of the complaints. It is at least conceivable, though unlikely, that an autocratic government will exercise self-restraint; but an omnipotent democratic government simply cannot do so. If its powers are not limited, it simply cannot confine itself to serving the agreed views of the majority of the electorate... I do, of course, not mean that the part of government which is conducted democratically should be limited, but that all government, but especially if it be democratic, should be limited. The reason is that democratic government, if nominally omnipotent, becomes as a result exceedingly weak, the playball of all the separate interests it has to satisfy to secure majority support... What happened with the apparent victory of the democratic ideal was that the power of laying down laws and the governmental power of issuing directions were placed into the hands of the same assemblies... the concept of law itself lost its meaning. The socalled legislature was no longer (as John Locke had thought it should be) confined to giving laws in the sense of general rules. Everything the 'legislature' resolved came to be called "law", and it was no longer called "legislature" because it gave laws, but "laws" became the name for everything which emanated from the "legislature." The hallowed term "law" thus lost all its old meaning, and it became the name for the commands of what the fathers of constitutionalism would have called arbitrary government... It also invalidated the original belief that a democracy, because it had to obey the majority, could only do what was in the general interest. That would have been true of a body which could give only general laws or decide on issues of truly general interest. But it is not only

not true but outright impossible for a body which has unlimited powers and must use them to buy the votes of particular interests, including those of some small groups or even powerful individuals... clear that a nominally unlimited ("sovereign") representative assembly must be progressively driven into a steady and unlimited extension of the powers of government. It appears equally clear that this can be prevented only by dividing the supreme power between two distinct democratically elected assemblies, i.e. by applying the principle of the separation of powers on the highest level. Of course, two such distinct assemblies would have to be differently composed if the legislative one is to represent the opinion of the people about which sorts of government actions are just and which are not, and the other were to be guided by the will of the people on the particular measures to be taken within the frame of rules laid down by the first. For this second, governmental task — which has been the main occupation of existing parliaments — their practices and organisation have become well adapted, especially with their organisation on party lines which is indeed indispensable for conducting government. But it was not without reason that the great political thinkers of the 18th century were without exception deeply distrustful of party divisions in a true legislature. It can hardly be denied that the existing parliaments are largely unfit for legislation proper. They have neither time nor the right to approach it."

March 1978: In protest at the withdrawal of political status, the blanket protest is met with new stipulations, blankets are not to be taken out of cells meaning that exercise and recreation is denied those on protest. \*\*

March 1978: It is announced Manchester police have received a special delivery of Armalite rifles and Sterling sub-machine weapons for use under Emergency powers. These rifles are later tested in exercises in Collyhurst, amongst the derelict slum housing, close to the new tower blocks. Manchester Chief Constable James Anderton, who has authorised the supply, enforces the harassment of 'visible' homosexuals, particularly prosecuting gay bookshops. Faced with questions and opposition, police officers operate a "preference" system for journalists – only those with unadulterated pro-Manchester Police sympathies are allowed access to make the news.

- 1 March 1978: RAF Minister: "Nimrod aircraft fly about 180 hours per calendar month on the offshore task as a whole" to assert exclusive ownership of oil facilities and fishing rights. At least 8 Nimrod are employed in this role.
- 1 March 1978: In the heart of culturally Irish Belfast in St Anne's Cathedral, Donegal! Street, RUC Chief Constable Sir Kenneth

Newman urges the Catholic congregation to give "moral and active practical support to the police and to inform on terrorists".

- 2 March 1978: Ilford bye-election. Massive disaffection from Labour. Confusion and demoralisation within 'Labour people' is apparent: "I made three trips to Ilford during the by-election campaign. The first time I arrived at a committee room at 6pm and was the only canvasser until 8pm, when two others arrived. On the second visit, canvassing had to be abandoned and three of us hand wrote the "Reading cards." On election night I was alone with a Cabinet Minister on an unknown and badly numbered estate. The committee room was manned by outsiders, helped by, one local supporter who knew the area but did not understand the system because he had just been recruited by an outsider. The vast majority of Labour Party members in London did not bother to give even one hour's work in Ilford" (Letter, 24 Mar 1978, Tribune).
- 2 March 1978: Prosecution assert that Gerry Adams, facing a charge of IRA membership, is the brigade commander of the Provisional IRA in Belfast.
- 2 March 1978: NICRA (Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association) assert that reluctance to give information to the RUC is a sane response to fears about RUC purposes, behaviour and intentions. They declare of evidence linking RUC officials to direct collusion to culturally loyalist paramilitary forces no one "in their right mind would pass on information to the RUC or the UDR [which] may well find its way into the hands of Loyalist paramilitaries".
- 2 March 1978: "It is a serious failure for there still to be no law against lay-offs and no law to force capitalists to open up their books. It can only hurt the movement to tell working people that the IMF is helping Jamaica. It is dangerous to joke around with the culprits in the party, in the civil service, in the police and in the army who are against progress."
- 2 March 1978: "I had a talk with Derek Ezra about the Coal Board's financial forecasts. I had been asked to approve a letter to Ezra permitting the NCB, with Treasury support, to stock the mass of coal which is coming out of the productivity scheme. I can see that the Treasury are going to get difficult, and there will be pit closures coming" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 2 March 1978: Iran ends diplomatic relations with 'Democratic Germany' because police have permitted an anti-Shah demonstration in East Berlin.
- 3 March 1978: First screening of LWT's Mixed Blessings a comedy following the reactions of parents, neighbours and other outsiders to an interracial marriage between a white male and black female.

Invariably the two accept extreme provocation and outright abuse, with barely any adverse emotion. The title itself is a common epithet against children of interracial unions. It continues propagating a succession of racial stereotypes and myths.

- 3 March 1978: Metropolitan Police press release emphasises a rise of over 12% in crime in London crime second greatest annual increase in the entire records of the force to press its claim over pay and retirement conditions.
- 3 March 1978: <u>Guardian</u> reports the government will not intervene over the "chaotic picture of police equipment purchasing policies" where police constables can enter into 'special' corrupt relationships with local businesses. Home Office states "local responsibility and accountability" is the priority. Uniforms-per officer-per annum were £87 in some forces compared to £33 in another in 1975-6.
- 3 March 1978: Paisley, Ernest Baird, leader of United Ulster Unionist Movement, and 7 others are dismissed at a court in Ballymena, a centre of cultural loyalism, over charges of impeding the police during the UUAC strike in May 1977. Several key RUC officers have not come forward to give any evidence.
- 3 March 1978: Muzorewa, Sithole and Chirau conclude the signing the internal agreement with Smith Governor's Lodge, Salisbury, paving the way for the creation of a neo-tribalist-colonial rule, euphemistically called the "internal settlement".
- 3 March 1978: Belfast contracting firm Thomas McKee and Sons goes into liquidation, with the loss of 350 jobs.
- 4 March 1978: Ordered to remove a harmless Irish tricolour in culturally Crossmaglen Co Armagh seriously injured in a booby trap explosion as they were removing a from a telegraph pole in.
- 5 March 1978: Seeking integration into the 26-county Irish political structure Sinn Fein President Thomas MacGiolla, speaking at its Ard Fheis in Dublin, compares the IRA's actions to those of the Black and Tans, and accuses them of engaging in a "war against the Irish people".
- 5 March 1978: <u>Sunday Times</u> notes how successful many firms have been in avoiding pay increases for workforces but special boons for management they seek to reward: "credit cards, free petrol, free travel miles, golden handshakes and golden hellos."
- 5 March 1978: Youths from culturally Irish housing estates again stone an RUC carrier in Cromac Square, Belfast.
- 5 March 1978: After heated talks with Berlinguer and others, Giulio Andreotti announces a 6-party pact including agreement that the PCI will actively support the new DC minority government. All 5 junior parties agree to support it in both houses of Parliament.

- 6 March 1978: A crane driver is crushed under his machine, after howsers from a departing oil rig become entagled, whilst working on complex piling operations, Torry Dock, Aberdeen harbour.
- 6 March 1978: Government confirms appointment of Esso (US firm Exxon's British subsidiary) managing director, Leslie Pimlott, as deputy chairman of the Price Commission.
- 6 March 1978: A worker at the Scottish and Newcastle Breweries is killed in an accident.
- 6 March 1978: Thatcher attends Ideal Home Exhibition, Olympia Centre. She is angry at a set-out dining room table with Federal German crockery: "It is not British. This is just like the House of Commons. To think that we are famous for our crockery." She urges more spacious cupboards, playing up to her image of struggling housewife: "One is constantly struggling in the kitchen. One must have storage space."
- 6 March 1978: Owen appointee 'low-key' Eric Anglin begins as Consul-General to Chile in Santiago after his 1976-8 period in Buenos Aires. The link for contact for British business remains.
- 6 March 1978: Justice Parker, agrees to the expansion of Windscale as his report is made public. BNFL's argument that expansion of the plant, financed partly by Japanese capital, will increase Britain's long-term foreign exchange intake by enabling it to undertake reprocessing orders from across the world, ultimately wins out.
- He states a quick start to reprocessing is beneficial: "This is to the benefit of workers, public and future generations alike.... At the present time [risks] are likely to be containable within tolerable levels. If re-processing were to begin suddenly on a large scale after a lapse of time, risks would probably also be containable but would be likely to be greater."
- 6 March 1978: Foreign Secretary Owen, instead of economic sanctions against Rhodesia's main supporter in South Africa, gives a partial blessing to Rhodesia's internal settlement, presumably waiting for Black Africa's response to it: "I am not prepared to condemn or support what at this stage is an important first step... The time when we can make a final judgement is still open for question."
- 6 March 1978: Cambridge Union Society hosts a debate on 'The women's place is in the harem', sponsored by Barclay's Bank, in aid of the Save the Children charity, because of which Princess Anne its president is invited as guest of honour. Police form a strong line to the protect the ticket/member-only event. Over 100 demonstrators bang on the windows outside.
- 6 March 1978: A large Rhodesian aircraft assault over guerrilla and refugee camps in Zambia.

6 March 1978: 5,000 students from Queen's University Belfast marched to City Hall in a silent protest against armed operatives impersonating rag day students in an attack on 3 May 1978, where a civilian and a British Army soldier are shot dead.

6-17 March 1978: London hosts the international conference on cocoa.

6-23 March 1978: Students at the University of Indonesia, Jakarta hold a strike stay-away which is crushed by dismissals and arrests.

7 March 1978: Lord Kirkhill, Minister of State at the Scottish Office announces government has purchased Haddo House, Aberdeenshire, the Scottish Glyndebourne, one of Scotland's largest non-royal aristocratic stately homes for £365,000. After another £150,000 of state expenditure on essential repairs, it will be handed over to the National Trust.

7 March 1978: Equity representatives agree with management to a rise for 1,800 provincial actors to their standard weekly wage of £38.50 well below their £60 claim.

7 March 1978: Glasgow Herald reports William Munro, director of Scottish Engineering Employers' Association, attack anti-business elements of the government's incomes policy. "Mr Ben Butters, president of the organisation, said some firms had settled current wages under the Government's 10% deal so they could not pay more at this stage if the disputed new national agreement was approved. He pointed out that some companies would not get Government contracts if they breached the guidelines. organisation, in common with the Confederation of British Industry and Chambers of Commerce, are opposed to proposed clauses in contracts for government work which, for one thing, makes the main contractor responsible for pay deals made by sub-contractors. Several senior officials of the association said at a news conference that firms with which they were associated had signed contracts without the controversial clauses. Mr Munro thought Gilbert and Sullivan could have made a lot out of a farcical situation where a small company employing a large corporation as a subcontractor would ask it to open its books to ensure Government guidelines were not being infringed. He said that self-financing productivity schemes could almost certainly become the Achilles heel of the Government's current incomes policy if they became competitive. For example, if one firm concluded a genuine scheme the word would soon get to other companies who might not be in the same position to enter into genuine deals. Such competition, especially

bearing in mind the dubious nature of such schemes, could lead to an inflationary situation."

7 March 1978: Government defends closure of British Leyland plant in Speke: "one thing is clear: the company needs a period of sustained production [meaning no strikes] accompanied by a major effort to reduce costs so that British Leyland can compete with other European manufacturers both at home and in export markets. This means adjusting capacity and manpower in line with realistic market prospects taking account of the impossibility of recovering market share overnight and of the fact that British Leyland still has power and manpower levels geared to production on the pre-Ryder scale. If the company fails to adjust capacity now and its market share continues to decline, the result will be that many more jobs will be lost"

"The Government have accepted the view of the British Leyland Board and the National Enterprise Board that British Leyland's capacity, including manpower, must be brought into line with market prospects, but the Government cannot set themselves up as an alternative manager of the company, so that means to achieve this must be left for British Leyland management to decide in consultation with the National Enterprise Board."

The government can not "justify... to the public at large further investment in British Leyland, especially on the scale that British Leyland is likely to need, unless the management can clearly demonstrate that firm steps are being taken to tackle the company's problems." Over 3,000 jobs will be lost directly and a multiplier effect of supplying firms means 10-12,000 jobs will be deleted in the area. Standard Triumph workers and the closure of the Speke factory in Liverpool. The management, in the context of NEB funding, have a clear plan to close down the plant. The Stewards' Committee didn't have a plan of resistance, an example of how the working class movement is unused to dealing with a state strategy at a. general political level. Union leaders went along with the NEB plan. Workforce spends 17 weeks on a management-provoked strike. Management then uses the strike at Speke, but not elsewhere, as a casus belli for closing the plant down.

8-15 March 1978: Prince Charles official visit to Brazil, in response to President General Geisel's invitation from 1975. Prince Charles and his party stay in a luxury hotel for 2 nights in Rio de Janeiro.

9 March 1978: Princes Charles attends a dinner held by Rio Mayor Marcos Tamoyo with the winner of the carnival samba parade dance contest performing in the gardens.

- 10 March 1978: Prince Charles, after having visited Brasilia, Rio de Janeiro and Belo Horizonte, arrives in Sao Paolo. He makes a speech to the British Chamber of Commerce, meets the British expatriates, visit plants owned by British firms and plays in a charity polo match. The Brazilian press largely acquiescent in military restrictions upon reporting the corruption of Brazilian military officers, instead attacks the lavish welcomes and official royal etiquette given to the Prince. He later visits Venezuela.
- 10 March 1978: A 28 year old mother, Arshad Begum Akhtar, throws herself and her three children into the River Thames near Romney, killing all.
- 10 March 1978: Harry Ewing, Under-Secretary of State for Scotland, opens the new "D" Division headquarters of Strathclyde Police in Baird Street, Glasgow. He reiterates that the government have accepted the independent inquiry under Lord Edmund-Davies on police pay. He states his hope that it will would boost the self-confidence of police, and states there is insufficient recognition of the outstanding success of police forces. He announces police forces in Scotland will be given an extra £1mil over 1978, plus a massive campaign to attract new recruits to Strathclyde, Lothian and Borders forces is to be launched with the Government giving £30,000 to publicity and advertising.
- 10 March 1978: An agreement in Lisbon signed by the British Ambassador and Governor of the Bank of Portugal sees Britain supply \$20mil as a loan as part of 14 Western credit nations.
- 10 March 1978: A second Bulgarian defector, Vladimir Simeonov, is found dead in his home in London three weeks after fellow defector Georgi Markov is stabbed with a poison-tipped umbrella. Simeonov and Markov both worked together in the Bulgarian section of the BBC's External Service.
- 11 March 1978: The new Campaign for Action on Solvent Abuse is launched in Glasgow in a meeting with James Dempsey, Tory MP. It estimates that nearly 3000 people in Glasgow regularly abuse solvents. It plans to picket shops in Glasgow not to sell glues, aerosol cans or solvents to the young. It later visits Parliament calling for laws against the sale of such items to U18s. The overwhelming majority are young school leavers out of work, this is not considered.
- 13-14 March 1978: Foreign Secretary Owen and US Ambassador to Britain, Kingman Brewster, attempt to persuade the guerrilla opposition in Rhodesia to participate in some modified version of an internal settlement. They talk with the two leaders of the Leaders of the Patriotic Front in Whitehall, London. Acceding to pressure from below, Nkomo and Mugabe again reject the imposition. Only the

tribalists, who collaborate in hunting down guerrillas winning a reward for guerrillas captured dead or alive, accede to the system. It is asimilar result to Carter's efforts a week earlier in Washington DC. Britain and the US slowly start to accept that they must oppose the internal settlement to retain influence and potential investment rights in a future Zimbabwe.

- 14 March 1978: IDF begins invasion of Lebanon, Begin declaring Israel will return only in its own time.
- 14 March 1978: Britain joins Canada, Federal Germany, France, USA to abstain against a resolution opposed to Rhodesia's internal settlement. Nonetheless it passes 10-5 in the Security Council. It allows a degree of legitimacy for the Smith-aligned tribalist collaborators. Far from weakening the authoritarian 'Stalinist' tendencies in ZANU and ZAPU, the growing international acceptance of the sell-outs breeds greater paranoia.
- 14 March 1978: Singapore Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Dr. Goh Keng Swee, discloses a signed deal for a 3-phase design contract with Sydney firm De Havilland Marine a division of Hawker De Havilland (Australia) and Singapore-based Hawker Pacific for bespoke aluminium-hulled high-speed gunboats. Singapore also announces its intention to include women in compulsory military training.
- 14 March 1978: Defence Debate. Government spokesman states: "The defence of Europe demands the passage of transatlantic reinforcements and the use of the seas around Europe for the deployment of forces. ... The United Kingdom has a vital role to play since in the Eastern Atlantic and Channel areas we continue to provide the main weight of maritime forces readily available to the Alliance."

"Our forces also make significant contributions to SACEUR's strategic reserve, including the United Kingdom Mobile Force, contributions to the ACE Mobile Force and three squadrons of the Special Air Service. On the northern flank, Royal Marine commandos contribute reinforcement forces.

"This year anti-tank guided weapon systems in BAOR will be increased by 60 per cent — yes, 60 per cent — compared with 1974 and in RAF Germany and BAOR the total number of SAM systems will be up by 160 per cent. The air defence of the United Kingdom, which was dismantled and discarded by a previous Tory Government, is being restored.... These improvements include our plans for improved radar coverage, airfield survival measures, Tornado ADV, air-to-air missiles—including Skyflash medium range and AIM 9L short range—Nimrod Airborne Early Warning and air-to-

air refuelling resources.... There are no financial restraints. We hope that the Tornado will be in operation in the mid-1980s.... the Labour Government have taken steps to restore the strength of the RAF in order to defend this island against the potential enemy.

"In order to maintain and improve the effectiveness of our contribution to the Alliance's maritime capability, we are continuing with the major re-equipment programme for the Royal Navy. Five new classes of warship are under construction. These include the new class of anti-submarine warfare cruisers, the first of which, HMS "Invincible", was launched last May, nuclear-powered fleet submarines, which we are the only European NATO navy to operate, and the Type 22 frigates and Type 42 destroyers. To complement these new ship classes there are new weapons and equipments including the Sea Dart and Sea Wolf guided missile systems, and the Sea Harrier aircraft."

14 March 1978: Under-Secretary for the RAF explains: "We must not let the improvement which we are now able to make cause us to lose sight of the outstanding contribution which the United Kingdom already makes to each element of NATO's triad of forces and, indeed, to the forces of each NATO major commander. I believe that it is a tragedy that [Conservatives today] cannot generate even a flicker of patriotic pride to illuminate the vital and substantial contribution which Britain makes to the Atlantic Alliance and to the peace and security of the free world."

"the Armed Forces have suffered, as has every other section of the community, from the fall in the standard of living. The battle against inflation has been fought by Service men and civilians alike... every fair-minded person knows that the steadfast adherence to the tough and difficult decisions of the past few years is beginning to reap its reward."

- 16 March 1978: Lucas Aerospace, subsidiary of Lucas Industries, announces closure of several plants with the loss of 2,000 jobs before the end of 1979. In 1970 total workforce was 18,000, it is planned to be 9,000 in 1980.
- 16 March 1978: IDF begins a new thrust further into Lebanon with an aerial assault over key towns.
- 16 March 1978: 13 are shot dead as execution at the end of a trial of 64 officers and 24 civilians in Kinshasa accused of conspiracy against the Zairean state. Others are given life imprisonment sentences.
- 19 March 1978: IDF completes its invasion of the whole of southern Lebanon to the Litani River. At this point, USA tables a Security Council Resolution to despatch an international force to replace the IDF. Quickly passed, UNSC Res 425 allows a UN force UNIFIL to

take over the monitoring of southern Lebanon so that it will do the fighting and security provision against the guerrillas, instead of the IDF.

20 March 1978: A notice in The Times signals a trend towards give away promotional advertising: "The bald fact is we had 125,000 replies from one ad in Radio Times; 50,000 more than we expected." Peter Brown, Marketing Director, Louis Marx and Company Limited. "Our advertising agency, Norman, Craig and Kummel Limited (having diligently researched the problem) came up with the answer: 'Give them away. Let parents see how keen their children are and they'll do the rest.' A free sample, of course, meant a press campaign. So, on their advice, we took a single (carefully contrived) black and white whole page ad in Radio Times. "The king of the Playpeopie spoke out to parents: He offered a free Playperson for the price of postage and packing. And bingo, a population explosion. We had hoped for 75,000 replies. We got 125,000. That meant 7% of our target audience took the trouble to reply. (We were aiming by the way at those readers of Radio Times who are mothers of children up to fifteen.) In any terms it was a huge response. It says a lot for our product. It says a lot for our agency. And it's not exactly mute about the power of Radio Times."

20 March 1978: Leo Abse MP worries over Urenco asking if there's any "intention to exercise ... veto under the Anglo-German-Dutch treaty to prevent the export to Brazil of enriched uranium from Almelo and Capenhurst.

Mr. Benn: There is no need for a veto."

Urenco, a joint Anglo-Dutch-German venture, a third controlled by each government, carries on producing enriched uranium at Capenhurst, Cheshire and Almelo, Netherlands. Some of the Capenhurst uranium is exported to Brazil's nuclear authorities, which are under permanent control by military authorities. BNFL's second British uranium enrichment plant for Urenco, is still under construction, which began in April 1974. British Nuclear Fuels, the nationalised nuclear firm, offers to sell Brazil its design engineering and expertise for constructing a uranium hexafluoride plant within Brazil. Eventually from Urenco and other sources, the Brazilian government begins nuclear weapon enrichment. Only in July 1987 does the UN Council on Namibia rules that Urenco, throughout the life of the Labour government, has been guilty of processing uranium from apartheid-occupied Namibia, in violation of UN Resolution of 27 Sep 1974 against natural resources from occupied countries being exploited.

- 20 March 1978: Malaysian Government begins passing its new drug laws that impose a mandatory death penalty on anyone found guilty of drug importation. Law Minister and Attorney-General, Harazah Ali explaining the present penalty of either death or life imprisonment for possession of 100g of any hard drug or 200g of soft drugs including cannabis is insufficient.
- 21 March 1978: Parliamentary Committee on Race Relations publishes a report recommending more curbs on the entry of non-white immigrants, particularly from the Indian subcontinent. Sydney Bidwell, a prominent Labour Left and ANL supporter, member of the Committee assents to its conclusions.
- 21 March 1978: Liverpool City Council decides that a Beatles statue will be erected in Williamson Square. Its production will cost an estimated £25,000. So far, £5,000 has been promised by a nostalgic carpet retailer Spencer Lloyd Mason, who was once a 1960s music manager. A Labour councillor opposed to the scheme states: "The Beatles made a lot of money and we have not seen them since."
- 22 March 1978: Government secures a 186-56 majority for the expansion of Windscale to turn it into a plutonium production plant, labelled euphemistically as a 'nuclear reprocessing centre'.
- "Dr. Tom Cochran, an American nuclear physicist, says that he argued that spiking is ineffective against terrorists and is cited in the [Parker] report as holding that it is effective. He told the press that he has written to Peter Shore—Secretary for the Environment, and hence the man who must make the final decision—"to express my shock and dismay at the way in which the judge misrepresented my testimony." Three British scientists who gave evidence opposing the project also charge Parker with distortion" (New Scientist)
- 22 March 1978: Arbitration court confirms a judgement from 30 Jul 1977 over the delineation between French and British naval territory in the Cornish Sea.
- 23 March 1978: Callaghan meets Carter in private. He does not, unlike Giscard, Schmidt and others, press for a cancellation of neutron bomb deployment in European NATO countries.
- 23 March 1978: IMF agrees a \$1.5bn credit agreement with Turkey.
- 25 March 1978: <u>Sounds</u> magazine does a special on racism in music industry products and interviews NF hero Martin Webster for the occasion. He says he has nothing against immigrants, simply that they deserve restriction, licensing and humane deportation.

- 29 March 1978: AP reports on the recent Israeli invasion of Lebanon: "towns of south Lebanon were ravaged with a thoroughness exceptional even in these parts. Hundreds of civilians, perhaps thousands, died in Israel's pushbutton advance. Behind the Israelis, the Phalangists rolled into Muslim towns, riding British tanks the Israelis had given them"
- 29 March 1978: Roger Prouse, ANL trade unionist, opens a parcel bomb addressed to him in the canteen of his workplace, Alder Valley Bus Company, High Wycombe.
- 29 March 1978: Cunard announces it had reached agreement with PRC for the QE2 to dock in PRC ports as part of the vessel's 1979 "Around the world in 80 days" cruise.
- 29 March 1978: Carter makes a speech in the Venezuelan Parliament.
- 30 March 1978: Saatchi & Saatchi, third largest advertising firm, sign their contract with the Conservative party. Previous clients includes giants such as Procter & Gamble, British Leyland and Rowntree Mackintosh and Schweppes.
- 30 March 1978: RAF Little Sai Wan's air control radar on the peak of Hong Kong's tallest mountain (in New Territories) is closed down as the Crown Colony Civil Aviation Department's new long-range radar on Hong Kong Island becomes operational. The site appears less visibly threatening as a result. The GCHQ facilities remain on the base.
- 31 March 1978: Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, attends a dinner given by the Lord Mayor of London at the Mansion House. It marks the 60th anniversary of the formation of the Royal Air Force (RAF).
- 31 March 1978: Lord Kirkhill, Scottish Officer Minister turns down a proposal for a vehicle ferry link between Mallaig and Armadale in Skye stating expenditure of this scale is inappropriate with an ongoing economic crisis.

April 1978: Kim Gordon is sentenced to 6 weeks in prison for assault of a police officer in Lewisham 13 Aug 1977.

April 1978: Publishing firm Coronet release 'The Train robbers: Their story by Piers Paul Read' which has involved payments to the former prisoners. A media frenzy of agony trying to ensure that 'crime' not 'pay' proceeds, with various analyses of the 'break-down' of respect for 'law and order'. Piers Read, author, son of 'anarchist' 'Sir' Herbert Read who educated him at Ampleforth, the 'Catholic Eton', defends the book and the royalties from it. Piers Read later supports Margaret Thatcher's Conservatives in the 1979 election.

Then, as a prominent Catholic, begins attacking liberation theology "This was a social Christianity that played down the sacramental side of things... the Jesuits had incited these wretched peasants to pick up Kalashnikovs and the result was that they got killed." He describes Ratzinger influence on Catholicism in the 1980s as "offering a lifeline. He made me realise that this alternative magisterium held by some English bishops and modern theologians was not the true faith"

April 1978: The month's <u>Naval Review</u> gives tips to RN officers: "Pass the time of day with your sailors. This is so obvious that I am almost ashamed to write it, but my experience tells me that many officers are not prepared to take the time to chat about last night's movie, tomorrow's RAS or the latest political disasters with their men. Actually the ratings like it; not only does it flatter them that you are prepared to talk, but it gives them something to talk about too.... Find something that your men are interested in - usually soccer. Even if you hate it (as I do) cultivate an interest, read about it, be up to date; but most of all encourage your division to beat the rest of the ship. Organise matches, be there to watch and support. Jump up and down on your cap if they lose. Buy them a crate of beer if they win. ... Try to cultivate an esprit de corps by whatever means possible."

April 1978: The month's <u>Omega</u>, student union newspaper at Heriot-Watt university, gives an indication of the trend towards backlash politics promoted by right-wing student forces. Its main editorial attacks students on social security: "between seventy and eighty per cent of those students [using Social Security] will have just hammered one more nail into the coffin of the Nation ... Students should be resourceful enough to find sufficient time for their academic work even if they are working forty hours a week." Claiming benefit as a student is described as "an act of apathy and selfishness which jeopardises not only their own future but that of the entire nation".

- 1 April 1978: India begins its 6-Year Plan. It aims for a limited increase in foreign investment whilst increasing research into intermediate technology.
- 1 April 1978: <u>The Economist</u> writes of Italy "Communist leaders are unlikely to be able to contain the restlessness of their rank and file much beyond this year."
- 3 April 1978: Riven by internal divisions Third World at Non-Aligned Movement Conference in Jakarta, Indonesia fails to agree any steps against IMF impositions.

- 4 April 1978: Publication of <u>Sunday Times</u> is halted in protest at new impositions upon machine assistants.
- 4 April 1978: <u>Sunday Telegraph</u>'s Norman Kirkham, smuggled across the Zaire-Angola border, embedded with operatives of the tribalist FNLA, reports with a straight face that thousand of civlian Angolan children are being abducted and flown to Havana for reeducation.
- 4 April 1978: Column 88 parcel bombs, with responsibility claimed by telephone to IRN, are received in the London HQ of NUPE and CPGB's HO.
- 4 April 1978: Callaghan refuses to rule out neutron bomb for Britain or NATO, even though he is concerned about the propaganda advantage to the rival Eastern Bloc: "This is a question of weighing the very substantial political disadvantages against whatever military advantages may be presumed to exist. I would be glad if you did not press me any further today."
- 4 April 1978: June Gordon, Lady Aberdeen at the AGM of the Scottish Children's League of Pity charity states that all members of the League resent remarks against Princess Margaret, its honorary president. She later declares: "I have been boiling at the attacks on Princess Margaret"
- 4 April 1978: Glasgow Labour councillor Charles Moore attacks remarks made by 3 fellow Labour councillors Jean McFadden, Alex McTaggart, and John Levelle stating that Princess Margaret's behaviour is against the interests of the royal family, declaring: "I am a royalist. I am for Queen and country 100%. It is a bad show that such remarks should come from the City Chambers. 1 shall be raising this matter at the next Labour group meeting." Deputy Labour group leader Neil Stobo criticises the 3 by stating: "Local councillors can't help the situation by making statements as they have done." Labour Lord Provost David Hodge states "my views on the subject remain the same, I don't like what happened".
- 4 April 1978: At a public meeting of Scot-Law, Scottish Police Federation Secretary Joe Black calls for the return of birching and capital punishment, stating "all decent people" seek their return to end "the menace of thugs and hooligans". Chief Inspector David Lindoras, chief of Lothians and Border Police Force, states Children's Panels should be able to impose severe fines upon parents for any vandalism committed by their children. He also urges police to have the power to search anyone they suspected of carrying 'a weapon'. Scot-Law's organisational statement: "The present intolerable situation is due largely to the soft handling of criminals, therefore realistic measures must be taken against those guilty of serious

- crime, including sentence of death against anyone convicted of unprovoked murder... Without effective back-up our police force is fighting a losing battle. Many of the sentences passed are an insult to the victims. For too long the 'do-gooders' have had their way and we are now reaping the bitter crop which has resulted from their 'soft' approach."
- 4 April 1978: In an important agreement, import quotas are applied upon Japanese steel imports into EEC, fixing them at the levels achieved in 1976 but no more. In spite of this, mass closures in BSC are still demanded.
- 5 April 1978: Sithole-Chirau-Muzorewa-Smith government is officially sworn in and begins operation.
- 5 April 1978: European Trade Union Confederation, that features EEC national union congresses, holds its first ever Europe-wide 'Action Day' on the eve of EEC economic summit in Copenhagen. CGIL holds a 4-hour strike in protest at unemployment but demanding action to secure the release of hostage prime minister Aldo Moro.
- 5 April 1978: <u>New York Times</u> reports on 3 years of PCI rule in Naples, its city administrators describe "the slide into savagery" a third of the workforce is unemployed while around 40,000 eke out a living from smuggling to avoid indirect taxation.
- 5 April 1978: British firms conclude the sale of over £200 million of defence communication equipment to Saudi Arabia. "The systems will be mainly for use in internal security and the installation will be monitored by the British Ministry of Defence. The system absorbs refinements developed "on the ground" in Northern Ireland." (Irish Times, 27 Apr 1978)
- 5 April 1978: Foreign Secretary Owen launches a stinging attack on Cuba at the Lord Mayor's Banquet in London, warning of serious consequences if Cuban troops become involved beyond Angola (ie assisting forces in favour of Namibian, South African and Zimbabwean majority rule).
- 5 April 1978: 30 trade union organisations across Europe stage a day of action against unemployment, including mass general strikes in Spain, Greece, Portugal and Italy. Rallies and demonstrations are held in many other countries.
- 6 April 1978: Government announces in a written answer it will not change regulations for LEAs, where those deemed not "ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom" are barred from student grants.
- 6 April 1978: Labour reasserts its successes and future measures for tightening immigration: "the problems of control ... particularly

as regards illegal employment, are undoubtedly important. We had already taken action on this by opening discussions with the TUC and CBI about how to deal more effectively with illegal entrants and over-stayers who take work to which others are entitled. ... we shall continue to take vigorous action to enforce the immigration control. Today's Command Paper on statistics shows a fall in both primary and secondary immigration... The total number from the new Commonwealth and Pakistan accepted for settlement on arrival fell from 37,000 in 1976 to 28,000 last year—a reduction of 25 per cent. This reduction supports the Select Committee's view that for some time there has been very little primary immigration from these countries... Subject to commitments to United Kingdom passport holders under the special voucher scheme, which have been accepted and confirmed by successive Governments... there will be no further major primary immigration in the foreseeable future.... The reduction in the immigration figures shows that there is no need to introduce a new specific annual quota.... The figures show that since we have joined the EEC fewer people have come from Europe to live in this country"

Labour opposes calls for quotas on the grounds that they might "delay" the "end to immigration": "imposition of a quota, far from accelerating an end to immigration, would actually delay it and would be inconsistent with the commitments which those on both sides of the House have given in the past. There is concern about illegal employment. There is concern on the part of both the TUC and the CBI. ... Illegal employment is a matter which should be dealt with. ... I believe in a firm immigration control. Matters are firmly handled."

"there was only one male West Indian allowed in for the purpose of marriage during the whole of 1977.... Bangladesh has fewer than 3,000 admitted for settlement annually, on the basis of the 1977 figures, and Pakistan 3,700... these [are] colossal reductions over previous years"

6 April 1978: The Times defends Princess Margaret and the monarchy: "The high standing and efficient working of the monarchy docs not require that every member of the extended Royal Family should be a paragon of virtue or a model of decorum and that all who fail that test should be withdrawn out of range of royal duties and rewards. There is a very common sympathy for Princess Margaret arising from the observation that the duties of her royal station and the dictates of her heart have crossed to make personal life one of unusual difficulty" stating that Margaret simply "must do as she thinks right".

6 April 1978: Cabinet: "Jim didn't wish to take a strong line against the neutron bomb, as the Germans had ... David Owen said the

neutron bomb was less horrific than existing nuclear weapons" (Tony Benn's Diary)

6 April 1978: Fearing Turkey's reliance on Western competitors as well as its links with Soviet Union, Carter appeals to Congress to end, in all aspects, the US embargo on armament exports to Turkey.

7 April 1978: Willie Whitelaw gives an important speech at the annual meeting of the Conservative Party Central Council in Leicester promising "certainty and finality" to immigration to Britain, via a new British Nationality Act. It claims to do so in order to "end the constant and widespread preoccupation with levels of immigration", which it has assisted in fostering. Conservative policy, on the lines of that planned at the end of 1973, will discontinue permission for the settlement to those allowed in temporarily; restrict entry by parents, grandparents, and children over 18 to "urgent" "compassionate" grounds; rescind the right introduced in 1974 to allow the entry of husbands and male fiancés of Asian wives already in Britain, restricting severely work permit conditions; introduce a register for eligible wives and children from the Indian sub-continent with a strict annual quota drawn from it.

"It is regrettable that the present Government has dithered and has so far only produced a Green Paper. A Conservative Government will therefore seek to introduce a new nationality law early in the next Parliament. This will remove some of the possible sources of future immigration. At present, people who entered Britain after January 1, 1973, under conditions for temporary stay, are still being accepted for permanent settlement. We will end that practice. If, after our change in the rules, any are accepted for some special reason, there will be no automatic entitlement for wives and dependants.... We will severely restrict work-permit-free employment except for those employed by overseas governments and international organisations, together with short-stay air crews and seamen. We will reduce to the absolute minimum the issue of work permits both to Commonwealth citizens and to foreign nationals.... We will therefore propose: a compulsory register of eligible wives and children from the Indian sub - continent only. Applications for entry on the register will have to be made within one year... non-patrial husbands should be admitted only in compassionate cases, and non-patrial male fiancés will only be granted entry if an exceptional degree of hardship would result from the woman having to live outside the United Kingdom." The year to set-up the register means a year of total immigration moratorium since it shall "inevitably mean further administrative delay" a "breathing space".

The plans also intensify repressive measures against overstaying and "illegal" immigration, with greater resources promised for police raids and stricter internal documents, but offer greater financial inducements for repatriation. The plans also rest upon the idea of the husband in a marriage should be viewed as the "natural" place of residence for a family, with Whitelaw declaring the superior rights of men over women being ".

The overall thrust is blocking non-white immigration, whilst emigration (immigration for others) and immigration from established whites in Rhodesia or the Antipodes is acceptable.

CRE Commission for Racial Equality states in response: "We deplore the severity of the immigration proposals — particularly the suggestion of a register confined to the Indian sub-continent which would be discriminatory." JCWI (Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants) declares it a speech of "breathtaking cynicism and hypocrisy."

7 April 1978: Spillers French, Britain's 3<sup>rd</sup> largest bread firm, announces that it will close 23 bakery-plants with the deletion of almost 8000 jobs within a fortnight. It will sell on 13 plants to Rank-Hovis-McDougall and Associated British Foods with total workforces of 5,100. The legal 90-day consultation is simply ignored. With this measure of cost-cutting and expulsion of unprofitable capital and workforce complete, a major British conglomerate firm, Dalgety plc, purchases Spiller Group in 1979.

The government response: "having regard to the substantial over-capacity in the baking industry and Spillers' financial difficulties, Ministers concluded in the circumstances that the reorganisation proposed is probably the least unattractive of all the unattractive courses of action available." (John Silkin, Food Minister, 10 Apr 1978 HD Deb)

7 April 1978: In a written answer Home Secretary Rees declares 125 exclusion orders (deportations or internal exile without charge or trial) have been made under the Prevention of Terrorism Acts. An exclusion order has been revoked in only 6 cases.

7 April 1978: Government announces it will increase the Civil List, the public revenue for the royal family by £240,000 to £1.04mil for 1978-9, this represents a rise of 9.2%. Since this sum is also to cover Royal Household employees, the government argues that to restrict the increases would mean denying pay rises to butlers and laundry workers. Of course it is highly improbable that employees receive anywhere near a 9.2% increase, since it is the Royal Trustees who administer the royal family system including Civil List receipts.

- 7 April 1978: US Communiqué to the NATO Council on the 'neutron bomb', stating the US "and our NATO allies would reserve the option of producing and deploying the weapons in the future. In the meantime, the United States would Improve existing tactical weapons, incorporating in their design the capability of later conversion to ER use once our allies were willing to agree to deployment."
- 8 April 1978: NBC's Saturday Night Live, with Monty Python as guest stars, features ugly anti-Arab stereotypes and the assertion that those who want the PLO to be negotiated with are delusional idiots. Jane Curtin plays Vanessa Redgrave and John Belushi plays Yasser Arafat in the opening sketch mocking Redgrave's plea at the Oscars (3 Apr 1978) for elementary human rights of Palestinians. The background is the IDF thrust into Lebanon under Operation Litani, 14 Mar 1978 onwards. Under the guise of comedy, opponents of Israel's brutalisation can be told to 'lighten up', 'it's all a joke' etc.
- 8 April 1978: <u>Glasgow Herald</u> editorial "With Mr Whitelaw's speech at Leicester yesterday, the lines of argument between the two major parties on the immigration issue have been clearly drawn. The General Election ought to produce a vigorous debate when it comes. It will be vital for that debate to be conducted responsibly. It would be wrong for the Government to take refuge in statistics as Mr Merlyn Rees, Home Secretary, did in the House of Commons this week."
- 8 April 1978: 300 police in Brixton High Street separate 30 NF supporters from 100 anti-fascists. A 2-month ban on political marches remains in effect.
- 8 April 1978: Scottish Conservative Party's crime advisory committee issues a report calling for the reintroduction of the death penalty for all murders, the power of judges to issue corporal punishments, police powers to search without warrant for potential weapons and the creation of a separate statutory offence of 'vandalism'. Its chairman Charles Macarthur, QC, former Sheriff of the Lothians and Carders: "From rich to poor, the demand has been the same. We could not fail to notice that it was from the less privileged sections of society that we received the firmest demands for proper protection. This no doubt is a reflection of their having to live with uncontrolled violence.... I have tended most of my life to be an abolitionist and have attended murder trials where the death sentence was pronounced and found them a solemn affair.... I have become more and more horrified and driven to the view that the situation has got out of hand. The public at best should be allowed to stand up and be counted." Duncan MacKenzie, former governor

of Barlinnie Prison, witness to 2 hangings, states: "The country has now got into such a state that I feel with regret that capital punishment is absolutely necessary."

On youth crime it states: "Evidence shows there has been a substantial upsurge in violent crime on the part of youngsters. It is obvious that our present forms of disposal of young offenders have gone little or no way towards preventing or cutting down this upsurge. We are well aware that the question of the use of the strap at school is at present before the European Court of Human Rights."

10 April 1978: John Silkin, Agriculture Minister confirms transfer of only 13 out of 36 Spillers bakeries to Rank Hovis McDougall and Associated British Foods will mean the loss of 6,370 full-time and 1,620 part-time posts. The government succeeds in keeping the food industry in private hands, offering an enormous windfall to RHM and ABF, giants of the sector, without even demanding an inquiry by the Monopolies Commission.

10 April 1978: Foreign Secretary Owen makes the bold claim Scottish independence would be "a tragic and bitter mistake" since it would produce a Scotland in a selfish cocoon that could not solve any problems caused by worldwide recession. (Glas Her 11 Apr 1978)

11 April 1978: 12th Budget. A lower rate of income tax of 25% on the first £750 of taxable income for all taxpayers including the very rich is announced. Its headline supposed stimulus of £2,500 million comes in income tax cuts and adjustments, maintainenance of the structure of the economy. It offers no significant give-back to NHS does not propose to reduce charges for school meals and announces plans for free milk, but only between school ages 7-11. Payment of another \$1bn back to the IMF by the end of 1978 is announced. It makes capital gains of up to £1,000 a year exempt from tax, with reduced rate of 15% (down from 30%) for gains under £5,000 - benefiting the rich and middle-class who have capital that can make gains. It raises taxation on cigarettes and increases the Bank of England MLR from 6.5% to 7.5%. The MLR gives in to financial firms concerned that any reflation or government spending will reduce profits, allowing speculative deals to take effect before any expenditure kicks in. It rejects even the (pro-cuts) 1978 TUC Economic Review calling for "a gross injection" in 1978-79 of £3,800 million (£4,700 million in a full year) in the April budget... to move the economy into a five to six per cent growth path... About £2,000 million of the injection should be in the form of direct tax cuts and over £1,500million should be increased public spending and social benefits, employment creation schemes, expansion of public services and public investment", by calling for

- no capital projects or nationalisations and nothing beyond £150mil for construction.
- 11 April 1978: Britain finally informs UN of its agreement to allow New Hebrides its independence.
- 11 April 1978: Alfredo Reichlin PCI leader in <u>L'Humanite</u> attacks guerrillas declaring: "Its social base rests on the movement of the outcast and discontented layers who do not believe in a mass democratic and political struggle."
- 13 April 1978: Occidental Petroleum, with significant British stockownership, developing North Sea areas, announces a joint venture with Canadian Oxy (82% of whose shares Occidental owns) and Colombian national oil firm ECOPETROL, drilling wells in the Magdalena Valley. Occidental and Canadian Oxy have begun carrying out exploration on the Sogamoso and San Fernando blocks in the event of commercial discovery ECOPETROL is to become a 50% partner.
- 13 April 1978: EEC concludes its first steel import agreement with a COMECON nation. It limits Czechoslovak steel into EEC at 667,000 tons for the FY but gives it a price advantage of 4-6% under the EEC common tariff.
- 15 April 1978: A smart provocation, planned by NF, occurs in Brixton. Its media personality Martin Webster and chairman John Tyndall address a local election rally, under police protection outside, and a limited number of ANL supporters are allowed in. They are then pounced on by NF stewards as they heckle the speakers leading to fights meaning the SPG wade to arrest 'the disrupters'.
- 17 April 1978: A doctor finally resigns from Gough Barracks, Armagh, requesting a transfer, in his letter of resignation Dr. Elliott complains of "the intolerable situation regarding the maltreatment of prisoners". Eventually the Bennett Inquiry is organised to fend off international concern over RUC interrogation, but army interrogation is left un-investigated.
- 18 April 1978: ANL holds a protest against the Young NF Conference held at Digbeth Civic Hall, Birmingham. Riot police are on hand to ensure around 400 NF members enter and exit under police guard.
- 19 April 1978: A random "fairly routine day" of immigration raids arrests 102 alleged illegal immigrants, all are foreign-looking. (Big Flame)

19 April 1978: Callaghan holds talks with Malawi's President Banda.

19 April 1978: South Africa Defence Minister Pik Botha says South Africa invaded Angola with the knowledge and approval of USA: "We are condemned because we went into Angola on a limited scale. There was a time when American aircraft offloaded arms at military positions and military bases in Angola held by South African soldiers. I was there myself and I saw how the arms were offloaded."

19 April 1978: Amnesty Law is enforced in Chile, pardoning all individuals guilty of law infractions during the State of Siege (11 Sep 1973 – 10 Mar 1978) effectively rendering all police, DINA and armed forces members impossible to question over events in those 4.5 years.

19 - 20 April 1978: CENTO Foreign Ministers' talks in London.

21 April 1978: 2 are killed and 8 injured in a gas accident explosion at the shipyard of Harland and Wolff, Belfast.

21 April 1978: Nobel prize winner Prof. Milton Friedman gives an important lecture in Glasgow, the inaugural British Hoover Foundation lecture. In his lecture he admits he has visited Chile on a lecture tour of its universities in 1975 but states he does not support Pinochet the regime. He also asserts that the chances of Chile "returning to freedom" are far greater now than if it had remained under the *Unidad Popular* government.

At a prior news conference he states Britain's situation is "more promising than it appeared to be in 1976" because cuts in government spending from 1976-1978 and a reduction in the rate of monetary growth are "a step in the right direction." He advocates further massive cuts in public expenditure starting with "5 to 10% or whatever the Government can get away with".

21 April 1978: <u>Hornsey and Wood Green Journal</u> publish an ultrasoft interview with Hugh Rossi MP and Margaret Thatcher:

"Hornsey Journal: You're saying that the Reds are not only under the bed, they've moved into every room of the house?

Thatcher: Absolutely.

Hornsey Journal: What do we do to stop them [the Reds] taking over?

Thatcher: First you expose exactly what is happening. It's quite remarkable now, after I'd made those two speeches, whenever I did a walkabout, particularly in industrial towns, person after person would come up to me and say "I've never voted Conservative and I'm a Labour supporter but you're right about this thing". They're so glad that someone had spotted it and was trying to do something about it. So the first thing you have to do is to expose it, expose

what they're doing and expose how they're going to go about it. Literature is one way of getting this across. There have been, I think, a number of articles and novels about this. So, we're aware of it and our enemies know we're aware of it. That's the first step to dealing with it.

Hornsey Journal: Against this background, what is your view of President Carter's decision to postpone manufacture of the neutron bomb?

Thatcher: I took the same view as Ian Gilmour, of course, but I'm sorry it was postponed. It may be that we didn't give him [Jimmy Carter] enough support. He was asking what the views of other nations were and maybe all of us in NATO should have said: "Look, this is one thing we appear to have got which they haven't, this is why the other side is trying to stop us from manufacturing it". Perhaps we didn't give him enough support and make it quite clear that we were behind him. So let's not be too critical of him.

... Hornsey Journal: Against that background, what is your view of the present Government's progressive emasculation of our defence system?

Thatcher: It's quite wrong. In some ways it reminds me of the thirties when we were too slow to get up to full strength. Time after time there were debates in the House of Commons, even after Hitler had marched into Sudetenland, even after Prague. Yet even then there were people in the House, certainly on the Labour side, who were not prepared to have conscription. As you say, this Labour Government is steadily eroding our defences."

"Hornsey Journal: ...Are you concerned about Mrs Thatcher's policy of limiting immigrants?

Rossi: Not at all. I have a mixture of West Indians, Asians, Cypriots and, if you wish to include them in this bracket, Irish, with all of whom I'm in very close contact. It's not only the indigenous white population that is worried about increasing numbers of immigrants. Black people feel equally threatened as, now they are here, they don't want to see the boat rock. If housing, if school places, if the social services are over-burdened with too many immigrants, the blacks suffer as much as the whites. In Hornsey, we have a very good race relations record. We were one of the first Conservative areas, for example, that accepted West Indians into our Association. By giving them safe seats to fight, we ensured that the West Indian community was represented on the local authority. We have excellent relationships and this policy causes me no embarrassment whatsoever. I feel it's a good policy and one I wish our party had adopted earlier."

22 April 1978: AP reports on military officers resigning: "The Royal Navy has had a 68 per cent jump over last year in officers asking to leave. And in the 162,000-man army, officials estimate that between 6,500 and 10,000 men have left or applied to leave. Army

sources soy 977 officers applied for premature voluntary release in the past year — 469 of them in the past four months. This equals the officer strength of 30 battalions. Comparatively, between 1973 and 1977 only 562 officers asked to be released. Under British regulations, army officers must give 18 months notice before leaving the service. But it often takes longer than that to get out. "Many won't be let out for two years," an army spokesman said. "A pay raise is expected imminently and many may change their minds." But unless the government gives military men more than a 10 per cent pay boost, that won't be enough to stem the tide, says Adjutant-Gen. Sir Jack Harman, head of the British army's Department of Administration and Personnel.

It is estimated that the army and RAF have lost about 40 per cent of their experienced officers and technical specialists in the past year The rank of captain has been hit especially hard. And that poses a serious problem because that rank marks the stage in an officer's career when he is considered fully trained and ready to apply his experience. "Ironically, it is often the best young men who leave because it is they who feel most confident about finding another job and earning more money outside" the influential Times of London newspaper said in an editorial on the crisis."

- 22 April 1978: NF election meeting is held in Leeds. ANL counterprotests lead to direct scuffles.
- 22 April 1978: Prince Andrew is awarded a military prize at a passing out parade. At the ceremony birthday congratulations are sent to the Queen.
- 23 April 1978: <u>The Observer</u> begins its colour supplement in-depth serialisation of Piers Paul Read's authorised account of the Great Train Robbery.
- 23 April 1978: 20-year old Phelim Hamill is arrested by RUC officers from home and detained in Castlereagh police station. It is very close to the time of Brian Maguire's detention. Hamill experiences severe physical and mental torture, suffering ear damage, abdominal, kidney and testicle bruising. He is subjects to 'teams' of RUC officers collectively striking him as his tied and forced to stand against the wall spread-eagled for long periods. RUC officers also practice hooded mock-strangulation that induces a suffocating, drowning sensation.

"In the Diplock courts the police will say, "These terrorists are so ruthless that they will go into Castlereagh and kick themselves unconscious before they could talk." You have a judge sitting there saying: "This shows how ruthless and dedicated these terrorists are, that they would come in here and inflict all sorts of injuries on themselves to discredit the police." He believed the police joke.

People on the outside hearing all that and seeing fellows come out where the bruising and swelling was unbelievable, were really getting terrified of what would happen in Castlereagh. When they got into Castlereagh the first day and got beaten around, they were saying, "My God! I've seven days to stick all this. How am I going to stick it?" The whole thing broke people down." (Formations of Violence: The Narrative of the Body and Political Terror in northern Ireland, Allen Feldman, 130)

- 23 April 1978: 5 Western leaders of the Namibia Contact Group Owen, Vance, France's Louis de Guiringaud, D. C. Canada's Jamieson, Federal Germany's Genscher meet at Owen's official residence in London.
- 24 April 1978: "United States Air Force is here with the full consent of Her Majesty's Government, in consequence of the joint determination of our two countries to maintain the strength and deterrent value of the North Atlantic Alliance."
- 25 April 1978: European Court of Human Rights agrees with Isle of Man-government lawyer that birching is neither torture nor inhumane punishment as proscribed by the European Human Rights Convention. Nonetheless, by a 6-1 majority, it rules that is birching is "institutionalised violence" and an unnecessary breach of civil rights. Birching as a legal sentence up to 12 strikes with a cane for those under 14 and a birch rod for those under 21 is considered "a punishment in which the element of humiliation attained the level inherent in the notion of degrading punishment. The indignity of having the punishment administered over the bare posterior aggravated to some extent the degrading character of the applicant's punishment but it was not the only or determining factor." The only dissenting voice in favour of the retention of birching is the 76-year-old Old Malvernian judge, Sir Gerald Fitzmaurice, who explains that he has been caned in elite private school Malvern College and has not felt degraded because of it.
- 25 April 1978: Evan Luard, Undersecretary at the Foreign Office, states the government will endorse sales of Scorpions to the Thai military: "[Q] what is the policy of Her Majesty's Government on the supply of arms to Thailand; [have] any conditions have been imposed on the use of the Scorpion tanks to be supplied? Evan Luard: When considering the export of defence equipment we take into account the relevant political, strategic, security and financial considerations, and the most likely end use of the equipment. It has been the policy of successive Governments not to divulge details of individual sales."

26 April 1978: Len Murray, TUC General Secretary, states he believes trade unions should still observe a 12-month rule between pay agreements: "I think that [a 12-month gap] is right, but it may not always be possible to adhere to it. I believe it is likely to persist and that it would be especially valuable if it did persist."

27 April 1978: Callaghan orders an inquiry into "mischief making" at the Ministry of Defence, where civil servants and Ministry of Defence officials reveal ominous warnings of a loss in morale, loss of officer support, fuelling speculation of militarist action or militarist pressure. No Ministry of Defence officials or Chiefs of Staff are tackled head on.

27 April 1978: Sir Neil Cameron, Chief of the Defence Staff and Head of the RAF, before leaving for the PRC on an official military visit tells a press conference: "This will be the start of a series of visits from the military of both sides." He will have "full and frank discussions on the whole question of defence philosophy facing the two countries, and indeed the whole world for that matter. I'm quite sure they [PRC] are equally conscious of the tremendous growing Soviet threat. And it will affect them – land, air and sea – just as much as it does us.... The Soviet threat has been split to a certain extent. But one worries when one sees the tremendous growth of the Soviet air transport force and the ability to get huge numbers of divisions ... from one front to another very rapidly indeed"

There will be "an exchange of minds with Chinese military leaders in defence tactics, new military technology as well as trading problems." He notes there have been several industrial exchanges and many Chinese engineers are learning of military technology in Britain.

27 April 1978: SIPRI's annual report shows that weapons sales are again on the increase, Britain comes joint third with France, holding 9% of all military exports by estimated financial volume.

27 April 1978: Save the Children Fund organises the Biggest Jumble Sale in the World at Earl's Court, London a celebrity charity auction event. Prince Charles, Callaghan, Thatcher and tax-evader Peter Sellers contribute several items. Prince Charles' coffee-stained menu at a Silver Jubilee dinner is sold for £260.

27 April 1978: Clyde River Purification Board says the chemical pollution into the Garnock, Ayrshire is more serious than first anticipated. Cyanide and other pollutants chemicals have leaked into the river near Beith from the Nettlehirst quarry tip. Newlystocked trout have begun dying as the poison flows downstream. Children are told to stay away and farmers warned not to let their animals graze near to the river.

27 April 1978: Chief of the Defence Staff, professional head of the British Armed Forces, Sir Neil Cameron, begins his tour to PRC to helps advance British-PRC relations and push the sale of Harrier jets. Discussions also continue about the sale of British tanks, Rolls-Royce aircraft engines, air-to-air missiles, 'low-level' defence systems, surface-to-air missiles and anti-tank artillery.

28 April 1978: <u>Hornsey Journal</u> continues its questions on a plate for Thatcher and Rossi. "Hornsey Journal: One hypothetical question here which I know politicians don't like. If Roy Jenkins is right and democracy can't long survive the state taking over half the GNP and if Labour, despite all your leadership, were still in power in 1984, how would you see the country being run?

Thatcher: My fear is that we should have such a socialist state by then that people would be almost afraid to vote for another party in case they might lose their jobs. I would still have enough faith in the British people to surmount that. I think that the British people are fed up with a Labour Government not only because of tax but because they reckon Labour is damaging the spirit of Britain. I was brought up to believe that we were a people who acted very much on our own initiative, on our own common sense. It's that which is being damaged, and it's that which people don't like. They want their children to have the best of their inheritance, and so do I."

"Thatcher: I hate extremes of any kind. Communism and the National Front both seek the domination of the state over the individual. They both, I believe crush the right of the individual. To me, therefore, they are parties of a similar kind....

Hugh Rossi: People are always talking of the National Front as if it were a Right Wing organisation. Yet, if you look at their policy you will find they are a Left Wing organisation because what they believe in is nationalisation on a massive scale. Their attitude towards the European Community reflects the Communist view. If one studies all their items of policy, they are extreme Left Wing and remember the National Socialist Party of Germany was called a Fascist Right Wing party and, in fact, was a National Socialist Party: and it was the state-controlled party of nationalisation—all the things that the Conservative Party hold in absolute detestation Thatcher: The National Front is a Socialist Front."

28 April 1978: Press reports that Sir Keith Joseph has accepted sociologist-Director Ralf Dahrendorf's offer for a public meeting at the LSE. Keith Joseph's lecture has been rejected by a massive turnout in a student union against accepting his visit. Dahrendorf states that only the governing body has the power to reject a speaker, says he will chair the meeting and describes the majority against him as "indefensible behaviour of some of our students".

29 April 1978: Sounds publish an interview with Jimmy Pursey of Sham 69 about his antiracist philosophy before the RAR Carnival: "you've got Tom Robinson and his political thing about anti-Nazis." Now you're getting a lotta kids they're sayin' "That's it! I'm anti-Nazi." They're not thinkin' what they're anti-against, they only know the word "Nazi". If Tom Robinson said, "I'm anti-cowboys" well a few of them would be anti-cowboys! They should think before they start, because what they're doin' is creatin' another barrier between them and some more kids. They should start sayin' "Well let me fink about it first... lemme fink if that's wrong or not." I mean, that is a political thing, an' if you build up something that's really big an' political, you build up two sides. At the moment they're building up two sides, an that is horrific." On the Sham '69 audiences: "95% of them are [not violent] The 5% that do fight are kids that've gone along with another guy... they probably go to football with them geezers on Saturday directly just to cause a bit of bovver. Some of 'em are also National Front or British Movement. But it's the situations where they come from. Listen if your dad is a conservative, or a liberal or a Communist or whatever, nine times out of ten you're gonna believe in the same things your dad believes in, up to a certain age. And they come from places where the black population is well over the limit.... I said at the LSE that this was the last gig I'd do if there was any violence. I'm totally against violence, that's what most of the songs are about. But you've got to play to them kids that cause violence in the first place. I can't turn round and say "You can't do that" they've got every right to do anything they want to do."

Several of Sham 69's road crew and bouncer support are NF supporters. In 1979 Sham 69 start their concerts by playing the national anthem before their sets with stages adorned from start to finish with Union Jacks. "You could go to certain punk gigs, Sham 69, say, and were just as likely to be handed a National Front leaflet as an Anti-Nazi League one." (Tim Mott, teenager punk in the period)

(Angelic Upstarts) Mensi: "I thought Sham 69 were a very, very good band... I still like Jimmy to this day, it's just I thought he went off the rails a lot. He started believing his own hype. I don't kna. His intention was to attack the music industry and I think the music industry sucked him in and spat him out in little bubbles. I think he lost it a bit." (Mensi Internet Interview 2005)

29-30 April 1978: 2 day IMF Finance Ministers' Conference. It refers back to the IMF board the question of a new increase in IMF quotas for newer members (that determine borrowing terms and voting power) and the question of a new allocation of SDRs to relieve foreign exchange market pressure on the dollar. Britain largely supports the US position of linking IMF quotas to SDR reform

(where Third World nations must work to the benefit of the dollar if they seek greater voting power)

30 April 1978: Over 10,000 march through London in protest at government plans to extend the nuclear activities at Windscale. 30 April 1978: ANL's Rock Against Racism's first National Carnival takes place in London. A rally is held at Trafalgar Square then a long march to Hackney featuring five music floats passes through the city. Massive effigies of Hitler and NF chief John Tyndall are displayed prominently on a float. Misty in Roots do not play the main concert although they have a slot on a float. A festival in Victoria Park, Hackney, then takes place, around 90,000 (Tribune) participate.

30 April 1978: BBC records an edition of 'It's a Knockout' in Belfast. Supporters of Rev Ian Paisley's church march on the Carrickfergus arena carrying Bibles and waving banners declaring: "This is a Holy Day" opposing its filming on a Sunday.

\*May 1978: Clive Jenkins, general secretary of ASTMS, states: "The workforce in every mature industrialised country, including Australia, will be decimated in the next decade by a firestorm of technology."

May 1978: Prime Ministers of NATO heads of government, including Callaghan, endorse a NATO Long-Term programme that includes 10 priority categories: enhanced readiness; rapid reinforcement; stronger European reserve forces; improvements in maritime capabilities; integrated air defence; effective command, control, and communications; electronic warfare; rationalized procedures for armaments collaboration; logistics co-ordination and increased war reserves; and *theatre* nuclear modernisation. This final category envisions the siting of nuclear weapons in Europe in the early 1980s.

May 1978: Industrial Democracy, Cmnd. 7231 is published incorporating Edmund Dell's synthesis of City objections to the majority conclusions of the Bullock Report. It suggests initial participation scheme below board level, leading to an eventual third share of responsibility at supervisory board level, in a two-tier structure. No definitive position is taken on whether employee representation should be secured through trade union channels only or non-union representatives and votes as well. The staggered introduction of industrial democracy will allow time for business interests to regroup and recognise to defend their interests in the new arena more carefully, similar to the staggered introduction of political electoral democracy.\*\*

May 1978: US publishing firm Grosset & Dunlap, having paid over \$2mil, an eye-watering sum, to Richard Nixon, issue the first volume of his memoirs. They become a bestseller in Britain and Canada as well as the USA. It strongly defends his action in Indo-China, writing of Johnson's death: "My sadness is . . . that he did not live to see his position in history really established by reason of our winning a peace with honour in Vietnam."

May 1978: Callaghan addresses the National Conference of Labour Women. He refers to "the growth of vandalism and hooliganism" which derives from young people missing "the beneficial influence of the family as a whole in this changing situation". He urges the need "to pay more attention than we have done in the past as to how industry organises women's role at work, so that her influence as the centre of the family, and the woman is usually at the centre of the family, is not weakened." He claims "the nature and strength of the family and our attitude towards it will influence our attitude to care for the old and the weaker members". He does not push for more equal domestic responsibilities between men and women, more equal paid social production roles, more extensive childcare, state crèches in all workplaces, more social amenities for parents etc. \*\*

\*May 1978: Britain in Agony: the growth of political violence by Major-General Sir Richard Clutterbuck, former anti-insurgency chief, active in Palestine 1945-7, Malaya 1956-58, at the Singapore (and Borneo) anti-insurgency bases and subsequently trainer at British and US Army staff colleges, including as Senior Army Instructor at the Royal College of Defence Studies 1971-72, ISC Council member 1974-77, Colonel Commandant of the Royal Engineers, 1972-77, current Senior Lecturer and Reader at University of Exeter's Politics, member of the BBC Advisory Council Department (becoming an "expert" in media eyes on terrorism, violence and 'public order') is published. He has earlier written of Britain's superlative democracy avoiding violence unlike continental or North American varieties, but beginning in 1973 with a grant from the Social Sciences Research Council, he prepares a report then this work and others on 'political violence', urging tougher measures against it. His earlier work 'Living with Terrorism', published in 1985, is in favour of large-scale restrictions on freedom of organisation to root out terrorism.

His outset position is clear "political violence should be treated more seriously than criminal violence, not only because it has a more arrogant motivation, but also because it affects the lives of more of the community. Crimes of violence have increased alarmingly and, for robbery with violence and rape, the courts will send a man to jail for several years. But some magistrates seem to regard political

violence as more morally forgiveable than violence for personal gain."

It is full of distortion and innuendo over the 1972 miners' strike, the 1972 building workers' strike, Red Lion Square 1974, Grunwick's and Lewisham 1977. It presents Lewisham as the responsibility of the SWP - the only named anti-fascist group - whilst the NF is accorded legitimate nobility their "aim was the political one of building up their membership and political support". It fails to see persistent police attacks upon young blacks in Lewisham, Lambeth and elsewhere, both before and during the day of the confrontation to secure the minority NF march. It fails to record police attacks upon picketers at Grunwick's and broadly agrees with the jailing of the Shrewsbury picketers. Its attitude to NF is to treat it as something which the Conservatives can absorb when necessary (without examining the effects on immigrants): "if the country seemed to be heading for really alarming chaos and the Conservative Party threw up a strong leader promising order and national revival - a de Gaulle - the kind of people who join the NF would probably rally to his [sic] lead." A later updated version after the first run is finished, published in late 1980, manages to discuss Southall without mentioning the death of Blair Peach.

May-June 1978: <u>Politics Today</u> issue sees Robert Moss assert in a long article 'Friends in need: Five good reasons for standing by South Africa' that "South Africa is not being hounded because it is racist but because its rulers are white and to compound their offence, anti-Communist".

- 1 May 1978: Effective chief of the PLO in Britain, Said Hammami, a softly pro-Syrian figure, sceptical of Iraq's contributions, is shot dead in his office by assassins almost certainly an Iraqi state intelligence operation.
- 1 May 1978: A Monday, the first official May Day holiday is held. Over 5,000 march from Charing Cross to Trafalgar Square to hear Labour Left speakers in various speeches commending the ANL demonstrations and pleading for government action against cuts.
- 1 May 1978: At a Labour Party meeting celebrating May Day, Belfast Northern Ireland Labour Party leader Alan Carr calls on the government to repeal the Prevention of Terrorism Act not in defence of basic democratic norms, but by arguing that it allows police on the mainland to use Northern Ireland as a "dumping ground for terrorist suspects".
- 1 May 1978: Chief of the Defence Staff refers to CPC Chairman Hua Guofeng as "a great statesman" and calls PLA generals his "dear friends". Hua Guofeng states: "We have a lot of things in common, we hope that western Europe becomes united."

He visits training exercises by the 6th Tank Division in Peking and gives a speech to the PLA. PLA officers applaud as he states the nub of his speech: "Our two countries are coming more and more together. This must be good because we both have an enemy at our door whose capital city is Moscow. We must share, I believe, our common tank experience so that we are in the best position to take on the Soviet tank force".

He later defends himself "the British Government has authorised that I go to China and have discussions on defence philosophy with Chinese leaders."

- 1 May 1978: PCI's <u>L'Unita</u> large front-page headline 'May 1, with the World of Labour, for Democracy, against Terrorism'. PCI conducts joint DC-PCI demonstrations against terror as May Day parades with CGIL chief Lucia Lama calling the Red Brigades the "most dangerous" enemies of workers.
- 1 May 1978: Singapore Labour Minister at May Day Rally: "Ahead of us lie the challenge of an uncertain and sluggish international economy and an increasingly competitive world market. Each partner in the tripartite arrangement for better industrial relations must play its role in meeting these challenges."
- 1 May 1978: A May Day special in India's <u>Economic Times</u> reports India has lost US\$600million in industrial output over the past 12 months due to labour unrest. It notes over 1,500 factories are directly affected, many more indirectly effected (no supplies or transport). It reports man-days lost at over 2million a month one point and a recent shift towards disciplined "violence and destruction of property."
- 1 May 1978: ZANU notes in a statement on Mozambique Radio that 30 blacks have been sentenced to death in under 2 months since 3 Mar 1978 "internal settlement".
- 1 May 1978: Indonesian poet W. S. Rendra is arrested in a mass raid, 3 days after a recital to 2,500 of very oblique poems. A military spokesman comments it "can lead to unrest and social conflicts... it gives people the wrong picture of the results of development"
- 1 May 1978: <u>Daily Mail</u> editorial praises the Conservatives: "If the National Front does have any future it must be by seeking to infiltrate the Tory Party. Fortunately local Conservative associations are far more alert at keeping out the extremists than are Labour caucuses at resisting the entry of Trotskyists and Marxists."
- 2 May 1978: Press uniformly attacks a May Day public holiday. The Guardian leader: "We have had May Day and we are not amused" Daily Mail declares it "more like a one-day national strike than a Bank Holiday... with even the weather working to rule", <u>Daily Telegraph</u> states "May Day, the new public holiday of labour, is fast bidding to oust April 1 as the feast of the absurd." <u>Daily Mirror</u>

simply comments on the weather as a joke "it has been raining now, more or less, since September 1976, when Jim Callaghan called in Denis Howell to do something about the drought. It is time now for the Prime Minister to ten him to stop. Before we are all drowned." Echoing Sir Neil Cameron but not naming him directly, and wryly commenting upon the May Day holiday, The Times publishes an unusually long three column denunciation leader against the Soviet Union's encroachment upon the Western Third World, urging action against "this continuous and probing threat".

- 2 May 1978: Belfast City Council votes to permit Sunday opening of cinemas in its city centre, with the condition that only films suitable for 'family' viewing are screened.
- 2 May 1978: Commons agrees without a vote to refer by 4 Labour Left backbenchers naming signals intelligence officer "Colonel B" as Colonel H. A. Johnstone to the House of Commons Privileges Committee.
- 2 May 1978: Court cases begin against NUJ's <u>The Journalist</u>, <u>The Leveller</u> and <u>Peace News</u> for their temerity in exposing jury manipulation and prosecution corruption of secrecy. (Instead of prosecution being charged with contempt of court, Attorney-General Sam Silkin has encouraged the case against the dissident and trade union press.
- 2 May 1978: Britain joins 17 Western nations abstaining from a resolution recommending an oil embargo and economic sanctions against South Africa.
- 3 May 1978 Callaghan defends the Chief of Defence Staff, but says he does not regard the Soviet Union as an enemy: "He said he was speaking on military matters, not political matters. On military matters he would have the support of the government, but on political matters it is for him to support the policies of the government." Foreign Secretary Owen defends him: "He is a senior and respected figure."
- 3 May 1978: US concedes for the first time, post-Vietnam, that its fighter and long-range military reconnaissance aircraft are using Singaporean military's Tengah airbase. Observation has suggested the military aircraft using Singapore, but not based there permanently, are C141 Starlifters and Orion P3s.
- 3 May 1978: Brewery heiress Lady Henrietta Guinness, who inherited \$8mil in 1975, but escaped to the countryside in Italy in 1976 in agony over what to do with the inheritance, commits suicide from a river bridge.

4 May 1978 8am: A massive South African raid assault into Angola occurs. The first target is Cassinga, a Namibian refugee reception-transit camp 250km from the border with SADF forces.

It begins with ex-RAF Buccaneers and Mirages bombarding the camp at its open-air roll-call and duty rostering with 500-kilo explosives. SADF paratroopers then, dropped by helicopters, then begin an assault the camp, killing or abducting many of the shocked survivors of the initial bombardment. Over 600 male and female adults, including the very elderly and children are killed outright, over 340 are severely injured, over 100 survivors are abducted to the South African military prison camp near Mariental, Namibia. The trained Cuban garrison in Tchamutete, launches an attempted defence but over 60 are killed in their carriers by air-to-ground missiles, bombs and small arms fire.

The second target is Chetequera camp, assault in a straight thrust mechanised overland from Namibia. SADF units kill around 250 SWAPO supporters and guerrillas and abduct another 200 prisoners for interrogation via torture. Over the course of the day, around 1,000 are killed in Angola for the loss of 3 South African servicemen.

- 4 May 1978: Students at the NI Polytechnic, Jordanstown, occupy of the administrative block in protest at the college authorities' refusal to recognise the newly elected president of its students' union, Austin Herron.
- 4 May 1978: Portuguese cabinet approves an IMF accord that gives IMF specific oversight control of its budget expenditure.
- 4 May 1978: Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreottl states again there will not be any clemency or release of any prisoners in the ongoing Aldo Moro affair.
- 4 May 1978: Altab Ali, a textile worker, is stabbed to death walking home from work, near Whitechapel Road.
- "Altab Ali's killers were teenage boys: Roy Arnold, aged seventeen, of Limehouse, Carl Ludlow, aged seventeen, of Bow, and an unnamed mixed-race boy from Poplar, aged sixteen. It was the sixteen-year-old who did the stabbing and when the police asked him why... reply was 'For no reason at all... If we saw a Paki we used to have a go at them. We would ask for money and beat them up. I've beaten up Pakis on at least five occasions.'" (Widgery, 1986)

"When Altab Ali was killed, everybody was upset about it and lot of the young people used to know him, because he was a local person. Since 1976, all the racist attacks were taking place and it came to a turning point on that incidence. [people said] "we had enough, now we need to do something about it" and as a result we managed to organise the demonstration... We marched with his coffin from Altab Ali Park, Downing Street to Hyde Park. The rally took place in Hyde Park and lot of the local activists and activists from London participated and gave their speech."

"BYM was one of the leading organisations that organised the first protest march that involved about 2000 of Bengalis coming out in the streets of London, marching from Whitechapel to the House of Commons and back. And the slogan was 'Here to stay, here to fight" (Rajonuddin Jalal, Internet Interview 2006)

5 May 1978: Carter describes the US attitude "South Africans claim that it was just a retaliatory raid against the SWAPO forces who had invaded Namibia with small strikes, and they've claimed to have withdrawn and have not left any South African forces in Angola. So we hope it's just a transient strike in retaliation and we hope it's all over." US joins Britain in failing to support the UN reprimand against South Africa.

5 May 1978: Groups of British and Irish Ministers led by Secretary Mason and Irish Minister for Foreign Affairs Michael O'Kennedy hold talks in Dublin.

- 6 May 1978: Britain again abstains from a UNSC resolution condemning the recent South African aggression in Angola.
- 7 May 1978: An 18 year old civilian John Collins, is shot dead by a British Army patrol outside Andersontown RUC base on account of driving a stolen vehicle.
- 8 May 1978: Conservative-tabled amendment defeats the government 312-304, meaning a 1% cut in the standard rate of income tax from the Budget in the Finance Bill (1978). Instead of taking action to avert the cut, it is accepted.
- 8 May 1978: A public opinion poll for BBC's Panorama reveals 75% of those sampled in the Republic of Ireland believe the government should announce its intention to withdraw troops from northern Ireland. When asked the same question on mainland Britain 53% of the sample agree in favour of withdrawal.
- 8 May 1978: Owen appoints Blundell's graduate, former speechwriter to Labour's George Brown, former head of Chancery at Britain's embassy in Saigon as its assists the US war, John Margetson as Ambassador to Socialist Vietnam.

Margetson later recollects: "It all happened rather suddenly. I didn't expect this, because Hanoi was the capital of the unified country of Vietnam, and I didn't think that they would ever agree to a chap

who was so involved in South Vietnam being allowed in Hanoi. But they did agree ... Everything in Hanoi for western diplomats was grim in the extreme. We were all living on rations. The country was totally exhausted. ... It was at the end of 1978 the Vietnamese invaded Cambodia. I won't go into that. It's quite complicated. But it led to the British cutting off aid, so I was not exactly popular with the Vietnamese Government. But as a result of the invasion of Cambodia the Chinese decided they were going to teach Vietnam a lesson and they invaded Vietnam through the Friendship Pass, which I had already visited. They came through in vast numbers in a sort of World War 1 type of military operation. Large numbers of infantry, machine guns and trenches. The Vietnamese were really very worried by this, although they said they weren't. I knew and had seen... miles and miles of trenches which the Vietnamese had dug over the mountains as a series of lines of defence which the Chinese would have to overrun before they could reach Hanoi."

9 May 1978: Britain in Paris begins negotiations with France to to agreement over property rights in a newly independent New Hebrides.

9 May 1978: DC chief Aldo Moro's body is discovered. After 54 days of adamant refusal of any negotiations, Italian government begins to stress its backlash law and order credentials. Italian president Giovanne Leone, corrupt but immune dealer in the multi-million Lockheed affair, praises Italy as "one of the freest democracies in the world" and declaring refusing to negotiate has showed "the strength of our freedom."

10 May 1978: Brian Maguire, Brian Maguire, prominent Belfast shop steward AUEW-TASS, and supporter of TUCAR (Trade Unions Committees Against Repression), is killed in a cell at Castlereagh RUC police station. A strenuous RUC Special Branch interrogation (that routinely feature mock-strangulation) has taken place. RUC asserts Brian Maguire has hanged himself from a ventilation grille in his detention cell but others who have endured 7-day detention orders in Castlereagh note that grilles are inaccessible at 4metres from the floor 12ft and too small to permit any material to be hung from. Almost certainly the cell-hanging scenario is staged after an accident during interrogation.

10 May 1978: British Aerospace and RAF give a Hawk presentation to senior USAF, Army and Navy personnel. The day-long briefing is held at the British Embassy in Washington DC. Representatives of US aerospace industry - General Dynamics, Boeing, Fairchild, Grumman, Lockheed and McDonnell Douglas - all attend. McDonnell

Douglas and British Aerospace eventually developed the T-45A Goshawk, a carrier-suitable version of the British Aerospace Hawk.

- 10 May 1978: Essex University students picket Mary Whitehouse, a leader in the campaign to dismiss television journalists and writers who discuss homosexuality.
- 11 May 1978: Former CEO of Safmarine, significant apartheid South African shipping firm, a military leader of air operations in Europe during the World War and in India post-war, Sir Arthur "Bomber" Harris is granted the Freedom of the City of London by the Lord Mayor of London, Sir Peter Vanneck.
- 11 May 1978: Callaghan congratulates the non-negotiation of the Andreotti government faced with the Moro hostage situation: "I am sure that I speak for every hon. Member ... in paying tribute to one who was an outstanding leader of his country. I wrote to Signor Andreotti, the Italian Prime Minister. I told him that the Government —and, I know, the British people as a whole—remain determined that everything possible shall be done, with the Italian Government and other democratic Governments, to protect the rights of individuals and the foundations of our democratic institutions—in Italy and elsewhere—from this terrible threat that has been posed by terrorist violence. ... I shall certainly convey [Thatcher's thoughts correlating the fight against 'terrorism' with the defence of 'democracy'] to the Italian authorities. I am also glad... she mentioned the ordeal that Signor Moro's ministerial colleagues have passed through. I hope that any British Government would face such a situation with the same courage as the Italian Government have done."
- 11 May 1978: Padre Alfonso Navarro Oviedo and Luis Torres, a child of the slums are shot dead by militarists: "Father Alfonso was pastor of the Church of the Resurrection which serves heavily populated neighborhoods, including Colonia Miramonte I and II, Toluca I and II, Universitaria I and II, which are inhabited by uppermiddle class, mid-middle class and lower-middle class people. He had been threatened on a number of occasions. Some month ago, in February, his house was attacked... the garage of the parish house and his car were destroyed. On the afternoon of the murder, he had been at the presidential residence, summoned because of information against him in connection with classes that he was giving at a high school in the capital city... A young boy opened the door and they shot him. Father Navarro ran out to the yard in an attempt to climb over the wall. He was cut down by seven bullets." (Report on the Situation of Human Rights in El Salvador 1978)

- 13 May 1978: In a successful backlash mercenary operation, French Colonel Bob Denard leads a white mercenary group onto Comoros, hired by French intelligence and Ahmed Aballah. Denard forms a new government backed by tribal elders and Aballah. 10 regular Comoran soldiers are killed. Ali Soilih, the locked out President, is finally shot dead 29 May, 1978.
- 14 May 1978: AP "Red carpets have been rolling out for the visiting Chinese currently touring industrial installations and military equipment factories in Western Europe. French and British arms dealers are all agog over reports that the Chinese have come armed with a long shopping list that includes the Puma troop-carrying helicopters, the Harrier short-take-off-and-landing aircraft and Rolls Royce engines. There is no doubt the Chinese are looking to friendly nations to obtain badly needed military hardware and expertise... There was a time when it was heresy to suggest modernisation of the Chinese military for it implied favouring the diversion of China's scarce resources into re-equipping the People's Liberation Army. This was one of the sins of Teng Hsiao-Ping before his disgrace in 1975... A consequence of the Maoist national priorities is a China with a nuclear capability and a massive and ill-equipped foot-army... What the Chinese will more likely be looking for during their shopping foray into Western Europe, are selected package deals which would involve foreign experts helping them establish the necessary factories and plants to produce the equipment domestically."
- 14 May 1978: Undisciplined ZAR units or Colonel Bosange's forces deliberately massacre 30 Europeans living in 'P2 Villa', Kolwezi (Jean Kanyarwunga, République démocratique du Congo, 2006) to provoke Franco-Belgian intervention. In 1981 demoted, exiled Foreign Minister Nguza Karl-i-Bond expresses it is Mobutu's soldiers who massacre the whites in Kolwezi. At the time, the act is immediately blamed upon FNLC and Cubans, whereas Cuban soldiers are not present at all in Zaire and FNLC has a very limited presence. The 'chaos' reported is largely as a result of Zairean armed forces' looting whilst suppressing a generalised rebellion of peasant and copper workers.
- 14 May 1978: Following Altab Ali's funeral around 7000 participate in a march from Whitechapel to a protest rally in Hyde Park. "Self defence is no offence"; "Black and white unite and fight", "Who killed Altab Ali? Racism, racism."
- 14 May 1978: Unofficial strike action by machine minders halts publication of The Observer.

- 15 May 1978: Callaghan and President Kaunda of Zambia meet in Downing Street and agree to £44mil in aid, a significant portion of this will go on British military training and weapons systems.
- 15 May 1978: Glasgow's Lord Provost David Hodge inspects 150 cavalry soldiers of the Household Cavalry in a ceremony.
- 15 May 1978: New York Times reports on détente in Hungary since 1972 "Late this year, DKV, the sprawling Dunai Koolajipari Vallalat oil refinery 30 miles south of downtown Budapest, will open its third oil pipeline—the 10-million-ton-a-year Pan-Adriatic pipeline that originates on Krk Island off the Yugoslav coast. The difference is crucial—unlike its two predecessors, the Pan-Adriatic will carry Middle Eastern crude. ... In the last five years ... Shell, British Petroleum and AGIP were brought in to help in joint ventures. The highways of Hungary are dotted with a startling sight ... Western oil company signs. ... Hungary's biggest hard-currency export to the West is aluminium which, over the country's present five-year plan is expected to earn some \$400 million. Yet the aluminium refineries west of Budapest eat up enormous quantities of electrical energy in processing the bauxite ore.... the Orenburg pas pipeline [is] now being built in the Soviet Union using East European labor and material, such as pipe and associated equipment, bought by the East European countries in the West with hard currency.... Ivan Lipovecz: "The main problem is that, in present circumstances, the East European countries spend far too significant a share of resources expanding sources and supplies of raw materials and too little remains for the building of a modern economic structure"" (Hungary Looks Beyond Soviet for Its Oil, NYT)
- 15 May 1978: Aboriginal Northern Land Council condemns Fraser's decision to allow Pancontinental to begin drilling on its Jabiluka uranium mining site in the Northern Territory. Its leader Galarrwuy Yunupingu warns that Jabiluka is even larger than Tanger and Nabariek and has been consistently opposed by indigenous Australians.
- 16 May 1978: John Hepplewhite of ASBSW, employers' group in shipbuilding: "Had it not been for the creation of British shipbuilders, I believe our industry would have suffered disastrously as yard by yard individually would have crumbled"
- 16 May 1978: Callaghan describes his plans for a future meeting with the Shah: "The policies of the Shah of Iran are intended to produce greater stability in the area in which it is such a powerful

component. Of course, Iran is the most important trading partner we have in Asia, and we must also take that factor into account, too. But I hope that we shall be able to have good discussions with the Shah about a number of matters that are of concern, I know, to him in his process of liberalisation which has gone so far and which, I believe, he wishes to carry further. I should like also to express my appreciation of the help that he has given us in our policies in relation, for example, to the Middle East and Rhodesia."

17 May 1978: <u>The Times</u> reports delegates to the Police Federation complaining that training for riot control is so enthusiastic that the danger of injury during practice is great. The concern is about sustaining morale for fighting the enemy.

17 May 1978: First new Saatchi & Saatchi Conservative Party broadcast is televised. It starts with Land of Hope and Glory as music, images of Big Ben, Spitfires, Winston Churchill on a Second World War army visit, Harold Macmillan smiling and cheering crowds beneath him. A loud voice declares 'this country was once the finest nation on earth. We were famous for our love of freedom, justice and-fair play. Our inventions brought the world out of the Middle Ages into industrial prosperity.' Various images of steam trains, ocean liners, aircraft appear. Then a picture of a mountaineer climbing up. 'Today we are famous for discouraging people from getting to the top' The mountaineer started to descend backwards. Images of the British ships, planes and other inventions and the clock on Big Ben tower appear incongruously in reverse compared to the opening scenes. Japanese people appear inspecting but failing to buy goods labelled British on account of their price. Japanese, French and German goods are displayed inside. A number of people are seated in a court dock, pleading quilty to offences of wanting to own their own homes, wanting a better education for their children, and making a profit of £240mil. 'The country is being pulled apart by divisive government. A Union flag is torn and ripped apart in 2 directions, one part is dropped carefully down, and the other part is scrunched up in a fist.

Then 4 Shadow Ministers Industry Heseltine, Energy Tom King, Employment Prior and Chancellor Sir Geoffrey Howe appear briefly and solemnly to assert Conservatives as the national decisive leaders. It ends again with Land of Hope and Glory and images of Union flags and Big Ben.

19 May 1978: Defence Planning Committee of NATO in Ministerial Session meet in Brussels. Press statement: "Ministers agreed ... an urgent need for Portugal and Turkey to receive external assistance for the support and modernization of their forces... it was the responsibility of all the Allies to take the necessary steps to provide

the essential assistance" Assistance to the Portuguese military helps strengthen it sufficiently to engage in a final push of strikebreaking to bring to an end resistance to IMF austerity plans.

Britain's assistance to Turkish military forces is stepped up from this point onwards in spite of the military coup of 1980. A Parliamentary question in Dec 1984 revealed only "details of training given to foreign nationals is confidential between Her Majesty's Government and the Government concerned. Some members of the Turkish armed forces have been trained in United Kingdom military establishments this year and some were here in 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982 and 1983." (Hansard, 21 December 1984)

- 19 May 1978: EEC Commission approves, later endorsed by the Council of Ministers 6 Jun 1978, opening negotiations for Portugal's entry into EEC.
- 19 May 1978 pm: National council of NGA announces that unless 25 machine minders, give immediate assurances to the union on non-disruption of production at The Observer, strikebreaking alternative staff will be provided by the union and these 25 members will face disciplinary proceedings and be prevented from overtime. The Observer welcomes the NGA's statement: "Their decision meets the essential assurances sought by the Observer for resuming publication. The Observer now awaits the implementation of the decision"
- 20 May 1978: EEC Foreign Ministers meeting sees Britain oppose moves to censure the Franco-Belgian-Egyptian-Moroccan-Senegalese-(US-British) Shaba II intervention.
- 20 May 1978: Another TGWU Day of Solidarity with Garners Steak Houses. 9 out of 16 branches are closed due to strike action. TGWU "The average pay in 1976 for all Garner employees, including managers and directors, was £29 a week". It has reported profits of up to £250,000 but since 1970 It has failed to file a report at Company House.
- 20 May 1978: Antonio Sofia, 76-year-old president of the Argentine League of Human Rights is arrested and circulation of its monthly publication <u>Derechos del Hombre</u> is suspended.
- 21 May 1978: BBC discussion programme Cross Question features Nicholas Walter, self-declared 'anarchist' who has recently enrolled his daughter, Natasha Walter, into fee-paying private school North London Collegiate School, discussing religious education. He makes the claim to centre-right Conservative education spokesman that graduates of Catholic schools occupy more prison spaces, compared

to the rest of the population, by virtue of this education. Playing to traditional anti-Catholic He entirely ignores

21 May 1978: <u>Sunday Times</u> city editor, John Bell explains the new investment strike: "The City seems set on a collision course with the government over the £81 billion which has to be borrowed during the current financial year in order to balance Whitehall's books, despite a rise in minimum lending rate of more than 38 per cent since Healey lifted it on budget day, investors have not been tempted to part with anything but tiny mounts of cash... For the government, there is the prospect that this could develop into an investors' strike of the kind last seen in the summer of 1976. when it played a large part in wrecking official economic strategy." As <u>Tribune</u> later notes: "the City put on the screws. By the end of May, MLR stood at 10 per cent. While the trade unions were keeping their wage settlements at a "moderate" level, the City was driving a coach and horses through the Government's anti-inflation policy."

- 23 May 1978: Notified by Paris, Callaghan agrees to support the French paratrooper assistance to Zairean and Moroccan forces in action in Kolwezi, Shaba against the FLNC. Britain contributes a RAF Vickers VC-10 and 3 C-130s with British Army military surgeons, a field ambulance unit and a field surgical unit, flown to Lusaka, Zambia to assist, on stand-by, the Franco-Belgian military units.
- 23 May 1978: Irish Prime Minister Jack Lynch states "I could have emigrated to America, perhaps and made 10 times as much money... But I have devoted my whole adult life to Irish politics in the hope of advancing the Irish economy, the standard of living, and ultimately the reunification of the Irish people." He states the British government should instigate "a movement toward an administration" with culturally Irish and culturally loyalist alike "In order to have that there must be some executive authority or power in both sides. In other words, it will have to be a proportional representation government or executive. Unless that is achieved, there is no chance of an ultimate breakthrough." He nonetheless agrees with the British government's basic position since "they can't afford to make enemies of the Unionists."
- 24 May 1978: Mark Turner, Chairman and Chief Executive of RTZ reports "Results in 1977 turned out better than expected despite continuous low prices for the principal metals with which we are concerned and produced a profit for the year of £1 million up on 1976. .... Much time and effort has been devoted by CRA to the enlargement of its interests in Australia. The legislative restrictions of both Federal and State Governments have affected its ability to compete with Australian controlled-companies in the further

development of mineral resources. The Australian Government is now fully aware of the problem and we are hopeful that the legislation will be amended. [Rossing Uranium's] modification programme is on schedule and within budget. The full rated capacity of the plant should be achieved in the fourth quarter of this year. Today at RTZ we find a high degree of goodwill and cordiality on the part of developing countries which would surprise those whose views of large scale foreign investment are based more on dogma than on fact. We have never abandoned the policy of investment in developing countries when conditions are favourable and we believe that this can do more for relations between rich and poor nations than any other international activity. It is difficult to predict how we will fare in 1978. Results for the first six months will not be as good as those for the first six months of 1977 and though some improvement in metal prices has taken place, many mines are working at a loss. Results in Canada, the US and the UK are likely to be as good as or better than last year. The low level of investment [in Britain] is not due to any lack of enthusiasm for growth - the very reverse. But growth can only take place effectively if it achieves an increase in the wealth of the community as represented by the real value added to bought-in materials through the interaction of labour and capital and the just rewards of both."

- 27 May 1978: <u>Berlingske Tidens</u> article 'Forces Apply for an Enormous Sum for Hex Communication Equipment': Danish government will purchase "the Rovsing system will consist of eight computer-controlled centres distributed around the country. Two of then will function as control centres; one being directly linked to the NATO communications system. This is the armed forces' only new project this fiscal year. ... DKr 14 million of the DKr 67.5 million will go abroad. This is to purchase cipher equipment to be delivered by a British firm."
- 27 May 1978: LWT begins broadcasting current affairs programme Look Here. Its presenter is Andrew Neil, later to become a strikebreaking chief at the Sunday Times. John Pardoe becomes presenter in 1979. Its producers are Barry Cox, later Deputy Chairman of Channel 4 and Rod Allen, later centre-right Professor at City University. The programme is significantly anti-trade union and helps force even more anti-trades unionist sentiment into BBC programming from before the winter strikes of 1978-9.
- 27 May 1978: <u>The Economist</u> reveals a leaked report of Nicholas Ridley's Committee, the planning committee for action against nationalised industry in a return to Conservative government: "the Report, following its own logic, classified industries into three categories of vulnerability. The most vulnerable group were

sewerage, water, electricity, gas and the health service. The second, intermediate group were railways, docks, coal and dustmen; and the least vulnerable group were other forms of transport, ports, telephones, air transport, and steel. While the ideas and recommendations of the main Report were important, and have indeed served as guidelines for the legislative and industrial policies of the Thatcher government, the real nub came in an annexe prepared by Ridley and some of his coauthors. They addressed themselves to central questions: how to counter any 'political threat' from those who could be regarded as 'the enemies of the next Tory government'. They anticipated a major challenge from a trade union over a wage claim or over redundancies, and since it might occur in a 'vulnerable industry' - such as coal, electricity or the docks - with "the full force of communist disrupters" it was necessary to be clear about the strategy to be followed. Accordingly they elaborated a five point scheme which the Economist summarised as below: Return on capital should be rigged so that an above-average wage claim can be paid to the 'vulnerable' industries. The eventual battle should be on ground chosen by the Tories, in a field they think could be won (railways, British Leyland, the civil service or steel). Every precaution should be taken against a challenge in electricity or gas. Anyway, redundancies in those industries are unlikely to be required. The group believes that the most likely battleground will be the coal industry. They would like a Thatcher government to: build up maximum coal stocks, particularly at the power stations; make contingency plans for the import of coal; encourage the recruitment of non-union lorry drivers by haulage companies to help move coal where necessary; introduce dual coal/oil firing in all power stations as quickly as possible. The group believes that the greatest deterrent to any strike would be 'to cut off the money supply to strikers, and make the union finance them'. But strikers in nationalised industries should not be treated differently from strikers in other industries. There should be a large, mobile squad of police... 'Good non-union drivers' should be recruited to cross picket lines with police protection." (John Saville, An Open Conspiracy: Conservative Politics and the Miners' Strike 1984-5)

28 May 1978: <u>The Times</u> notes: "Socialism, as the left-wing members of the national executive committee understand it, has been in suspense since 1975, apart from the operations of the National Enterprise Board, which support capitalism rather than establish socialism."

28 May 1978: In Paris, the Lumumba Congolese National Movement warns that mercenaries are being recruited via Geneva and Brussels to fight for the Zaire Government against the FNLC.

29 May 1978: Former Labour Minister of Disarmament urges continued military and diplomatic assistance to Western allies in <u>The Times</u>: "It may well be that President Mobutu of Zaire adopts ruthless and authoritarian methods to keep himself in power; but he is not alone in this, and while the West agonises about human rights the Soviet Union goes straight and unwavering to the strategic heart of the matter. Let no one doubt that if Mobutu is overthrown - Bishop Muzorewa in Rhodesia, Mr. Vorster in South Africa or the Shah in Iran - in a bloody and anarchic revolution, it is the Soviet Union which will reap the harvest; the West will reap only the whirlwind."

This attitude masks significant British investment in South Africa, Iran, Rhodesia and Zaire. British firm Turner & Newall controls 90% of Rhodesia's asbestos output via 2 mines Shabanie with over 5,000 workers and Gath's with over 4,000 in 1978. Turner & Newall's Rhodesia assets increase in value from \$9mil in 1965 at UDI to \$138mil in 1980, as a result of mine expansion by retained earnings. Messina, a South African firm, originally wholly British owned with residual British share ownership dominates Rhodesia copper mining with 74% of copper production in 1979. The Bikita mine, the world's largest single mine of Lithium compounds is owned by a consortium including British firm Selection Trust Ltd (40%) and 3 other smaller US firms. The Dorowa mine for phosphate rock that is used as fertiliser when sold to the Rhodesian squirearchy (so called 'white farms') is owned by the South African firm African Explosives and Chemical Industries, where Britain's number one firm ICI has a major stake. Although British firm Globe & Phoenix has ceased production in its major mine in 1975, it still continues to work gold tailings from the Globe & Phoenix mine as a result of the rise in gold prices and a few smaller mines. Anglo-American Corp. operates the large mine in Wankie, with over 5,500 workers in 1978 and 3mil tonnes annual output of which on average between 1975-78 10% has been exported. As a result of investment in nickel after UDI by South African and British companies, the 1977 level of nickel production is at 16,500 tonnes. Anglo-American, South Africa's premier mining firm with strong British links, dominates in nickel having bought up other South African and British firms in the early 1970s. Rio Tinto Zinc, RTZ owns 3 chrome ore mines, a ferro-chrome smelting plant and a refinery, exploiting significant reserves. Rhodesia together with South Africa supply over 90% of the Western world's chrome. It also owns and operates Sandawana emerald mine, several smaller mines for other precious gemstones, Empress nickel mine with 1,300 workers, and, amongst others, the larger Brompton, Patchway, Renco gold mines. It also continues treatment work at

the Cam & Motor gold mine. In total it has a workforce of 3,300 in 1978.

Lonrho operates in Rhodesia through a dense complicated structure of South African and Zambian subsidiaries. It owns 10 out of the 50 large mines that form the National Industrial Council on Mining. 7 (Mazoe, Arcturus, Shamva, Muriel, How, Old West and Redwing) gold mines make it Rhodesia's no.1 gold firm with a combined annual output of over 3.6 tonnes. Several also produce silver. 3 (Inyati, Athens, Shamrocke) dominate copper, with Shamrocke also supplying beryllium. Inyati alone produces over 10% of Rhodesia's total, with RTZ's copper share at over 20%. Britain's Falcon Mines also owns gold mines including Old Nic. RISCO (Rhodesia Iron and Steel Corporation), that has an effective monopoly on the iron and steel sector, is also, in 1978, partly British owned at around 30%, South African firms and trusts at 60%, with the original Rhodesian state ownership at 10%. (Rhodesia National Industrial Council on Mining, May, 1978 as cited in Colin Stoneman, The Mining Industry, Zimbabwe's Inheritance)

In 1979 of Rhodesia's 74 insurance firms, according to government data at least 28 have head offices in South Africa, 20 in Britain. The commercial banking sector is mostly British owned with 3 out of 4 of the major banks operating as a cartel monopoly fixing charges and rates together. The British firms are Barclays Bank International, Standard Bank, Grindlays International alongside mostly South African-owned Rhobank, a subsidiary of Nedbank. (A Field for Investment, Zimbabwe-Rhodesia Department of Information, 1979) It is estimated that \$2,000mil is the value of total foreign capital in Rhodesia in 1978. Britain's assets are estimated at 5% of this total. With South Africa and USA, its major allies, ahead of Britain. Even though direct remittances to Britain and USA are blocked as a counter-measure to official sanctions, mainstream concludes in 1981 "the direct consequences of foreign ownership of the economy have been a capital outflow for twenty years already, and the net outflow is likely to increase". Moreover the direct result of British colonialist emigration and settlement policy the white farms, leaves post-Lancaster House independent Zimbabwe needing at least "a thousand million pounds for the purchase of white farms, and a further one to one and a half thousand million pounds for industry and mining, if compensation on conventional terms is to be paid" (Colin Stoneman & Rob Davies, The Economy: An overview, p123)

30 May 1978: Enoch Humphries, a former FBU national president is appointed a member of the Local Authority Accounts Commission to ensure that local authorities keep their spending within limits.

30 May 1978: Edinburgh District Council's Housing Committee, instead of supporting council home repairs and constructions, increases the financing given over for private home buying, extending the upper limit of state mortgage loans to £9,000.

30 May 1978: BP announces it will lodge an appeal against rates planned for its 200-mile pipeline between Cruden Bay, north of Aberdeen and its plant in Grangemouth. BP alleges the assessment is too high, that the pipeline should be treated as an industrial installation rather than a business one, and that the assessors' decapitalisation rate is too high. Following an appeal by oil companies in 1977 offshore oil installations have been allowed permanent 'derating', exempting them from standard taxation as would apply to any other land building.

30 May 1978: NATO heads of state summits opens in Washington D.C. strongly endorsing the Shaba intervention by French, Belgian, Senegalese and Moroccan forces. Carter states "Our alliance centres on Europe but our vigilance cannot be limited to the Continent. In recent years expanding Soviet power has increasingly penetrated beyond the North Atlantic area. As I-speak- today- the activities of the Soviet Union and Cuba in Africa are preventing individual nations from determining .their own course. I welcome the efforts of individual NATO allies ... to support nations and peoples in need — most recently in Zaire."

Callaghan buttresses the US position, attempting to bring NATO together declaring "for our part there must be a-steady reaffirmation of our approach to East-West relations. At the same time we shall maintain the capability and the will to counter any dangerous uses to which the growing military power of the Soviet Pact could be put."

30 May 1978: NCB chairman, Sir Derek Ezra publishes his book Coal and Energy outlining Britain's recoverable coal reserves of 45billion tons — several times greater than the coal equivalent of the combined resources of North Sea oil and natural gas - enough reserves for well over 300 years at the present rates of production. He notes a need for Britain to secure a greater proportion of international trade in coal, urging investment into railways, ports and ships to better export large quantities of coal. He warns of coal imports spoiling the party: "It may seem almost unbelievable that coal should be brought, halfway round the world to a continent [Europe] which still has considerable reserves. This underlines the unfortunate effects of the rundown of indigenous European coal production in the post-war period."

30 May 1978: <u>The Times</u> reports Labour Left Norman Atkinson, advocating the abandonment of "orthodox nationalisation" – the

main plank of the Labour Left - in favour of "forward-looking systems of co-operative self-management" where "the whole Labour movement ... should now carefully re-examine its current thinking in regard to managerial concepts" and accept the idea of a shareholder model receiving receiving returns from a workforce's surplus.

- 31 May 1978: Littlewoods, the football pools firm, announces its takeover of its 101 in-store wine shops owned by Victoria Wine.
- 31 May 1978: Richard Ellis announces it has been selected as development consultants and letting agents for 2 major office projects in Singapore. The larger is a \$2.25m skyscraper development by the HSBC on the site of its former headquarters.
- 31 May 1978: A man tosses a lemonade bottle at a royal procession of cars carrying Prince Charles, through Newcastle. It fails to impact the window of a car it strikes, nonetheless police officers hustle him to the ground, arresting him in handcuffs.
- 31 May 1978: A meeting of the NUM Yorkshire Area Council calls off the threatened strike action endorsed by pit 66,000 to assist the pay claim of 36 rescue workers, though it receives only promises and no immediate satisfaction.
- 31 May 1978: Sadat warns it will go to war if Ethiopia attempts to deprive it of the Nile waters via construction of a dam on Lake Tana.
- 31 May 1978: Japanese anti-nuclear weapon activists unload 12 tonnes of signatures, around 19 million signatures at the United Nations building in New York, urging tougher UN action to push for complete nuclear disarmament.

June 1978: <u>Bank of England Quarterly Bulletin</u> broadly supports the government's efforts for a lower pay limit than the previous year: "a continuation of anything like this year's rate -of increase in earnings would be quite incompatible with holding the rate of inflation next year or reducing it below this year's figure.... nothing like this year's increase can safely be repeated and that a very marked and distinct fall in the rate of increase in wages is needed if the success of efforts so far is to be pressed home."

June 1978: National Institute of Economic and Social Research's 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter review concludes that any option of action by the government will lead to unemployment: "the slackening of demand which we foresee in 1979 would seem to call for further stimulus later this year, but any such stimulus would reverse the current balance surplus, with the risk of driving down the exchange rate further and exacerbating the rise in inflation."

June 1978: Troops Out Movement in Bristol hosts a public meeting for former British soldiers one describes: "When soldiers are on rifle ranges in Germany or England, it is normal practice to keep a couple of clips of ammunition for the paddies. This is illegal, but the NCOs turn a blind eye. These spare rounds can be used to replace any used rounds in Ireland when on patrol. Baton rounds are doctored with bits of metal and razor blades to cause even worse injury. Uniformed patrols hang around school gates for the aggro... Most soldiers are not sadists when they join up. Most are unemployed lads attracted by three cooked meals a day and the adventure. Soldiers have no rights. The officers come from a different class. Constant drill orders and brainwashing, coupled with constantly carrying a loaded rifle, leads to frustration. This comes out in the violent behaviour in the ghettos"

June 1978: At the deadline for compliance with the new round of Nigerianisation measures – the Second NEP Decrees of 1977 - only half of private firms have been able to comply with its further demands for divestment to Nigerian citizens. Most companies have not provided for the 'worker participation' clauses which stipulate that 10% of foreign-owned stock divested should be for a firm's personnel including half of this sum for 'junior staff'. However, since divestment depends upon the purchase of stock, albeit at low prices, many firms are able to speculatively reinvest their accumulated profits from Nigeria into places like the City of London, which are then able to distribute capital, via the investment funds and banks, to the most profitable endeavours. The most profitable firms remain, broadly, those with western social capital and expertise, whether Nigerian-owned or foreign-owned. In Nigeria's case, oil becomes the sector for investment.

Low air fares are here to stay and British Airways must change its way of doing things to reflect that fact.

June 1978: Ross Stainton, BA chief executive, in the month's issue of <u>BA News</u>, states that faced with planned expenditure of £1,912m on 53 new aircraft in the next 5 years, BA takes the view that low fares are vital to its success. "We have to find a way of offering seats at a price that provides better value than the competition and yet is still profitable in its own right... Many of us believe that IATA has reached the stage where it has either to become a new and different kind of animal of go the road, of the dinosaur.""

1 June 1978: Government removes the words "limited and local" from Regulations of the Emergency Powers Act 1964 so that military forces can be used for strikebreaking on a national level without a declaration of a state of emergency.

1 June 1978: <u>Financial Times</u> congratulates Labour's success: "The unions have learned to understand the link between wages and

inflation, and between inflation and unemployment. The facts of life have won." (FT 1 Jun 1978, p27)

1 June 1978: New Scientist reports on the extension of optical fibres. CEGB is considering "a telecommunications network based on the electricity pylons.... The network would not be linked to the public exchange—this would infringe the Post Office's monopoly—but connect up power stations and other CEGB premises. And the carrying medium would not be the orthodox copper cables but optical fibres, strung from pylon to pylon, probably embedded in the standard earth conductor wire... nal at convenient distances. An experimental optical fibre system has already undergone successful tests along pylons near Bristol. According to Brian Maddock, head of the physics applications section at CBRL, a study looking at the feasibility of covering large amounts of the country should be starting around 1980. Sections of optical fibre could be installed in the process of renewing old earth conductor cables." (New Scientist 1 Jun 1978)

- 2 June 1978: Accord is reached between British Honduras premier George Price and Britain over the use of British forces in the colony and plans for its territorial delineation. Britain opposes Guatemala's claims (backed by El Salvador) and much of central America, but concedes to Mexican claims (the more powerful regional power).
- 2 June 1978: British soldiers in Cyprus pull down the Soviet flag from a display of dozens of flags at a Cypriot international fair in Nicosia. Workers at the fair retrieve the flag from the soldiers who run away and are chased back to their barracks. The Cyprus government criticises the "insult to the Soviet people". A high ranking officer says "I do not believe there was an attempt to cause any trouble or embarrassment and there is a general feeling that the three soldiers must have had a couple of drinks too many." (UPI 4 Jun 1978)
- 2 June 1978: PRC Foreign Minister Huang Hua flies to assure President Mobutu of support in Lumumbashi.
- 2 June 1978: 2 workers are killed in a wind tunnel explosion at BAC British Aircraft Corporation's works in Weybridge, Surrey.
- 2 June 1978: Chief of RAF in Scotland, Air Vice-Marshal Jock Kennedy, in his address to 500 delegates from 300 branches of the Royal British Legion Scotland attending their annual conference in East Kilbride makes a demand for military resources: "Our men and women are becoming genuinely worried about pay— it is far too often the main topic of conversation, in the barrack rooms" but "despite the trauma and the aftermath of the defence review .the quality of our forces is still good, very good. Let's have no false modesty about it. We ought to be jolly proud that it is so good. "

2 June 1978: Tanzanian announces Tanzania announces Lonhro within its borders will be nationalized with compensation. Tanzanian High Commission in London states it cannot allow any firm to operate "if it is known to have undermined the freedom struggle in Southern Africa through its activities elsewhere." It details its mines have used false forged Mozambican certificates of origin for the illegal export of copper from Rhodesia. It nonetheless reassures: "private enterprise, both local and foreign, continues to play an accepted but subsidiary part in the economy. There has been no change in that policy, nor is one contemplated."

In response Lonrho "welcomes the statement that a fair price will be paid in respect of such assets as are now expropriated by the Tanzanian Government" The nationalisation procedures takes over 18 months to complete with presidential assent finally being given on 8 Dec 1979, even though the measures are announced in Sep 1978. These months allow Lonrho to whip up a backlash campaign against the nationalisation, whilst negotiations over the level of compensation continue. Since Tanzania only seeks to give around 5\$5mil and Tanzania demands \$40mil, Lonrho begins a campaign to withhold IMF credits from Tanzania. This pressures IMF not to take the drastic step of withholding aid completely but instead apply more stringent terms on any credit, leading to a Nov 1979 impasse where Nyerere refuses IMF aid on account of the super-stringent conditions.

- 2 6 June 1978: HMS Monkton and HMS Wolverton take part in an RN-TNIAL exchange in Ujung Pandang (now Makassar), Celebes, an TNIAL facility close to Hasanuddin air base.
- 3 June 1978: 11 C-141 US Air Force planes arrive in Rabat, Morocco on Saturday to ferry 1500 Moroccan paratroopers to Shaba to fight against the FNLC.
- 3 June 1978: Scotland's World Cup campaign begins. Cordoba, the site of the first match, is under severe military guard, since it is seen as a stronghold of trade unionist and remnant ERP guerrilla opposition. A pamphlet produced by the government distributed by tour operators has urged travelling spectators to keep out of military "no-go" areas ie not to participate in the struggle against militarist rule. Thatcher has sent a telegram to Ally-MacLeod in Cordoba reading: "Everyone in the United Kingdom is rooting for Scotland as they start their bid to bring home the World Cup, and I wish them the luck to go with their undoubted ability and determination"
- 3 June 1978: Around 150 managers at Yarrows shipbuilders in Glasgow, have win their 3rd pay increase in nine months boosting their salaries by 25% in that time, they have been given almost 10% under phase 3 of the pay guidelines, and 2 "fair wages"

awards from the Central Arbitration Committee (CAC). In Feb 1978, the managers are also among more than 1000 white-collar employees at Yarrows awarded a 10% rise by the CAC, and backdated to May 1977. Now the 150 managers alone have been given a further 5% by the CAC, backdated to 1 Jan 1978. John Lyons, general secretary of EMA, says it still faces a "mammoth task" to increase the general level of managerial salaries in shipbuilding.

- 3-4 June 1978: Five Western Powers hold preliminary italks in Paris featuring senior Foreign Ministry officials from France, USA, Britain, Belgium and Federal Germany. The aim is to establish a common line for the alter 10-power summit in Brussels, where Japan is also involved.
- 4 June 1978: Southampton Top Rank venue hosts a concert of Sham 69. Half-way through, fights break out on Pompey vs Saints football lines.
- 4 June 1978: ZANU's Simon Muzenda welcomes Nyerere's expulsion of British firm Lonrho as an aid "in our liberation struggle. Lonrho is well known to be the biggest exploiter of the African people in Zimbabwe."
- 5 June 1978: Centre-right Conservative Defence Spokesman speaks to generals and officers in the PLA in the 3rd Garrison Division south of Beijing. "We see them [Soviet Union] embarking on imperialist adventures in Africa with their Cuban mercenary forces... We see them promoting bloodshed and suffering among the peoples of Africa with the purpose of creating new colonies, and, above all, threatening the mineral and energy supplies on which Western Europe depends. Nobody can visit China without being impressed by the total resolve and determination of the Chinese people to resist invasion or foreign domination." He says he has recently visited British forces in Federal Germany and that both armies face a "common threat" echoing the views of Sir Neil Carver.
- 5 June 1978: British, Belgian, French, US and Federal German negotiators meet, in Paris, to discuss a common IMF and Western military and economic aid strategy to sustain Mobutu.
- 5 June 1978: Roy Mason, Northern Ireland Secretary, asks Amnesty International to delay publication of its report into torture at Castlereagh detention centre.
- 5-8 June 1978: Huang Hua holds talks with Mobutu and foreign Minister Umbadi Lutete, who at the end of the visit praises PRC and

USA for their constant support denouncing the Soviet Union as "the new Tsars" attempting to annex Shaba.

6 June 1978: Callaghan defends Britain's stance in NATO and UN General Council over Africa. He stresses "the unacceptability of continued Soviet and Cuban exploitation of particular factors of instability in Africa. I expressed my appreciation of the humanitarian operation which the French and Belgian Governments undertook" [The paratrooper assistance to the He reiterates his support for increasing defence expenditure: "The alliance now has a clear guide to the improvements on which its members should concentrate and co-operate in defence plans for the years ahead. In our own case, the Government's decision, in line with others, to increase defence spending by 3% in real terms in each of the next two years enables us to play our full part in this programme, which should lead to greater co-operation in research and production between the allies."

6 June 1978: Callaghan opposes restrictions on weapons sales on the basis that competitors will pull ahead of Britain: "It is true and clear that to withdraw arms sales from any particular area would not permanently leave a vacuum. It would encourage others to enter the vacuum."

6 June 1978: A team of 11 researchers under Prof Maurice Kogan at Brunei University's Department of Government publish a report based on interviews with 516 people in 6 Health Areas throughout the United Kingdom record a "great deal of anger and frustration at what many regard as a seriously over-elaborate system of government, administration, and decision-making" within the NHS 6\* June 1978: Chairman Lord Thomson, of Thomson group owners of The Times titles, at its AGM, forecasts a substantial growth in earnings for the group over the year.

7 June 1978: 800 delegates representing 104,000 members at RCN congress in Harrogate. They unanimously pass motions calling for special treatment for nurses, including the country's top-grade 2,000 management nurses, to be exempt from the voluntary pay guidelines. It broadly displays contempt for organised action, attacking the TUC for failing to agree to pay limits this time around: Mike Walsh RCN rep from Oxford: "If the TUC does stand for social justice, let them stand back for a moment and practise what they preach and allow the most deserving and least paid of all — nurses — to catch up on pay". David Jones, an area officer from Gwynedd, Wales, attempts to make a backlash point declaring that because of bonuses and incentives on offer to hospital cleaners, nurses with 2 years' training can receive £10 less pay than 'cleaners'. Almost certainly these cleaners are supervisor-cleaners. In fact, across the board, nurses receive significantly more than cleaners. He states

"we have got to state that we are not only a special case, but we are a very special case"

7 June 1978: 3 schoolgirls aged 11, 12 and 14 have their right to secrecy in sex cases rescinded by a judge describing them as "an absolute menace to ageing gentlemen." He refuses to give an order that they should not be named. He says the girls have been "seducing" a male adult sexual predator, after hearing that they have been paid up to 50p to lure them indoors for sexual assaults. He refuses to recommend a prison sentence noting: "Why should I? Here was a lonely bachelor seduced by a pack of young girls who were already corrupt. These girls were an absolute menace to ageing gentlemen. They go back to their flats for money" concluding "there are special features in this case which enable me to suspend sentence."

7 June 1978: Berwick burgh council development committee has voted against a plan by UKAEA to drill test bore holes in the Cheviot Hills to establish their suitability for nuclear waste dumping. Councillor Robert Blackball, says the plan is "a prelude to the Cheviots becoming an atomic waste dump".

7 June 1978: A Westminster Parliamentary delegation visits the militarists in Sudan, pledging in Khartoum cooperation on trade affairs.

7 June 1978: Papua opposition leader Okuk accuses Somare and Foreign Minister Olewale of withholding vital information about the situation in Irian Jaya. He attacks the policy of "universalism" in foreign affairs towards Indonesia, and in reference to Irian Jaya states: "we should show sympathy for the efforts at self-determination of all colonially-dominated and colonised peoples." He urges the government to answer allegations that it has "expressly or implicitly" agreed to Indonesian soldiers crossing the border in pursuit of guerillas. (It has agreed).

- 7 June 1978: A Downing Street reception dinner for neocommunalist Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai.
- 8 June 1978: Zaire's official AZAP agency confirms Egypt's contribution of heavy artillery and instructors to the Shaba military force. This has been set up to control Shaba, since the Zairean armed forces are so broadly reviled there.
- 8 June 1978: In an interview on Anglia Television's 'Enterprise' documentary on Fleet Street, Victor Matthews says he can afford to close down the <u>Daily Express</u> and "might well do so" if print unions oppose his restructuring plans. He states he would sack up to 40% of his workforce, if there were no unions to stop him from doing so.

He explains that while a lot of people in Fleet Street could not afford to express these sort of views due to loss of reputation, his Trafalgar House group, with its main interests in property and shipping must do so. "Unless I get the support that I want, then why waste my time? There are easier ways of making profits but I think profits can be made here." Matthews explains that Fleet Street must change and it can not go on with 'union leaders saying one thing and the shop floor saying another'. Trade union leaderships must enforce their rule over the shop floor.

- 8 June 1978: Liberal Party Lord Averbury, is arrested at a pro-Jewish emigration blockade of an Aeroflot ticket office in central London.
- 8 June 1978: EEC Commission announces regional aid worth nearly \$130m. By nation, Italy and Britain receive the lion's share of the aid. Separately EEC provides a 10-year loan of 7.4mil units £5mil is been granted to BICC to help it finance modernisation of a metals works at Prescot, Liverpool.
- 8-10 June 1978: A 3 day strike by over 100,000 hotel and catering workers in Barcelona, Citges and Lloret de Mar sees 80% of hotels, bars, and restaurants inoperative. British tourists are allowed to remain in hotels but buy food in city supermarkets.
- 8 June 1978: PRC Foreign Secretary Huang Hua announces further aid to Kinshasa.
- 8 June 1978: Guthrie Corporation, plantations and industrial firm announces profits for 1977-8 profits up 48% at £19.7m.
- 8 June 1978: 2 prototype Harriers, watched by US Congress members, accelerate from woods onto an ordinary road and take off within seconds and perform an attack with bombs and napalm on a mock convoy in the US Marines' battle training area, Camp Le Jeune, North Carolina. They also come under live fire from land automatic rifles, and act as air support for a USMC mock attack. Marine General Richard Carey, commanding officer of the Air Winj of the 2nd Marine Division states: "We will be setting out to prove that better than any American equivalent. Harrier is Congressmen have already been to the base here recently to see what this plane can do" and tells journalists "don't you worry, we want more Harriers — another 300. I am convinced that Congress wall sanction this in the end. It's just a matter of time." DoD has already ordered 15 from Britain to be built under license in USA.

8 June 1978: 6 of the Great Train Robbers and author Piers Paul Read, promoting their book, invited by its president Robert Harris, give a talk at the Cambridge Union.

8 June 1978: A massive IDF naval and aerial assault on selected Lebanese villages.

8 June 1978: Lew Grade, chief of ATV states: "We sold about \$120m worth of programmes abroad last year and I shouldn't think any other country made one-sixth of that.... I suppose I have an instinct for what is going to go."

The new ATV historical drama series 'Will Shakespeare', created and Mortimer, has already been John internationally by ITC though not a single episode has yet been seen. LWT's Edwardian drama series Lillie, still at the script stage, has been bought by Mobil Oil Corporation (one of America's top TV sponsors) for over £500,000. Over the past 2 years LWT's "Upstairs Downstairs" has been sold to over 71 countries. Thames TV's "The World at War", filmed in in 1973 as the most expensive series ever made, has been sold to 65 foreign countries, turning a significant profit. It displays a fairly conventional analysis, whereby Japanese depredations in Burma are stressed by British famines in India are avoided. However it features top generals' interviews speaking on film for the first time about events. Granada's Coronation Street is particularly popular in Holland, Belgium, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. Thames TV's Benny Hill Show is popular across the world and also in the British-influenced Muslim countries of Bahrain and Brunei. Thames TV's 'The Sweeney' has been sold across the world including to Argentina, where it is shown on state television as one of a number of cop dramas to bolster general machismo-based support for police actions. Its state competitor BBC Enterprise's stated sales in 1977 is £8.5m worth of programmes. 'Monty Python', 'The Goodies', 'It's a Knockout' and the FA Cup Final are its successes. A recent IBA report states: "The world's appetite for British television is almost insatiable."

9 June 1978: Other than a few lines, press fail to fully publicise a report by the Institute of Fiscal Studies (IFS), that reveals Britain is at the top of the league of industrial nations in promoting non-income perks for managers, as a result of high tax rates on personal income.

9 June 1978: Star BBC radio journalist Jimmy Young broadcasts from Cairo an adulatory programme praising Sadat and Begin, featuring an interview with President Sadat but unsurprisingly none from the imprisoned opposition.

9 June 1978: PRC Foreign Minister Huang Hua in Den Haag urges Europe to unite militarily against Soviet activities in Middle East and Africa which are nothing more than "undisguised and unbridled aggression and expansion" He states: "The Soviet Union has

become the chief threat to the West European countries. Now, backed by its military forces, it is flaunting the banner of détente, disarmament, and co-operation with a view to lulling the vigilance of the West European people"

- 9 June 1978: Councillor George Foulkes, Old Haberdasher, chief of Falkirk's Labour council says too many of the districts most able pupils are attracted to service industries, the civil service, and the caring professions but not industry and announces "What we want is a high-powered group to work out a blueprint for the development of liaison between the education authority and industry. Besides councillors, it will consist of some top people from industry and trade union representatives."
- 9 June 1978: Virgin records release 'Short Circuit Live at the Electric Circus' a short album featuring Ian Curtis of Joy Division introducing his song 'At a Later Date' by shouting angrily "Hey! Have you all forgot Rudolf Hess?" at the crowd at the Electric Circus Club, Manchester 1 Oct 1977. Later re-releases of the album in the 1980s delete this section.
- 9 June 1978: British Caledonian and British Airways Helicopters open a luxury helicopter service linking Heathrow and Gatwick airports.
- 9 June 1978: IDF commandos raid from patrol boats and helicopters attack destroying boats, rocket launchers, and buildings in Dahr al-Burj, just south of Sidon, killing at least 22.
- 9 June 1978: South African Prisons Minister James Kruger announces that only 151 have been hanged in the past 2 years.
- 9 June 1978: For the first time, US approves the sale to PRC of a sophisticated infra-red aerial survey scanning system, restricted to Soviet Union, Peru and others.
- 10 June 1978: 21 year old Denis Michael Heaney is shot dead by British army operatives in Derry. Following news of the event, 300 young people come out on the streets in protest are dispersed by shots in the air.
- 10 June 1978: Enoch Powell in a full public meeting in Billeracy, Essex, accuses politicians of being "a generation of pygmies" in failing to halt immigration and begin repatriation efforts: "Britain, with the pattern of population that has already been created, would be neither Britain, nor peaceable, nor governable. Violence does not break upon such a scene because it is willed or contrived, although in the individual instance it appears to be so, but because it lies in the inevitable course of events."
- 11 June 1978: Prince Charles plays a polo match at Cirencester, Gloucestershire for his Les Diables bleus team. This team is

bankrolled as a luxury pursuit of Guy Wildenstein Franco-American businessman and art dealer.

- 11 June 1978: Papua-New Guinea forces are moved to the Indonesia border to fight Irianese guerrillas, under the constitution to prevent the border being used as shield. Indonesian armed forces have been conducting mass sweeps over the past moths.
- 11 June 1978: Around 150 NF and BM storm through Brick Lane. attacking Asian-used premises including a community centre with glass milk bottles and stones. As police approach, attackers flee down side streets. Police instead succeed in arresting 2 Asians, who are subsequently charged with threatening behaviour for defending themselves, their bail conditions include a Sunday stay-at-home restriction, to impede their support for anti-NF demonstrations against NF paper sales. A newsagent shop owner Harry Fishman, eyewitness of events says: "There were about 150 of them like an army. They were shouting, 'Kill the black bastards'. They really went berserk. Every Sunday they come down here looking for trouble. The coloured people can look after themselves when there is 10 or 20 of them, but this time it was 150. I was born here 69 years ago, but it has never been as bad as this."
- 12 June 1978: Christianbourg meeting of EEC Foreign Ministers sees Britain, Belgium, Netherlands, France and Federal Germany ward off opposition over Western behaviour in Zaire, and discuss the future of southern Africa.
- 12 June 1978: Labour Party NEC Home Policy Committee announces fox hunting, stag hunting, beagling and hare coursing should be proscribed, but only after the next election.
- 13 June 1978: John Lennon tries to use the libel laws to silence his first wife Cynthia's autobiography. He alleges that she is in breach of marital confidence. The case is heard in London's High Court on Jun 16 1978. Lord Denning throws it out declaring: "It is as plain as it can be that the relationship of these parties has ceased to be a private affair."
- 13 June 1978: John Nott announces that the Conservatives will seek to emasculate the Bullock proposals and oppose any legislation on the basis of the Majority report.
- 13 June 1978: Air cadets from Hong Kong, India, New Zealand and USA, with officer guides supervising them begin a 3-week visit to Singapore. They attend the annual training camp with the National Cadet Corps cadets at (former RAF) Changi Air Base as guests of

the NCC Air Singapore, as formally invited by ichairman of the NCC Council Prof J A Jansen.

13 June 1978: Leaked beforehand, Amnesty International officially publishes its findings on complaints forwarded to it about Special Branch RUC treatment of suspects at Castlereagh RUC police station-detention centre, near Belfast.

It divides police methods into physical and psychological ill treatment. Among the 'physical' methods are "beatings, attempted strangulation, pressure to sensitive parts of the body, binding of limbs, prolonged standing or squatting in awkward positions, prolonged physical exercise and burning with cigarettes." methods prolonged 'Psychological' "include and oppressive questioning by teams, threats to the family of the suspect, verbal abuse and intimidation." Kenneth Newman, Chief Constable of the RUC, rejects the claims.

13-14 June 1978: Major Western powers - Britain, Canada, France, West Germany, Italy, Saudi Arabia, USA, Iran, Netherlands and Japan — meet in Brussels agreeing on how to reschedule and claw back repayments from loans rewarded to Zaire over the years. France and Belgium also succeed in offloading the costs of their military efforts in Zaire, France having trained pro-Western troops from Togo, Cote d'Ivoire, Senegal and Niger to assist Mobutu, as well as direct training for Zairean military officers. Zaire agrees to a foreign chief comptroller in its Finance Ministry to oversee its public spending, promising reform of Zaire's economic management, and stabilisation of the monetary and financial position, having already agreed to an IMF official as deputy, but de facto overseer, in its national bank, Banque Centrale de Zaire.

13-16 June 1978: The Ceaucescus having accepted a British invitation, take part in their state visit, becoming the first Warsaw Pact leaders to be hosted in Buckingham Palace, having a full state banquet there on 14 Jun 1978. Accorded the Royal Train, the 2 Politburo members are met by the Duke and Duchess of Kent at Gatwick Airport to arrive at Victoria under armed patrol and be chauffeured to Buckingham Palace. In talks with Callaghan, Callaghan announces to the press that détente has deteriorated since the 1975 Helsinki Conference is caused by Soviet activity in Africa, and Soviet (but not Western) arms expenditure. Ceaucescu also visits Tony Benn's 'industrial democracy'-spearheading British Aerospace plant Filton, Bristol, to welcome the £200million deal for joint production of 200 BAC-111 British-designed jet airliners in Romania. Within a month President Ceausescu alongside Reginald Seconde, British ambassador to Romania, and Eugene Schental, senior British commercial officer at Britain's Embassy in Bucharest,

finalise the deal in front of a Rolls-Royce Engine as a PR announcement.

- 15 June 1978: London branch of the Oversea Chinese Banking Corporation moves into its new 6 floor office block, Cannon Street in the City of London purchased for a reported £2.6million, with a reception featuring vice-chairman of the bank, Yong Pung How.
- 15 June 1978: Foreign Secretary Owen announces new planning has been ongoing for rescuing Rhodesian/British nationals from Rhodesia. He states a British rapid reaction force with a battalion already on standby with parachute capability and aircraft that can secure an airfield and act against sudden changes or threats might need further improvement. "I think we've got a better one than some of our Western allies perhaps ail of us ought to look at whether our airlift facilities are adequate. Ours would be of the same sort that the French mounted" in Kolwezi.
- 15 June 1978: Maiden Erlegh school, Reading, reaches agreement with the NUT branch to allow female teachers to wear trousers after 60 NUT teachers, male and female alike, threaten indefinite strike action if female teachers are not allowed to enter school in trousers. The headteacher had suspended 13 who had attempted to teach in trousers.
- 15 June 1978: Northern Ireland Secretary Mason rejects calls for an inquiry into the death of Brian Maguire. He simply declares: "A senior police officer from outside the RUC has carried out a full investigation, and in accordance with normal practice his report is being forwarded to the Director of Public Prosecutions. I understand that the coroner's inquest will take place in public on 26th June....it would not be proper for me to say anything further at this stage." The normal period between death and inquest is currently over 12 months, whilst the Maguire inquest has been scheduled to 6 weeks after the death. Mason and Northern Ireland Office attempt to speedily dispose of the inquest so as to wrong-foot the legal team for Maguire's family and close down the investigation as quickly as possible so as to reduce the likelihood of the discovery of unwanted evidence of complicity in torture.

Lawyer Pascal O'Hare later struggles for more time to examine evidence and assemble witnesses, eventually succeeding in delaying the inquest until Oct 1976. Police teams assemble an unprecedented number of police witnesses, who are well-trained in their responses with NIO legal team. Mason has also appointed Peter Rawlinson, Chief Superintendent of Merseyside Police, to head an internal inquiry, which is planned to come out to coincide with the inquest. A day into his internal investigation, Rawlinson publicly

postulates that Maguire could have ripped a strip of sheet from his bed, wetted it, and used the drying, contracting sheet to slowly throttle himself.

15 June 1978: Pieter Willem 'Wessie' van Westhuizen begins his tenure as as Chief of Staff Intelligence in South Africa's MID (Military Intelligence Division). He has been commander of SADF's Northern Transvaal district and formerly chief instructor, responsible for all education of officers at the RSA Military Academy. He is responsible for instilling an intelligence modus operandi into SADF units, to conduct deniable in-out raids raids when targeting SWAPO and MPLA, to organise pro-SADF cells within guerrilla formations by the future informer role the purpose of interrogations (informing meaning safety for the wife or children). These tactics result in the exceptionally high degree of paranoia in MPLA, SWAPO and MK circles, that lead to brutal Stalinist treatment of minority viewholders. As James Sanders notes "The MID was never credited with the mythical power that observers had attributed to Hendrik van der Bergh and BOSS in the 1970s. That is strange because the actions and strategies of van der Westhuizen and the MID led to the deaths of many more people... MID did not seek publicity and has so far managed to avoid being held to account for its actions... But as van der Westhuizen made clear to Crocker's assistant, the MID believed that it handled real power in southern Africa." (James Sanders, Apartheid's Friends, p159)

16 June 1978: US punk group Suicide open a concert for British group Elvis Costello & the Attractions at the Ancienne Belgique, Brussels. The crowd dislikes the lack of song structures in the music and begins booing Suicide. After constant booing and jeering, and a prolonged loud chanting for 'Elvis, Elvis, Elvis, Elvis...' an audience member snatches the microphone attempting to close Suicide's set early. The promoter enters on stage to demand the microphone back and Suicide singer Alan Vega tells the crowd to "fuck off". In apparent protest at this Elvis Costello plays an exceedingly short set. In protest at this behaviour by Costello, feeling their concert stolen from them, spectators begin attacking the venue and organisers call in riot police who charge in with tear gas making many arrests. The recording of Suicide playing and being heckled is later released as '23 Minutes Over Brussels' in a 2002 Suicide reissue.

16 June 1978: MOD announces 500 combatants of the Sixth Gurkha Rifles will replace the Royal Highland Fusiliers, in the reinforcements sent to British Honduras.

- 16-17 June 1978: Buster Mottram, NF member, professional tennis player, participates in a Davis Cup match in Bristol. Buster Mottram has participated in all the South African Opens he is eligible for, reaching the final in 1977. ANL holds a protest against his presence, protesters are dragged away from the crowd by police.
- 16-17 June 1978: Equity's annual congress sees a motion, in favour of efforts to ban Equity members' participation in theatre tours to Israel and the sale of filmed material to Israel, defeated.
- 18 June 1978: ANL and Bengali Youth Movement Against Racist Attacks march in the East End draws 4,000. They have some success in persuading some businesses to close for the day.
- 19-23 June 1978: UNESCO holds in Paris an academic meeting on Human Rights, Human Needs and the Establishment of a New Economic Order.
- 19 June 1978: ANL holds a protest at NF Nottingham opening a new party office near the city centre. NF Chairman John Tyndall is guest of honour. A direct confrontation occurs as NFers try to repulse ANL protesters.
- 19 June 1978: A 42 year old farm worker is killed after an accident levelling grass in a 35m high silo in Peterhead.
- 19 June 1978: A woman is sent to prison for the crime of not declaring income whilst on benefits after a community service order is rejected. "A mother of three, Jane Mouat (36), who defrauded the social security of £2000, was jailed for four months yesterday at Edinburgh Sheriff Court. Sentence had been deferred until yesterday for a social inquiry report which suggested a community service order. Mouat, a first offender, admitted obtaining £2000 supplementary benefit by fraud between June, 1975, and May last year by making false statements to officials of the Department of Health and Social Security. Mouat was employed as a cashier in a bookmakers in Edinburgh and earned between £19 and £50 a week at the time. An agent said that if Mouat had declared her proper earnings she would have still been entitled to some benefits amounting to about £1300 in rent rebates, family income supplement, and free school meals." (Glasgow Herald, 20 Jun 1978)
- 19 June 1978: A five-week UN special session on disarmament ends with the superpowers, including Britain, having successfully resisted every single effort at limitation of weapons exports to the Third World.
- 20 June 1978: Another EEC fishing zones discussion ends in deadlock.

20-25 June 1978: Saudi Arabia has a large contingent after British Aerospace have signed a £500mil contract with Saudi Arabia for the development of the air force over the 5 five years. These contacts eventually lead to the later Al-Yamamah arms deals. A large PRC military team attends the Aldershot Army Equipment Exhibition after Sir Neil Carver's visit in May, 1978. 10 high-ranking colonels and officers from the Argentine army also attend. Sam Cummings, the media-friendly, small-arms small-time weapons dealer, gives a warm interview for television to describe weapons sales. Peace groups attempt to hand out leaflets to soldiers there: "Arms sold to foreign countries can end up killing you. Remember Aden, think of Northern Ireland... To make money by selling arms is stupid, dangerous and murderous." However they are intercepted by police. British firms exhibiting include: Aero Electronics, Aeronautical and General Instruments, Airborne Industries, Airscrew Howden, Aish & Co., Army Quarterly & Defence Journal, ATA (Training Aids UK), Avon Group of Companies, Bonaventure International (Security), Boughton Group of Companies, Braidwood Developments, Branglea, Brassey's Publishers, Bray Equipment Sales, Bridport Gundry, Bristol Composite Materials Engineering, jewel in the crown British Aerospace, British Leyland, British Manufacture and Research, Brocks Explosives, Caledonian Mining, Cementation (Muffelite), Chloride Group, Combined Service Publications, Compton Son & Webb Group Marketing, Henry Cooch, Corintra, CQC, Coventry Hood and Seating Co., David Brown Gear Industries, Trevor Davies & Sons, Decca Navigator, Defence Manufacture's Association, Alcan Plate, Attewell Engineering, BOC Murex, Branglea, British Pens, Britorion, Clifford & Snell, Commercial Hydraulics, Trevor Davies & Sons, Dynavest, Expamet, Giltspur Packaging, Glover Webb & Liversidge, Gravatom Industries, Stephen Howe (Consultants), H. P. C. Engineering, Humphreys & Glasgow, Herbert Johnson, ITT Components Group, Kabmobil of Portakabin, Leafields Engineering, Linguarama Services, F. H. Lloyd. LPA-REM, Mabey & Johnson, Membrain, Miltrain. N. V. Tools, Penny & Giles Potentiometers, P.I. Casting (Altrincham), Pylon Group, RAD-REPS (Factors), RCA, Reliance Gear Co,, RHP (Ransome Hoffman Pollard), Ring Sights, Rollason Engineering (Sales), Shorrock Developments, Sinclair Sound & Vision, Somerton Rayner Vehicles, Spectronics, Sperry Aerospace, Superfixit, Taran International, Triumph Motorcycles, Wyseplant, Dixon-Bate, Dowty Group, Driclad, Dunlop Aviation & Dunlop GRG, EHI Electronics, English Electric Valve, Evershed Power-Optics, Fairey Engineering, Ferranti, Denis Ferranti Meters, Filopur Water Purifiers, Firemaster Extinguisher, Fodens, A. E. Freezer, Gallay, Galt Glass Laminates, J. R. Gaunt & Son, GEC-Marconi, GKN Sankey, Gloster-Jaro, Glover Webb & Liversidge, G. Q. Parachutes, A. Grantham, Graviner, Grundy &

Partners, Hamworthy Engineering, Heywood Williams, Hi-Flex International, High Duty Alloys Forgings, Hyster Europe, International Military Services, Irvin Great Britain, Johnson Matthey Metals, KeyMed, Lacre, Laird (Anglesey), Lake & Elliot Jacks & Equipment, Leyland & Birmingham Rubber Co, Liner Concrete, Link Miles, Singer UK, Link 51, Lucas Defence Systems, Marlow Ropes, Marshall of Cambridge (Engineering), Marston-Excelsior, Massey-Ferguson (UK), MEL, Microflow Pathfinder, Microwave and Electronic MILTRA, M L Aviation, Morfax, Muirhead, Mullard, Newman Industrial Controls, Newton and Bennett, Package Control, Pilkington PE, Plessey Group, Plumatt, Portals Water Treatment, Psimat, Pye TVT (Telecommunications), Racal Electronics Group, Rank Pullin Control Systems, RCA, RFD Systems Engineering, Richard Unwin International, Rocket Motor Executive, Rolls Royce, Rolls Royce Motors, Rose-Morris and Co, Royal Ordnance Factories, Rubery Owen (Warrington), SAS Group of Companies, Saunders-Roe Developments, Schermuly, Scottorn Trailers, Shelvoke, Short Brothers, Simplon Interline, Sterling Armament Co, Sterling Metals, Singlepoint, Sleeman Engineering, Silentbloc, Industries Aviation Division. Solartron Electronic Group, Sperry Gyroscope, Stonefield Vehicles, Storno, Thermal Control Co, Thomas Smith & Sons (Rodley), Thomas Storey, Tom M. Scotney, Thorn Automation, Tirfor, Tyron Security Systems, United Scientific Holdings, Vauxhall Motors, Vickers Limited (Defence Systems Division), Vitavox, Vosper Thornycroft (UK), Wallon Industries, Ward Engineering Services, Warwick Production Co, Warwick Pumps & Engineering, Weeks Trailers, Westair Dynamics, Westland Aircraft, M. Wright & Sons, Wysegroup.

- 21 June 1978 Andrew Lloyd Weber and Tim Rice's Evita opens at the Prince Edward Theatre, Elaine Paige playing Eva, David Essex Che Guevara and (one time tea plantation manager in colonial Kenya) Joss Ackland as Juan Peron. It features distortions over Evita's life, based as it is on the account by Mary Main, member of the Anglo-Argentinian conservative landed aristocracy, titled 'The Woman with the Whip'. Its dramatic inspiration is Argentine film director Carlos Pasini Hansen's TV film Queen of Hearts produced by Thames TV. It telescopes Argentina's history into a bizarre form of fairytale and features a 'Che' dressed as Che Guevara acting as a chorus.
- 21 June 1978: King Hussein and his new wife, a wealthy Arab American heiress, arrive at the Gleneagles Hotel for the first part of their luxury honeymoon.
- 21 June 1978: Callaghan appoints Roger Carroll as special adviser and speechwriter. He is finance editor of <u>The Sun</u>, former Parliamentary journalist.

- 22 June 1978: Another Western 5 meeting over Zaire Britain, Belgium, France, USA, Federal Germany in Paris.
- 22 June 1978: Rhodesian armed forces, supported by aircraft bombers, attacked an agricultural project in Manica, Mozambique. 17 Zimbabwean refugees and 2 UNFAO officers are killed. The raid also captures, according to jungle survivors, several refugees, back into Rhodesia presumably taken for interrogation/torture information querrilla to extract over movements.
- 23 June 1978: An all-black Selous Scout countergang unit attacks Pentecostal-run Elim Missionary School in Vumba (within ZANU-PF guerrilla's operational zone, which has assisted by giving shelter and food and water to its operatives). Almost immediately, British press begin using the Smith regime's assertion that this is a guerrilla attack on black and white civilians living in rural harmony.
- 23 June 1978: <u>Far Eastern Economic Review</u> in 'Japan '78: Overview' reports the rise of hard-nationalist tendencies gaining ground for the first time since the war, particularly finding resonance in export-oriented 'cottage industries' that have been increasingly shut off from Western export markets. It reports even some Japanese liberal academics becoming more pessimistic about the "sturdiness of the democratic political process in Japan".
- 24 June 1978: Rendcomb's Prize Day headmaster's speech shows the enduring strength of the public school system.: "You may remember that there was great anxiety last year when the Department of Education asked for details of all places taken up by local authorities in independent schools. Would our long connection with the county be brought to an end? We were delighted when the minister decided that for the next three years at least our places were safe from government direction. Naturally, Shire Hall will want to keep the arrangement under review, but at least we have this tacit admission that there is still a need for boarding education which the state cannot fill. ... I gather from the newspapers that before long most of the work we do will be taken over by microprocessed silicon chips. Fortunately, however intelligent these midgets may be, they haven't yet learned to programme themselves, and I shall be surprised if some of our best Rendcomb software doesn't find scope for their talents in this developing field. If at the age of fifteen you are organising complex lighting circuits for a school play and designing subtle burglar alarms for your headmaster there must be an opening for you in British industry or business. And talking of business, a headline from the local press

this year read 'Rendcomb Tycoons Progress'. This was a reference to the Business Game, organised by the Institute of Chartered Accountants and International Computers Ltd, and schools all over the country choose a board of directors from their sixth form to make decisions simulating those in a real business. Out of 390 we reached the last 27 and missed reaching the last 9 by the narrowest margin. But one further thought before I move on, and a vital one: boys and girls from Rendcomb have another quality besides business acumen still not common enough in our society; they are free from the limitations of snobbery and class prejudice of every kind. If the same could be said of all our youth the future of industrial relations in this country would look a good deal brighter than it does at present.... A-level results were impressive and they enabled the majority of boys and girls to go on to the universities of their choice. We maintained our usual high average of between seven and eight O-levels per head ... One further point is that this is no intellectual hothouse cramming weedy scholars who have shot their bolt when they leave here. Our honour boards and vour programme this afternoon show that there is a steady record of university prizes, first class degrees and research distinctions which emphasise that Rendcomb is a launching pad for further successes and the fulfilment of potential in later life. ... The foundations of the sports hall show just how big this new building is going to be and it will be ready in January, just at the time when the snow is lying deep on the hockey pitches. Badminton, netball, basketball, tennis, cricket, as far as I can see rugby is the only game which you cannot play on it. As I expect you know, the science laboratories have been extended and completely modernised, and from where I speak I can see the solar panels which are at this moment funnelling the sun into the swimming pool. You have to watch people swimming to realise just what pleasure a few thousand gallons of water at seventy degrees can provide.... The appeal ... now stands at over £110,000. As much of the money is in the form of seven year covenants, a most handsome loan from the Dulverton Trust has enabled us to go ahead with the work immediately. There remains the final stage of our development programme, the conversion of the conservatory into what will be the most attractive and unusual assembly hall and theatre ... retaining its period charm, but provided with all the up to date equipment and furnishing required. The appeal will be closed on Founder's Day in 1979 so we have exactly one year to find the remaining £40,000. Parents have most kindly felt able to give, on average, covenants of between £20 and £30 so may I encourage those who are still considering what they can manage to help us towards our goal.... Giving money is like having a tooth out - there may be a slight twinge at the time, but you do feel better afterwards. ... I have appointed four able young men to the staff in September you might well believe that they would be needed simply to replace ... two [retiring] men. However, it is not exactly like that - a larger staff will improve our ratio of masters to boys and enable us to extend our range of opportunities. As chaplain I have appointed a young man who has had both teaching experience and responsibility for 10,000 parishioners in a Welsh town. As physical education master and assistant biologist a Loughborough-trained man with the experience to coach the first fifteen and run the sports hall. In addition to these a well qualified musician to help Mr. Willson, and finally a graduate of Durham University to launch our A-level geography course from the firm foundations laid by Mr. Burden."

Guest speaker at Prize Day is Vice-Admiral Sir Louis le Bailly, chairman of the Civil Service Commission Board, who "recalled a speech which he had heard whilst training at Dartmouth entitled 'The Golden Moment': in this speech it was suggested that the victories of Nelson at Trafalgar and Jellicoe were the result of self-discipline and self-training, and not just 'flashes in the pan'. Through the training of common 'copper moments' and rarer 'silver moments' such men were able to recognise and seize their 'golden moments'"

- 24 June 1978: ANL march through Redbridge, Barking and Newham against NF-inspired anti-immigration attacks.
- 24 June 1978: Ishaque Ali and his cousin, returning home from work, in Hackney are attacked by 3 whites. Ali dies of his injuries in hospital.
- 24 June 1978: <u>Socialist Worker</u> reports 'Killer Dust OK, says secret report' that the government's Advisory Committee on Asbestos's further reports will follow the pattern of the first two that suggest no major change to asbestos laws. The first report (Asbestos Work on thermal insulation and sprayed coatings, June 1978) comes out against any trade union representation in the authorisation of asbestos-stripping firms. The second (Asbestos measurement and monitoring of asbestos in air, June 1978) opposes the use of scanning microscopes to accurately measure asbestos levels even though the "embarrassing fact" is that there is in some cases a 50% error in concentration measurements.
- 24 June 1978: Soviet Union-Turkey Cooperation Declaration.
- 25 June 1978: Iceland's general election sees prime minister Geir Hallgrimsson's government lose its majority.
- 26 June 1978: Inquest into Jack McMahon's death, a 22-year-old IRA operative last seen alive in RUC custody before his body is fished out of a stagnant stretch of the River Lagan, takes place.\*\*

- 26 June 1978: NHS electricians' shop stewards vote to end a work-to-rule and accept a productivity scheme.
- 26 June 1978: Zia ul-Haq announces in a speech broadcast over Radio Pakistan that he will appoint and preside over the new cabinet, after having abandoned the idea of a 'national government' with political parties leaders.
- 26 June 1978: Zambia's nationalised newspaper <u>Zambia Daily Mail</u>'s editorial urges the PF to enlist Soviet and Cuban troops directly against Rhodesian armed forces: "What the Patriotic front leaders had better start thinking seriously about is to escalate the war, bring in the Russians and the Cubans openly and get the damn thing done within a year."
- 27 June 1978: A sign of a growing strength and feeling spurred by government action against immigrants, neofascist parties in Europe, the PSI, Fuerza Nueva and Front National conduct a large joint march and rally in Paris.
- 27 June 1978: Senator Muriel Humphrey and Vice President Mondale accompany Callaghan to the 'Tribute to Hubert Humphrey' dinner in London. Callaghan is awarded the Hubert Humphrey Award for International Statesmanship. In his speech he attacks the "new imperialism" of the Soviet Union in Africa. He asserts "No country has the right to intervene for its own ends in the affairs of another."
- 27 June 1978: Britain's North Sea Oil areas reach a combined output of over 1 million barrels a day, placing Britain as the  $16^{th}$  largest oil producer in the world.
- 28 June 1978: Frank Judd explains over Cyprus: "We are deeply concerned about not only Cyprus but strategic and defence issues in the Mediterranean."
- 28 June 1978: Foreign Secretary Owen reiterates "Southern Africa is a very important source of many crucial raw materials" and that there is "the vulnerability of the copperbelt in Zambia, particularly as a result of what has happened in Zaire. It is common knowledge that forces crossed through Zambian territory into Zaire.... There is a danger of law and order breaking down in Zaire, Zambia and that part of Angola, and that is why it is important that the political heads of those countries should come together."
- Shaba II is considered dangerous out of national concerns about a a social movement of Katangans, demanding real concessions or socialisation of the Western copper complexes. FNLC is not considered a genuine liberation movement Owen stating "it is complete nonsense to lose sight of the fact that Western influence

in Africa is probably stronger than it has been over the last five years because of our readiness to support genuine liberation movements" meaning FRELIMO and ZANU, the most pro-Western of the guerrilla groups. ANC, Sahrawi guerrillas in the liberated areas of the SADR, FROLINAT and others are considered unacceptably insistent on non-concedable positions.

28 June 1978: ANL protesters rally outside Wimbledon courts to protest NF member Buster Mottram again taking centre stage.

28 June 1978: A 30-minute meeting between Callaghan and David Steel and Liberal Treasury spokesman John Pardoe results in the government gifting employers another £150mil by reducing their National Insurance contributions.

CBI, still dissatisfied, states: "We would regard a surcharge of 1.5% as only three-fifths as bad as one of 2.5%—but it's still bad. We believe it would still be very much in the best interest of Britain and British industry for the Government to seek to find this money from cuts in its own spending, or if it can't do that by having a standard 10% VAT rate" [instead of 8% on basic necessities]

28 June 1978: Long-term discussions begin in Aalborg over the future of EEC Fisheries and CAP.

29 June 1978: Civil Service Department produces a directory of paid public appointments made by government ministers. It reveals that ministers appoint 5,600 managerial or chairperson paid roles.

25 new quangos (quasi-autonomous governmental bodies) have been added to, 11 have been disbanded and 7 removed from the previous list last time around 2 years ago in 1976.

30 June 1978: Callaghan reaffirms the need for pay restraint in Aug 1978: "Don't view it with shocked disbelief and cries of anguish when you hear what the government has in mind... I do not know whether you will like it but what I do know is that it is essential policy number one"

30 June 1978: Jack Cater, who allows hundreds of corrupt policemen to escape Hong Kong, is appointed Chief Secretary, ie deputy leader of the colony.

July 1978: Dockers employed by the Royal Navy on the Clyde stop work on the loading of 3 Polaris nuclear submarines as part of a wage claim.\*\*

July 1978: Socialist Campaign for a Labour Victory is launched: "there would seem to be an increased public recognition of the significance of the differences between the left and right of the Labour Party if only on the level of distinguishing between the Party and its activists and Conference on the one hand, and the government on the other. If the Left were visible and fighting, this

would be a major boost ... We believe that it is the left wing of the party which can provide the greatest reserves of energy and enthusiasm." (SCLV appeal statement. July 1978)

July 1978: White Paper on Immigration boasts of increasing expulsions of foreigners: "Measures to combat overstaying are pursued vigorously and given a high priority. Deportations have more than doubled between 1973 and 1977"

1 July 1978: ANL march in Brentwood, Essex.

1 July 1978: Record Matter interview the Clash about RAR. Their manager, Bernie Rhodes, in discussing racial attacks says "There's a lot of Pakis that deserve it." He is corrected by group members. Observers of the Clash report members making repeated jokes about Bernie Rhodes' Jewish origins leading to a bizarre dynamic with Bernie Rhodes openly projecting rightist backlash ideas. Bernie Rhodes, a record label owner, is manager of the Clash from 1976-8 and 1981-6 (the Clash's 'split' end of musical production). Among others, he is manager of the Subway Sect, Dexy's Midnight Runners and the Specials. Later, in a Clash 30th anniversary conversation in front of a theatre full of people Rhodes declares: "If you want to sort out crime in London, sort out the n\*ggers in Peckham." (Guardian 2007 Oct)

2 July 1978: Police arrest 8 at a meeting of the Co-ordinating Committee of Turkish students, in the Greek Theatre, Camden Town, London.

2 July 1978: An international business conference is held in Earls Court encouraging foreign investment by British firms. Jack Keayney, chief executive of Enterprise Australia, says Australia "has discovered at enormous cost" that Britain's industrial relations approach do not work, and contrary to media exaggeration the investment climate is very positive in Australia: "Australia has discovered that, whether we like it or not, we have a mixed economy, and management and labour simply have to get together to make it work, or everyone loses. The way is now clear for the implementation of a national policy of consensus and co-operation in industry instead of confrontation. Business, commerce, and industry have a bright future in Australia now that inflation has been slowed and the trade union movement is becoming more aware of the need to support a mixed economy. Confrontation is now a dirty word in. Australia and private industry is getting understanding and support from Labour Governments, and trade union moderates throughout the country."

2 July 1978: An evening attack on a cornershop operated by Nazir and Munir Ahmed in Longsight, Manchester. NF graffiti covers several parts of the area and the Ahmeds assume the attackers are

linked to the NF. When the brothers attempted to call the police, they discover that their assailants are in fact plain-clothes officers. The two are eventually charged for assault on a policeman. The defence lawyer states: "The police were just out of control." and campaign for the Ahmed Brothers is launched.

2 July 1978: Arab League agrees to isolate the PDRY regime. It ends politico-diplomatic, economic and cultural relations including technical aid. The immediate outcome is that the oil massive refinery in Aden, nationalised with limited compensation to BP in 1977, will longer be supplied with crude oil from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the other Gulf kingdoms. The peninsular Middle East had previously agreed a million-barrel a year deal after the nationalisation to compensate for BP's boycott. PDRY is left at the mercy of its (limited) relations with Soviet Union, Libya, Algeria and Iraq.

2 July 1978: Australia announces it will buy the Indian Ocean Cocos Islands archipelagos from their British owner, John Clunies-Ross, whose bloodline was awarded them in 1886 by Queen Victoria. The "King of the Cocos" will be paid £3,780,000 by Sep 1978 to complete another part of Britain's decolonisation efforts after a UN Decolonisation Committee visited the islands in 1977 to discover the 360 Malay copra worker inhabitants of the Islands still working as effective slaves for the copra farming firm (which Clunies-Ross is chairman of).

2 July 1978: Women in suffragette clothing disrupt an open-air ceremony in gardens beside the Houses of Parliament to mark 50 years since 1928 female voting act. Their demands are muffled as they are forced out of the ceremony. Conservative Women's shadow spokesperson Sally Oppenheim, makes a speech at the ceremony claiming the Suffragettes displayed dignity at all times and "won universal respect for courage and the fundamental justice of their cause which was eventually widely recognised", of the hecklers she states: "I wish in contrast that the Women's Lib movement today always conducted itself with the same dignity. I am very grateful to those here today for making my point for me... Some of the demands for equality can go too far and women could very well stand to lose more than they gain by some of these demands." Later around 50 women picket arriving guests, including Lord Lew Grade, chief executive of ITC Entertainment, and Princess Margaret, at a special concert at the London Palladium, a 'Golden Gala' of women entertainers, celebrating women's suffrage.

3 July 1978: Instituted by the government, the new diamond export regime means diamonds can be exported without licence to Ireland, Channel Islands and Gibraltar.

- 3 July 1978: "In the nationalised industries the managers are much more arrogant than in the private sector. Because they are themselves highly qualified engineers and technicians, they feel higher in the order of merit and bully the workforce. They are as tough as old boots." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 6 July 1978: A day of planned NF violence. An attack takes place near Brick Lane at night. 9 Asian workers are hospitalised. Cars with the assailants speed away unharmed.
- 6 July 1978: Asian brewery workers are ambushed at the end of their shifts near Three Mills Lane, Bow.
- 6 July 1978: Having been given a permit by Lothian Regional Council, the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards hold a massive parade along Princes Street, Edinburgh, attended by the Duke of Kent. It features large numbers of armoured army vehicles as part of the drive past.
- 6 July 1978: Ian Paisley and Rev Robert Bradford disrupt a Roman Catholic prayer session held in the grounds of Westminster, shouting and threatening attendees.
- 6 July 1978: A train fire on the London-Plymouth line ignites killing 12 and seriously injuring 15. Due to restrictions in space dirty linen is stacked in plastic bags in the vestibule, against the heater, causing the fire. There are limited fire prevention measures including sophisticated warning systems, fire retardant materials
- 7 July 1978: A series of tough Saatchi & Saatchi advertisements appear in magazines including the <u>TV Times</u>. Bold headlines state: "Mugging up 204%. Criminal damage up 135%. Robbery up 88%." The text stating: "Labour's record on crime is criminal. Crime is one of the few things in Britain that is booming under Labour. It certainly doesn't make the police's job any easier when some Labour ministers are seen associating themselves with potentially violent situations-as they did at Grunwick last year." Bolded endline: "Is it safe to vote for another Labour government?"
- 7-9 July 1978: John Davies, Conservative spokesman for foreign affairs, visits Salisbury Rhodesia. He states if Nkomo and ZAPU cannot be brought into the internal settlement framework, 2 options remain- either to support an imperfect settlement that aims for elections, or to stand and fight to the finish, declaring In the end, if faced with this stark alternative, we would have to opt for. the former."
- 8 July 1978: 800 delegates of ANL at its Conference in London vote to prepare for another giant carnival "Carnival 2" in Lambeth on Sep 24 and to work to form local 'Women against the Nazis' groups. The first occurs whilst the second by and large doesn't.

8 July 1978: <u>Glasgow Herald</u> reports the words of an anonymous GP in Govan district of Glasgow on the lack of suitable NHS primary health care: "On average we allow five minutes per patient with an appointments system, which is not nearly enough"

9 July 1978: Chile Solidarity Campaign-organised march past the Chilean Embassy and rally in Hyde Park sees NALGO's Geoffrey Drain, Sheila Cassidy and Chilean refugees address the crowd.

9 July 1978: Leslie Harriman, UN Chairman of the Special Committee Against Apartheid, Nigeria's ambassador to the UN, and chair of UN committees on peace-keeping operations in an interview with the Nairobi Times: "On almost a daily basis, Carter has been expressing concern over Cuba's role in Africa. Were it not for Cubans, Mozambique and Angola would still be under the firm yoke of the colonialists. Cubans have never attacked any sovereign state internationally recognized boundary. What they or crossed an have done is to assist oppressed people. The Cuban role is well supported in the United Nations charter on decolonization." He states accurately: "There would be no Namibian or Rhodesian problem, but for South Africa. The best thing to do is to bring all pressure to bear by strictly observing oil and economic sanctions against South Africa."

10 July 1978: Guyanese referendum opening the way for a Burnhma-PNC-easy-to-control constitutional system gives a 'yes' with 97.4% on a turnout of 70%. "Informed sources estimated that only about 14 percent of the electorate voted, yet the regime announced it had won an overwhelming mandate to proceed as it intended [to centralise power in a Prime Minister-President-Parliament triumvirate]"

Following the referendum, the minority PNC government effectively extends its lifetime from having under one year left to five years left before the next election. Very quickly opposition newspapers are closed down, opposition students are attacked by hired thugs, police take students under gun-point to paint pro-government slogans.

"Every dictator has his own style. Some use the force of the army and suspend the constitution. Others use the force of the constitution backed by a forest of arms. Burnham likes to be a dictator acting under the written law. He begins by acting against the law and then changes the law to suit what he is already doing. Under the new constitution all of the dictator's dreams will come true. The law is made in order to allow him to do anything legally. It is all set out and approved by Parliament. ... He will not only be commander-in-chief of the armed forces, but commander also. He can do whatever he wants without being accused of illegally

interfering with the army. He will be head of state and so will claim all the rights of a king. He cannot be sued in court, because the courts will be his. He will be supreme executive authority. This we must see as a law in itself. It gives him a veto over every other executive authority including the elections commission. (Dayclean Vol 4n9 1980).

"The increasingly authoritarian administration of Forbes Burnham premised on fierce competition for political power and mass discontent... poured resources into preparing all the security services, including the police, for internal strife. Between September 1976 and May 1979, 4,000 gas grenades and projectiles were acquired from the United States under the Commercial Sales program, at a cost of U.S.\$187,000. Guyana also received foreign assistance from the United States, both monetarily and in the provision of training to members of the Force. Between 1950 and 1979, a total of 9.6million U.S. dollars had been received by Guyana, in military subsidies awarded to threatened pro-U.S. regimes, from the United States Economic Support Fund, formerly known as the Security Supporting Assistance Program.... The police force that Burnham had so diligently crafted became indispensable to his campaign of internal surveillance and the silencing of all dissenting voices. Records of police abuses in the use of force, brutality, and torture are piecemeal for the years preceding 1980, when the Guyana Human Rights Association started to collect data on human rights violations. ... There is reference however, to the occurrence of police killings in the petition issued by the Movement Against Oppression to the government in 1970 [and onwards]"

10 July 1978: The British Tax System by Mervyn King and John Kay economists working on the Meade Committee examination of taxation for the IFS, is published. Tables in the study show that, between 1975 and 1976, wage bills increase by half the amount that company dividends increase by. Just at this time the government has spearheaded its battle against wage inflation, give a year for Britain etc. The total aggregate wage bill of 675 companies covered by the survey increased by 12.5%, whereas dividends were up from £683mil to £840mil, or 23%.

In 1976 these 675 firms register gross increases in profit averaging more than 18% compared with the previous year. Yet their tax payments increase by only just over 3%. 'Deferred taxation' is one method. Another are tax concessions allowed to companies which claim major expenditure on capital equipment and stock buying, The Treasury has already made it clear that they will never be collected. In 1977-8 the top 675 manufacturing companies listed £4,604 million of their assets as 'deferred taxes'- over £1,000mil more than than 1976-7. For accounting purposes, the firms write off

£958 million in 1976-77 as necessary for UK taxation and £777 million for overseas taxation. Yet the total actual amount paid in taxation, domestically and internationally is only £1,141mil.

Only one form of company taxation is generally paid at all thanks to deferments, the so-called mainstream corporation tax. BP having made profits of nearly £1.8bn in 1976-77, has its accounts write down tax liability as £1.598bn, its corporation tax due comes at £138 million, of which it has barely paid a fraction. 13 of the firms have paid either no real profits tax last year or only a nominal sum entirely unrelated to their trading performance. P&O, Rio Tinto Zinc, GKN, Grand Metropolitan, Ford UK, Esso, Dunlop, Courtaulds, Bowater and Allied Breweries all pay no mainstream tax. These 10 firms between them have reported latest annual profits totalling £988million.

- 11 July 1978: A 16-year-old John Boyle, is shot dead by undercover operatives of the British Army, near an arms dump in Dunloy, Co. Antrim. He has been shot under shoot-to-kill guidelines, suspected of being a 'terrorist'. His family had earlier reported the arms dump to the RUC.
- 11 July 1978: Government announces development of the HS146 four-jet short-haul airliner, later called the BAe146.
- 12 July 1978: ACAS Council announces that it has carefully considered all aspects but is is unable to proceed with either of the two referrals by APEX and TGWU against Grunwick's under sec. 11 of the Employment Protection Act.
- 12 July 1978: Defence Secretary Mulley leads a meeting in London between Federal German, British and French Defence ministries over NATO Eurogroup defence cooperation including the MRCA.
- 13 July 1978: IMG asserts the solemn duty of a "grim reality" voting Labour. It argues "socialists inside and outside the Party have to face the grim reality that there is no alternative but to call for the return of a Labour Government" (Socialist Challenge, 13 July 1978, p7)
- 13 July 1978: A stunning 10-and-a-half-hour cabinet with the pro-NATO chiefs of the military present results in the Turkish government announcing new measures for Turkish police forces, to be assisted by Britain and Federal Germany. Government announces that the Chief of Police will be replaced and the Military police system of the Jandarma (Gendarmerie) will be extended. New special forces 'ozel tim' will be headed by police chiefs trained in Britain. Istanbul and Ankara will each be divided into 8 security zones, where no slogan-painting is to be tolerated, each to have a chief, trained in Britain.

13-15 July 1978: Northern Rock Against Racism Carnival Manchester 'Northern Carnival'. Since ANL have incorrectly informed Manchester council over music license for three days. most of the first day is cancelled, and all of the second day is cancelled. On the Saturday, a march of 18,000 proceeds from Strangeways, near the city-centre to Alexandra Park, Moss Side. 35,000 attend the music festival in Alexandra Park. Paul Morley in the New Musical Express (21 July 1978) expresses disgust at open political organisation occurring at the Northern Carnival: "Whilst listening to the speakers I'm weighed under with paper, continually accosted by someone wanting to sell some literary propaganda. Leaflets to join the SWP, the Young Communist League etc. This is not a little disturbing."

14 July 1978: <u>Far Eastern Economic Review</u> reports that between 1970-6, the Middle East has received by financial volume around 50% percent of total arms sales to the Third World, and Britain secured only around 10% of this pie, however it has improved its share throughout 1977 and in the first half of 1978.

14 July 1978: <u>Tribune</u> explains why the TUC campaign against overtime and for greater employment will lead to failure: "The TUC's new onslaught on overtime looks doomed before it has properly begun. At a time when wage restraint seems to have led to more overtime working than ever, union officials privately admit that there Is little chance of many workers agreeing to moves that would cut take-home pay unless they were accompanied by substantial increases in basic rates. The NUR has taken the lead In the campaign by asking branches to act at local level and force the British Rail Board to fill the 10,000 vacancies in the industry. But at the NUR's annual conference in Llandudno this week, the general secretary, Sid Weighell, warned that if the union carried out the TUC's recommendation on limiting overtime to 20 hours a month, the services would be seriously undermined. ...

[in all sectors] three years of pay curbs have cut the real value of wages so substantially that overtime working is more than ever essential to maintain living standards. The latest statistics from the Department of Employment confirm the impact of wages policy on overtime. At the last count (April) the average worker in manufacturing notched up 8.7 hours of overtime a week. A year earlier the total was 8.3hours, a year before that 8.1 hours... the sticking point is still likely to be the impact of any reductions in take-home pay."

14 July 1978: A fire takes place at the Albany centre in Deptford that hosts ANL RAR gigs. A note is discovered the following day through its door: 'Got you'.

14 July 1978: Grunwick's Strike Committee announces end of the strike, after vote amongst the strikers dismissed from Grunwick's. The defeat is forever celebrated by backlash forces: "As a result of those battles in the 1970s, industrial relations have been calmer and more responsible... Grunwick has blossomed with Bonusprint, Doubleprint and Tripleprint. Horseracing has benefited greatly from George Ward's sponsorship." (John Gouriet, Hear Hear!). Published on the same day written before the announcement Tribune reports on the final stages: "trade unionists from all over the country rallied to the Grunwick cause. But it was to prove finally to be all to no avail. Since the Law Lords ruled in December that the ballot conducted by ACAS was unsatisfactory, ACAS hat been busily trying to organise a further and more comprehensive ballot covering all Grunwick employees. But although discussions have taken place between the Grunwick management and APEX along with ACAS officials, George Ward has persistently refused to co-operate further by allowing ACAS officers access to Grunwick employees to conduct a second ballot. Without any legal ruling which can enforce a ballot, ACAS has been left with no alternative but to accept the reality of the situation by announcing that it can no longer assist matters. APEX, which has always maintained that the dispute can be settled only through the services of ACAS, is similarly left with no option but to back down as gracefully as it can and by withdrawing its official support and strike pay will effectively end the two-year siege of Chapter Road. "There Is nothing we can do any more," was the despondent message of the strike committee this week. "We are all deeply disappointed that the strike has been allowed to die a natural death. Everything has been taken out of our hands with ACAS delaying all the time and APEX prepared to do no more than await ACAS's inevitable decision." Every morning a token picket still stands outside the Grunwick gate, scene of so many incidents in the past. But the crowds that once crammed noisily around the narrow entrance next door to Dollis Hill tube station have long disappeared to be replaced by a mere two or three familiar faces clutching placards... with the stigma of "Grunwick striker" firmly attached to them, the task of finding someone who will employ them cannot be easy. The blacking still continues, however, says the strike committee. No mail vans have crossed the picket line yet and the company is forced to pick up its own post each morning from the nearby sorting office. Only a few, small, privately owned companies are known to have driven their vans through the tall bolted gates of the factory which are opened only a few times each day.... George Ward... was recently approved for the Conservative Party's Parliamentary candidates' list... Finding new employees has presented its problems and with an Asian community standing firmly behind the strikers. Ward, has had to rummage among North London's Chinese community to boost his workforce."

<u>Tribune</u>'s conclusions: "any defiance of the courts by Post Office or electricity workers would have let to arrests, sequestrations and an inevitable loss of public sympathy. The strike committee will always believe — and perhaps it is right — that stronger action would have won the day, although there can be little doubt that George Ward would never have re-instated the strikers." (Tribune, p3)

15 July 1978: Bob Dylan's Blackbush concert is held in the Aerodrome, Camberley, Surrey. There is a special reserved section not for the disabled but for VIPs.

15 July 1978: Having been assisted by Marconi, South African Defence Force headquarters announce the establishment of new a military area radio system (MARS) for officers' command and control needs. It features a 24-hour-a-day control system covering western and northern Transvaal, Natal and the northwestern Cape Province. Plans are underway for another system for the other provinces.

16-17 July 1978: Callaghan attends the Economic Summit Meeting of the 'seven industrial powers' in Bonn.

17 July 1978: Milliyet reports "In a press conference later this week Prime Minister Ecevit will announce new [security] measures... he will describe decisions taken by the Cabinet after it met with the National Security Council [chiefs of the armed forces]. He will explain the government's new course of action after his meetings with Chief of the Armed Forces Kenan Evren and chief of the National Intelligence Organisation [Milli İstihbarat Teskilatı] Adnan Ersin." As background it notes: "Members of Scotland Yard's antiterrorist wing, invited by Turkey, prepared a report to gauge Turkey's security forces. It declared that Turkey's anti-terrorism was insufficient and police expertise was severely lacking. On this recommendation, the Interior Ministry agreed to send Turkish police chiefs, deputies and trainers to Britain for instruction. The police training that started two months ago continues. British police experts frequently travel to Turkey and remain in contact with security chiefs and jointly decide superintendents and chiefs to send to Britain Even now, there are around 50 Turkish police chiefs being trained in Britain." (Milliyet 17 Jul 1978 p9 My translation)

17 July 1978: Leeds Castle, in an intense security operation, hosts Cyrus Vance and Egypt and Israeli foreign ministers.

17 July 1978: Callaghan appoints Sir Bob Hunter, Vice-Chancellor of Birmingham University 1968-81, who calls police to clear student

occupation of university buildings and then imposes severe cuts under Heath and beyond, a life peer.

17 July 1978: Responding to a call from Tower Hamlets Defence Committee, supported by Tower Hamlets Trades Council, a 'day of action' against racialist violence is held. A generalised strike and shut-down occurs on the Monday in much of Asian-dominated parts of Tower Hamlets and even parts of Hackney and Newham. Shops, small businesses, parts of bus garages and schools are closed. Ford Dagenham plant's car body workers, mostly non-whites, stops work, the 'Asian' textile workshops halt production as do 2 small Turkish-heavy dress plants in Hackney. A 10,000 strong march through Brick Lane is held.

17 July 1978: PLO-Fatah statement issued in Lebanon accuses Bakr and Saddam in Iraq of seizing small arms plants set up in Iraq and financed by Palestinians and "also seized by Iraqi authorities were £I5mil worth of Chinese medical equipment, ammunition, and battle fatigues for 30,000 men." (AP)

17 July 1978: Lieutenant-Colonel Ali Abdullah Saleh is elected YAR President in a nearly totally rigged election.

17 July 1978: Benn announces he will instruct CEGB to order a £600mil coal-fired power station, Drax B, in Yorkshire, close by to the Selby coalfield. CEGB has no need to start building another power station for at least 2 years since it has ample capacity. However the order is necessary for the benefit of the NCB and other firms. The turbine order is for C. A. Parsons (the Reyrolle-Parsons subsidiary) and boiler work is for apartheid-suppliers Babcock and Wilcox.

Plans for the merger of the turbine activities of GEC and Reyrolle-Parsons and the merger of the boiler making capacity of Babcock and Wilcox and of Clarke Chapman, are thwarted by the move. Industry Secretary Varley attempting to organise the mergers, had warned the Drax order would be delayed or witheld until agreement for mergers is concluded. CEGB still refuses to confirm a 5-year CEGB ordering programme to bring about the necessary mergers, unless the industry is restructured.

- 18 July 1978: France announces it will only accept British participation in the European consortium venture behind Airbus if it is agreed British Airways will not buy from it.
- 18 July 1978: Judge Michael Argyle at the Old Bailey, having reprimanded the defence for raising the issue of the attackers' NF membership, and declaring it irrelevant for the jury, sees the jury

convict the Virk brothers – Joginder receives a 7 year, Mohinder a 3 year, Balwinder a 2 year and Sukhvinder a 3 month sentence. No Asians are accepted as witnesses, since their testimony (as non-charged people) is against the police. Judge Argyle later states "Justice in this country is even-handed"

18 July 1978: Government-TUC meeting attempting to renew social contract wage restraint at 5% is deadlocked in failure.

21 July 1978: Sir Alex Page, chairman of Metal Box, which makes around 7 billion cans and tins a year and is BSC's biggest recipient of tin-plate (£150mil in 1977), at its AGM complains of BSC's 9% price rise for tin-plate, announced to come into effect within a fortnight. He states he has already registered "acute concern" with Sir Charles Villiers, BSC chairman. Page nonetheless explains the increase must be borne in can prices "and therefore ultimately in the price of canned foods."

21 July 1978: Winning the Battle Against Inflation, the government White Paper for economic strategy in 1979 is published. It offers an across-the-board 5% increase for pay settlements, excluding productivity deals. Where agreed by management increases above 5% are allowed so long as the wage do not exceed £44.50 a week. There is some relaxation on dividend payments, apparently in an effort to encourage consumption and investment by the rich.

21 July 1978: An 11-year-old David Cameron flies British Airways Concorde from Heathrow to Washington D.C. This is the first stage of a trip organised by the parents of his schoolfriend, Peter Getty, grandson of US oil billionaire, John Paul Getty. Peter Getty, Cameron, three other friends and a teacher from Heatherdown as a minder fly in the exclusive service. On the flight, amongst other food, the party eat caviar, salmon, beef bordelaise and Dom Perignon 1969 vintage expensive red wine.

The trip is for Peter Getty's 12th birthday. The group is chauffeured in an air-conditioned Lincoln convertible. They visit restaurants in Washington DC; stay in the Hotel Pierre, New York; fly to Disneyworld, Orlando and the Kennedy Space Centre; Las Vegas' MGM Grand Hotel; a Grand Canyon helicopter tour; Hollywood studios in Los Angeles. Finally they fly to spend a week at Pacific Heights, the Getty mansion in San Francisco.

21 July 1978: Government responds to Frank Allaun's question on the transfer of nuclear-weapon producing material to Pakistan. "Frank Allaun: asked the Secretary of State for Trade if consideration has been given to the purchase of variable frequency inverters, which are used in 455W gas centrifuges to enrich uranium, by TEAM, a German company, for supply to Pakistan, in the light of the provisions of the non-proliferation treaty or other measures to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons.

Tony Benn: I have been asked to reply. Yes. However equipment specially designed for use in a gas centrifuge installation was not at that time subject to the Export of Goods Control Order."

Components being exported by a British firm, Emerson Electric Industrial Controls, to Pakistan would enable it to build nuclear weapons. Emerson Electric Industrial Controls is a subsidiary of Emerson Electric. Allaun claims that the high-frequency electric equipment exactly matches components used by British Nuclear Fuels Ltd. Allaun says he received information about the order from "a friend who had a friend." The British government reports back that the items specified in the Allaun's question are not included in the British export control list. The order is placed by a firm, Weargate Ltd, in Swansea. Over the next three months, Emerson Electric Industrial Controls, exports 31 complete inverter systems to Pakistan. The inverter systems, routed through Weargate Ltd, can be used to regulate a large number of centrifuge machines in a uranium enrichment plant.

21 July 1978: Labour Left Heffer: "Of course we are all critical of the public expenditure cuts which have taken place as well as the incomes policies which .... have put far too much emphasis on the inflationary pressures created by wage increases and almost ignored the damaging effects of price and profit rises. Yet there is little doubt that the Government has protected the working population from the most serious effects of the capitalist world crisis" ('Only socialist policies can bring a Labour victory', Tribune, 21 Jul 1978)

21 July 1978: <u>Tribune</u> urges adherence to the police in facing antiimmigrant violent attacks: "Merlyn Rees should himself visit those areas of the East End and speak directly to the leaders of the immigrant communities After their experiences of the last few months, the need is for action to be taken swiftly [by Merlyn Rees] if they [community leaders] are not to lose control to some in their communities who, dangerously, argue that 'self-defence vigilante' groups should be set up."

21 July 1978: In response to protests and large stay-aways against his massive electoral fraud, General Juan Pereda Asbun, leads a coup with the support of the Santa Cruz squirearchy and business community, traditional leaders of Bolivian society to secure the presidency and maintain militarist rule.

- 24 July 1978: Britain's unilaterally enforced exclusive fishing zones dominate EEC Fishing discussions.
- 24 July 1978: <u>Milliyet</u> reports British police experts staying in Turkey continuing to provide training courses [including] police public relations. It also reports a large group of Turkish police begin training courses in New Scotland Yard particularly on a course of 'Interrogation techniques and methods'.
- 24 July 1978: General Osvaldo Leigh, chief of the Air Force, and the 'populist' within the Chilean junta, in favour of state ownership of economic concerns, is purged from his post with armed soldiers guarding his office and headquarters in Diego Portales and retired. His place is taken up by ultra-loyalist but only tenth most senior officer Fernando Matthei.
- 25 July 1978: Britain states it will only enter into the EMS (European Monetary System) if CAP is reformed in Britain's favour.
- 26 July 1978: Britain expels 11 Iraqi citizens including 5 diplomats for assisting Iraqi intelligence operatives targeting anti-Iraqi Middle Eastern figures in London, primarily over the assassination of pro-Syrian PLO chief, Said Hammami on 4 Jan 1978.
- 26 July 1978: Government locks out civilian activities at Faslane Naval base and brings Royal Marines to reinforce standard security cover to allow Royal Navy sailors, under the instruction of civil servant management, to load the boycotted Polaris submarine Revenge with missiles and other equipment. In response, workers threaten a sit-in at the Royal Navy's Clyde docks. TGWU is basically opposed to the action and begins talks to end all disruption at Navy facilities.
- 27 July 1978: Treasury Minister Denzil Davies explains why the Labour Manifesto is not being fulfilled: "This Government will always be concerned with the expansion of the public services.... Unfortunately, that expansion must be financed through taxation or borrowing. These are often two constraints on that expansion."
- 28 July 1978: IMF finalises its conditions for the credit agreement: cuts in government spending, freezing of all wages, an end to subsidies allowing more affordable fuel.
- 28 July 1978: Moss Evans, TGWU General Secretary, is reported in <a href="Times">The Times</a> pledging £500,000 towards Labour Party campaign "despite the fact that we disagree with the current White Paper, our

union will do everything in its power to get Labour re-elected" (The Times, 28 Jul 1978, p21)

30 July 1978: Rhodesian armed forces conduct massive raids on on the Mozambican countryside and various guerrilla and refugees camps.

30 July 1978: Mark O'Fiaich, Archbishop of Ireland, visits Maze Prison, where republicans are 'on the blanket' in protest at criminalisation. He issues a statement the following day urging the government to adopt an alternative prison uniform and end the confinement of those who refuse to wear prisoner uniforms.

"Nearly 200 from the Archdiocese of Armagh are among a total of almost 1,80n prisoners in the Maze Prison at Long Kesh. ... I met as many as possible of these Armagh prisoners as the bishop appointed to minister... I was shocked by the inhuman conditions prevailing in H-Blocks 3, 4 and 5... prisoners complained to me of beatings, of verbal abuse, of additional punishments (in cold cells without even a mattress) for making complaints, and of degrading searches carried out on the most intimate parts of their naked bodies. .... prisoners' cells are without beds, chairs or tables: They sleep on mattresses on the floor and in some cases I noticed that these were quite wet. They have no covering except a towel or blanket, no books, newspapers or reading material except the Bible (even religious magazines have been banned since my last visit), no pens or writing material, no TV or radio, no hobbies or handicrafts, no exercise or recreation. They are locked in their cells for almost the whole of every day and some of them have been in this condition for more than a year and a half. ...

The human dignity of every prisoner must be respected regardless of his creed, colour or political viewpoint, and regardless of what crimes he has been charged with. I would make the same plea on behalf of Loyalist prisoners but since I was not permitted to speak to any of them, despite a request to do so, I cannot say for certain what their present condition is. ...

He urges a speedy resolution lest the protest continue too long with predictably damaging results: "it seems they prefer to face death rather than submit to being classed as criminals. Anyone with the least knowledge of Irish history knows how deeply rooted this attitude is in our country's past."

31 July 1978: Social contract Stage III officially ends between the TUC and the Government.

August 1978: Chrysler sells its entire European carmaking operations in Britain, France and Spain to Peugeot Citroen S.A. for \$230mil, but including \$400mil of debt to be resolved.

August 1978: IMF arranges credit for Guyana stand-by facility of only 15 million SDRs on condition that its balance of payments deficit is ended. In Aug 1979 IMF is to give a much healthier 100 million SDRs with the undertaking by the government to undertake a wage freeze and unilaterally abrogate the 3-year Minimum Wage Agreement between itself and the TUC. Only when costs are imposed on Third World working populations is credit released.

Aug 1978-May 1979: A series of bitter social services strikes take place across 14 local authorities featuring about 3000 NALGO social workers. Over £2mil is spent in strike funds. \*\*

August 1978: The month's <u>Spearhead</u> (no120) publishes an editorial-style article noting most serious nationalists are "opposed to mass abortion... there are a number who disagree". The Abortion Act is "the logical offspring of the Permissive Society" which denies "life to hundreds of thousands of babies a year" as a necessity. "For nationalists there are even more cogent arguments to put forward", for whites to permit abortion with "the already disproportionately high coloured birthrate" is suicidal. Those who favour abortion are seeking to destroy Western society by destroying the family when "the having of children became a matter of debate... Above all, it [abortion] is a calculated weapon in the hands of the nation-wreckers".

August 1978: British firm Ferranti wins a contract worth over £1.5mil for installation of a BUPIA (break-up predicted impact area) system (based on a Ferranti FM-1600E computer) at the RAF Aberporth, Wales, missile testing range. It will allow missile tests to take place whilst ships are in the area as well, allowing many more tests than the current 3 per year.

August 1978: Scottish Council (Development and Industry), headed by former STUC president John Matheson, issues a report on 5 major firms' schemes of 'industrial democracy' and 'worker involvement' in Scotland. It recommends a gradual route: "The studies demonstrate that employers and employees in Scotland are aware of their responsibilities and are working together to encourage the growth of consultation, based on information. This is the imperative grass roots development which has to be undertaken before any further extension of industrial democracy is possible"

1 August 1978: "Q What are the details of the recent sale of British warships to Egypt

Lord Goronwy-Roberts: It is not our practice to give details of defence sales contracts."

- 1 August 1978: Roy Mason's Northern Ireland Office explains its attitude to the blanket protest: "These criminals are totally responsible for the situation in which they find themselves. ... It is they who by their actions are denying themselves the excellent modern facilities of the prison. It is they, and they alone, who are creating bad conditions out of very good conditions. Each and every prisoner has been tried under the judicial system established in Northern Ireland by Parliament ... serve[s] their sentences for what they are - convicted criminals. They are not political prisoners ... Simply by observing the rules, which are an essential requirement if good prison administration is to be maintained, these protesting prisoners would immediately have all furniture, books and magazines returned ... These facilities are better than those available in most prisons in the rest of the United Kingdom. This protest action is the basis of a propaganda campaign which has been mounted by the IRA. It has been roundly condemned north and south of the Border. Not surprisingly there have been allegations made to the Archbishop about ill-treatment of prisoners by prison staff. There is no truth" "prisoners and those who influence them should realise that the Government will stand firm on its policy on special category status. No one who is convicted of a crime carried out after 1 Mar 1976 - and that includes those involved in the 'dirty' protest - will be given any form of special status. As soon as this decision is understood and accepted conditions in the cell blocks can return to normal."
- 1 August 1978: US Congress votes to end the partial embargo on arms sales to Turkey. Senate has earlier voted 27 Jul 1978 to do the same.
- 2 August 1978: Financial Times significant incentintive subsidies to GM management for it to locate in Belfast rather than elsewhere which created six hundred new jobs at a cost of twelve thousand pounds each to the government.56
- 2 August 1978: Prince Charles attends a Royal Regatta at Cowes with a new high-class sailing pleasure boat.
- 2 August 1978: Foreign Secretary Owen reflects on the Western effort to neutralise the FLNC rebellion in Katanga and squeeze the MPLA into detente with Mobutu: "The Belgian and French Governments, helped by the United States Government and by ourselves, launched a humanitarian exercise to try to save life in Kolwezi.... That force has been withdrawn and replaced with an African force.... It says much for the statesmanship of President Mobutu that he has been prepared to listen to considerable criticism. Although these are early days, there are some hopeful signs that the Zairean Government are making some of the

administrative and political changes that are necessary to bring stability to that country. As a result of a series of meetings over the past few days, arranged with the encouragement of the Presidents of Zambia and the Congo, President Mobutu of Zaire and President Neto of Angola have taken significant steps towards reconciliation. Diplomatic relations are to be established between their countries and provision made for the return of refugees whose exile has provided the focus for the dispute in Shaba province."

Owen welcomes Angola's new drift: "It is up to South Africa as to how it sees the stability of Angola, but I believe that it also sees signs, as I see signs, of a change inside Angola, of an emerging African [capitalist] nationalism. ... There has been some reduction and some of those forces have gone back to Cuba— though nowhere near enough."

- 2 August 1978: Rev. Paisley urges support for Smith's Rhodesia: "I think that [Reginald Maudling] was on the right lines when he suggested that there must first be a return to legality [ending sanctions and accepting the Salisbury regime] and then the internal settlement might be used as a basis for an interim Government. ... Surely the House has found from the situation in Northern Ireland that if everything is destroyed it is very difficult to rebuild. I suggest that we take note of what has happened in our own country.... we know how difficult it is to deal with terrorism in Northern Ireland."
- 3 August 1978: Dr Shirley Summerskill, Home Office Deputy Minister states: "The police are concerned only about maintaining law and order.... There is no reason for them [immigrants] to feel that they cannot trust the police."
- 3 August 1978: <u>The Times</u> prints von Hayek's letter, written from his Switzerland holiday home, declaring: "I have not been able lo find a single person even in much-maligned Chile whit did not agree that personal freedom was much greater under Pinochet than it had been under Allende" He later accepts honorary presidency of the Centra de Estudios Publicos (CEP), a think-tank whose board comprises Chilean leaders heads of Chilean banking institutions and Chilean and US centre-right economists. In 1981 his Mont Pelerin society holds its congress in Vina del Mar the luxury seaside spot.
- 3 August 1978: Beating out British efforts, USA and Egypt conclude a deal for the sale of 50 US combat aircraft.
- 4 August 1978: <u>Financial Times</u> analyses Labour's position: "it is Labour which has been in power for most of the last 15 years or so, which appears to know the way the world works and to have the experience to deal with the unexpected. The Tories, by contrast, look like parvenus, putting forward all sorts of dangerously radical ideas"

4 August 1978: Following the extension of the leadership body of the IMF, Saudi Arabia as an important, ultra-loyal Western power is accorded a seat on the council, with the support of British votes.

4 August 1978: Catholic Herald in 'Amin trains Rhodesia army say missionaries' reports on Christian mission centres warning of growing militarisation of internal settlement forces brutalising the rural population. "black leaders of the Rhodesian internal settlement are raising and arming private armies — and, with the agreement of Ian Smith, they are sending them to be trained by the Ugandan army, missionary sources in Rhodesia said this week. Details of the contact between Ian Smith and Idi Amin, the Ugandan President are not yet clear but Rhodesian Air Force planes have been flying the young recruits directly from Salisbury to Entebbe, the Ugandan airport, and this is done with the full knowledge and agreement of Ian Smith. The missionaries, who do not wish to be named for fear of reprisals, said that the situation was heading for civil war and was extremely urgent. Ndabaningi Sithole is said to have recruited an army or 15,000 of whom some 8,000 have been for three months training in Uganda... mainly drawn from young unemployed men in the townships and are paid between £8 and £15 a month as well as getting free board and clothing.... The original idea said the missionaries was to use these groups as 'converted guerillas' for propaganda purposes. Film on Rhodesian Television showed a group led by a 'Comrade Max' who entered a village and laid down their guns explaining that the war was won because of the internal settlement. The backlash from whites was so strong that the propaganda had to be dropped and a little later 'Comrade Max' was reported dead. Now the private armies operate in villages controlled by the Patriotic Front guerillas in areas where the Rhodesian army cannot go. Villagers in the areas, say the missionaries, don't know whose side to say they are on, when men dressed as guerillas approach them. They are caught on all sides. Many of the private armies have simply turned to banditry they say, and live by intimidating the local population. An army raised by Bishop Abel Muzorewa and trained in Libya and Malawi operates in a similar way to Sithole's but he has only about 2,000 men. Chief Chirau also has a small army operating in his own tribal area... There are now seven armies operating in the country but many groups have lost touch with their leaders and have resorted to living by the gun... Sithole recently said in public that he would like to arm all the tribespeople of whom there are about 83,000" The missionaries are "critical of the British government for not realising the urgency of the situation... the Rhodesian security forces' [actions still involved] innocent civilians being beaten and shot."

- 5 August 1978: Socialist Worker stresses the need to vote Labour in order to be "outside and against it": "We can't pretend that a call to vote Labour again can be made without choking back our disgust. But at least the devil we know has one advantage for the left. With Callaghan and Healey in office it is clear to anyone capable of rational thought... that a real socialist party has to be built outside it and against it." (5 Aug 1978, p2)
- 5 August 1978: A highly suspicious armed attack on the PLO mission in Islamabad, Pakistan, killing 4.
- 6 August 1978: Pope Paul VI, Giovanni Battista, dies
- 7 August 1978: Robin Lustig, sympathetic to ANL, in <u>The Observer</u> writes of its election tactics: "The League believes that an effective anti-NF campaign could play a crucial part in preventing a Conservative election victory. It will therefore attack both the National Front and the Conservatives to dissuade NF voters often former Labour supporters from moving across to the Tories." ANL press officer Labour Left member, Peter Hain, is quoted as saying: "We shall be appealing to people not to vote either for the National Front or for the Tories" in effect meaning 'vote Labour'.
- 9 August 1978: Labour Left Deputy Trade Minister Michael Meacher has talks with President Marcos in Manila to declare Britain supports investments in all ASEAN states. The following day he notes that Britain is the largest of all European investors in the Philippines and says Rolls Royce and Dunlop are seriously considering investment in the country. He says he hopes "to generate greater interest and commitment in the ASEAN in British industry" and "to deepen the political relationship between the two blocks the European Economic Community and ASEAN."
- 9 August 1978: RN Faslane base is "paralysed" by the effects of picketing at Royal Navy docks on the Clyde, TGWU and RN management conclude a deal and normal production resumes on 14 Aug 1978.
- 12 August 1978: The house of a British executive in Tehran is firebombed.
- 13 August 1978: <u>Sunday Times</u> warns of 1979 that workers "may suffer a decline in real gross pay of some six per cent, given the present outlook for prices" (Sunday Times, p56)
- 14 August 1978: New increased steel and other metal prices set by BSC come into effect, with average increases of 10%.

- 18 August 1978: Work begins on the construction of HMS Brazen, a Type 22 frigate for the Royal Navy. It eventually serves as an important carrier for the Armilla Patrol in the Persian Gulf in 1990-1 where its Lynx helicopters attack Iraqi patrol boats.
- 19 August 1978: The Economist gets to the heart of the matter in the takeover of Chrysler-Europe by Peugeot-Citroen meaning the acquisition of formerly Chrylser UK plants in Glasgow and Coventry "How will the Peugeot family, so successful at excluding trade unions from their business in France, come to grips with having to negotiate with British trade unions?" It is confident that Peugeot-Citroen's expansion plans for plants in Socialist Romania, transmissions in Democratic Germany, running down Spanish plants, will not be blown off course by strikes in Britain.
- 19-21 August 1978: Angolan President Neto visits Mobutu in Zaire to demonstrate the warming between the two nations. A wave of repression within Angola against the FNLC begins as it is hounded away to southern regions.
- 22 August 1978: BA engineers stage a 24 hour strike. It is an attempt to secure parity with British Caledonian engineers working on DC-1Os at Gatwick. BA Engineering director Kenneth Wilkinson warns staff that strike action is largely responsible for Gulf Air's decision not to renew its 3-year TriStar maintenance contract when it expires next Apr 1979.
- 22 August 1978: Kenyatta's death. Almost unanimous praise in the British press. <u>The Times</u> subtitling its obituary 'A stabilizing force in African affairs'. "He was, unlike most African leaders, ready to devolve the detailed work of government, sure of his grip on his exceptionally able and ambitious group of ministers...

Kenyatta played a skilful duel with his great Luo rival, Mr Oginga Odinga, who allied himself with the communist influences unleashed in East Africa by the Zanzibar revolution. He branded Odinga, formerly a close friend, as a traitor to Kenya's independence (Uhuru), and Odinga found himself in the wilderness. His passport was taken, his party dissolved, the Czech news agency closed, and he was finally imprisoned, but released and forgiven when his health began to suffer. Kenyatta was equally successful with the Somali republic which claimed, not without a strong case, Kenya's Northern province, and when, with British acquiescence—the British having so many hostages in Kenya—their claims were rejected at independence, and the Somalis attempted guerrilla warfare, Kenyatta did not shrink from the long, costly and often brutal campaign which led to their defeat and Somali withdrawal."

- 23 August 1978: Pat Arrowsmith, anti-militarist and lesbian, announces she will marry in order to claim the inheritance from her clergyman father which is on condition that she is married. "I don't suppose he wants to live with me any more than I want to live with him." Her plan is for the inheritance to be distributed to causes including the Troops Out Movement.
- 23 August 1978: It is reported Frank Ruhemann, a director at the firm Tube Investments, owners of Russell Hobbs, has been appointed Vice-chairman of the University Council of the Open University that ultimately determines its courses and methods.
- 23-30 August 1978: 34 industrial countries and three international organizations—the EEC Commission, the Atomic Industrial Forum and the International Atomic Energy Agency, and Britain with a 36-strong delegation attend a conference on super-temperature plasmas and controlled nuclear explosions in Innsbruck. They also share ideas and strategies on how to extend nuclear research.
- 24 August 1978: <u>Nature</u> reports the research of Arizona State University professors Ibso and Brazel, who have undertaken extensive experiments concluding that dust particles released in industrial emissions do not cancel out the carbon dioxide 'greenhouse effect', but reinforce, marginally, its effects. (Nature, Aug 24 1978, p781).
- 25 August 1978: Reading Rock Festival begins. Some 'bikers' attack festival goers away from the main stage. Sham 69 lead singer Jimmy Pursey calls out "Let's see some action". Sham 69 fail to play cohesively neither in tune nor in tempo, and empty cans are thrown on stage hitting the band, who cease playing. A section of the crowd then invades the stage. Violence within the crowd erupts. Some 'punks' and 'skins' in the crowd attack 'hippies' and 'longhairs'. 'Bikers' and 'skins' also fight.
- 27 August 1978: Under the auspices of the Tyrone Relatives Action Committee, a march from Coalisland to Dungannon sees over 10,000 participate in protest at Diplock Courts and criminalisation of prisoners.
- 27 August 1978: Nicaragua's business elite meets to discuss whether to support a nation-wide strike against Somoza.
- 28 August 1978: Terry Duffy, president-elect of AUEW, warns toolworkers at British Leyland on strike that they will be expelled

from their union (and at the mercy of management victimisation or redundancy) unless they return to work.

28 August 1978: The Times publishes a long feature in its overseas section acting as an effective advertisement for tourism in South Africa. Its title 'A train that really takes the strain' compares the Blue Train service with nationalised British Rail, whose slogan is 'Let the train take the strain': "London commuters await subconsciously the inevitable jerk and counter-thrust, signalling departure. Instead, the journey begins imperceptibly, the train gliding out so gently it is almost uncanny... the train is seemingly noiseless and vibrationfree. Air-sprung bogies and extensive sound insulation eliminate the wrenching, lurching and clatter. Hauled bv locomotives, for the intermediate non-electrified section after Kimberley diesel power takes over. For miles the train runs at an even pace and from the relaxation of your seat the scenery becomes remote, almost irrelevant."

"Railway enthusiast and hedonist alike are about to have placed before them the richest grazing ground the world has to offer, the last of the great romantic trains, South Africa's £3.25m Blue Train... between Cape Town and Pretoria one to three times weekly... fully booked months in advance, its waiting list so long visitors are known to build their itinerary around it. a guest list. A porter your baggage and insists that your briefcase, commandeers flowers and gift wrappings are typewriter, camera, responsibility totally, man"... almost 1,000 miles and 24 hours of unsurpassed pleasure, virtually a five-star hotel on wheels. Sixteen coaches, 108 passengers, 26 staff: an enviable ratio... semi-luxury B-type compartment has its own bathroom. The three-roomed suite (only £32 more) reaches Royal standards... with alcove bar and refrigerator, flowers, fruit, telephone and baize-topped reversible card table... the morning paper is delivered... drinks ordered and served while still alongside the platform... [For all a] 24-hour, pushbutton steward and valet service, the immaculate blue and gold fittings. The giant windows are double-glazed and gold-tinted to reduce glare, iced water comes from a special spigot, while a shoe box permits attendants to remove shoes for cleaning from the corridor side. Air-conditioning can be individually regulated, and a series of console buttons offer radio and music channels and raise, lower or tilt the Venetian blinds. Permanently coupled, wall panels and wide doorways hide the carriage junctions, and the walk to the dining car is one long carpeted corridor. No doors to slide, nor gales to ravage a hairstyle. In the dining saloon, bowls of vivid, ripe fruit and arrangements of chrysanthemums, proteas and birds of paradise combine with natural timber partitions, a low ceiling and incandescent down-lights to provide an atmosphere closer to that of a high-class restaurant The food rivals the best in a land of plenty...

one can start at the top of the menu with fried baby sole, and cut [leave] and come again at the main courses: breast of chicken with asparagus, roast leg of lamb and sirloin of beef.... breakfast features poached haddock and devilled kidneys, served with courtesy and grace by stewards in impeccably starched white jackets. In the lounge car the bartender dispenses nuts, crisps, olives and cheese squares on a silver tray. While at dinner, the longitudinal beds are made and, a nice touch, gold-wrapped chocolates left on the pillow. There were no African passengers to be seen. Apartheid demands identical facilities, but separate. The chef told us of one of his former kitchen hands turned businessman, who, too shy to tip directly, left neatly addressed envelopes-for each of his former superiors. This notwithstanding, it is difficult to disagree with a fellow American passenger, an experienced Amtrak manager, who reflected 'If only all trains could be like that.'"

29 August 1978: SNP attacks Labour's continuation of educational apartheid whereby those with entry places to university or teacher training colleges receive a Scottish Education grant of £870 a year, are also able to claim social security payments during summer holidays if unemployed. Those at ordinary technical colleges are denied any such grant and severely restricted in social security payments.

30 August 1978: Ze'ev Shif in Ha'aretz 'Terrorists Have Smuggled Large Amounts of Explosives for Their Recent Wave of Attacks' notes police cooperation with Israeli requests: "[IDF] is probably one of the reasons why in 11 years of Israeli rule over such a large Palestinian population that claims to be under an occupying force, the Palestinians have not been able to carry on a guerrilla war, or even a terrorist war worthy of its name. in spite of the fact that they do not lack manpower or money, that they enjoy the support of neighbouring countries and that there is a constant flow of people from the Arab countries, via the open bridges, both into the territories and into Israel proper. .... In spite of the success of our defence forces we cannot ignore the fact that the terrorists do not lack manpower for new candidates and recruits. New cells are formed to replace those uncovered. Jails are full and those who are released are constantly replaced by others. This shows that either there is a high motivation within the population to join the terrorist organizations or that punitive measures are not a sufficient deterrent, or both. ... War overseas is more difficult although police forces in western countries, including Great Britain, closely cooperate with Israel in combating Arab terror."

30 August 1978: Roy Hattersley stresses the importance of protecting confidence in the economy, offering business interests

the option of producing galloping inflation whenever they are unhappy: "Incomes policy has worked. Thanks to the last three years of sensible wage settlements inflation is now under control and, as a result, we are all better off. An incomes policy is not a device to cut pay levels and reduce the standard of living. It is a technique by which increases in earnings can be planned... The last round was a conclusive example of the success that is possible. The Government asked for responsible moderation in wage demands. The result is that we have prevented what -some predicted would become a wages explosion. More than 99% of employees in major groups have settled within the policy. At the same time we have encouraged an interest in increasing productivity. We have maintained international confidence in the British economy and so held the exchange rate steady. ... An incomes policy is an important fight against unemployment. the unemployment to a tolerable level we have to invest more in plant and machinery, sell more abroad and compete more effectively against imports. New investment will not appear in a period of galloping inflation. We will not regain our lost export markets, or undercut the price of foreign goods in Britain, unless we hold down our production costs. Incomes policy can do just that and therefore increase employment prospects. Thanks to the wisdom of our trade unions we have enjoyed three years of sensible wage negotiations... 5% is the most that can be afforded. To have abandoned incomes policy now would have been to throw away the achievements of the last three years."

31 August 1978: Express Group newspaper firm announces plans for a Daily Star title.

31 August 1978: Answering "why the Left, with virtually everything going for it, saw its policies so easily buried" under Wilson and Callaghan, Tony Howard explains "in the immediate past Labour's way of drawing up a manifesto has been an oddly haphazard business. The NEC meeting always takes place but is usually called in a rush— and ends in exhaustion. Yet the manifesto is supposed to be the buckle which links the party in Parliament and the party outside it. Labour leaders hare always understood that— which is why they try to make the language of the manifesto as elastic as possible. The left, on the other hand, has not— which is why it tends to end up not merely defeated but feeling cheated as well." (Anthony Howard, The haphazard business of putting Labour's house in order, The Times, p16)

September 1978: Arthur Bailey, secretary of the Lancashire Police Federation, gives a public speech attacking the TUC for its public endorsement of anti-fascism, suggesting that trade union organisation against the NF marks "the beginning of the end of free speech".

September 1978: Hong Kong Xinhua's second-in-charge publicly denounces the 1967 protests and suggests that PRC can learn much from the economic success of Hong Kong and its neighbours south – meaning Singapore and Malaysia.

September 1978: CPGB's <u>Marxism Today</u> interviews Bob Wright, Assistant General Secretary of AUEW, chief proponent of the Broad Left strategy. He proposes "to rebuild the rank and file base of the union" to be achieved "We may have to increase the size of the branches... hold meetings bi-monthly, or monthly, or perhaps even quarterly" He blames the decline in support for action in defence of pay claims on "the weakness that has emerged on our side has been that in recent years sectarianism in left politics has become divisive, disrupting the pattern of unity that we founded the Broad Left movement on."

September 1978: Conservative Party's high-minded journal for members <u>Conservative Monthly Review</u> leads with the the front-page headline: 'How Many More Immigrants?'.

September 1978: Bruce Millan, Secretary of State for Scotland, gives authorisation for Inverclyde Council to sell 5% of its council housing stock of 19,788.

- \* September 1978: <u>Daily Mail</u> headline "One in 5 Babies Born Coloured." The actual figure is something in the region of a twelfth.
- 2 September 1978: ANL march is held in Birmingham.
- 3 September 1978: Farnborough Air Show opens with British Aerospace chairman Lord Beswick stating that although the firm has initialled an agreement with the France and Federal Germany covering British re-entry into the Airbus consortium "the French Government expressed their concern that the proposed entry into Airbus Industrie of one nationally owned corporation (British Aerospace) should coincide with the announcement that another nationally owned corporation (British Airways) would help to launch a potential competitor aircraft. We understand the French concern. Nevertheless, we hope that on the basis of assurances given about further purchases, the French Government will do what the UK Government has already done and now approve the industrial agreement." BAE has other US options including collaboration with Vietnam War pounders McDonnell-Douglas for a place in its advanced technology medium-range (ATMR) airliners; participation in developing and constructing the wings for Boeing's 200-seat 757 range (19 of which British Airways has recently ordered for £400mil), if the European deal does not work out.

- 4 September 1978: <u>The Times</u> publishes a militarist 8-page special on the Farnborough Air Show.
- 5 September 1978: Basingstoke Council's Chief Executive has formally requested soldiers from the government to clear rubbish in anticipation of a dustmen's strike. (Guardian 6 Sep 1978). The strike is resolved before any soldiers are mobilised.
- 5 September 1978: The government-engineered case against 'ABC' begins. ABC (Crispin Aubrey-John Berry-Duncan Campbell) Campaign pickets Old Bailey to demand the withdrawal of charges under the Official Secrets Act 1911 section 1(1)(C), section 2(1)(A), section 2(2). Evidence later brought by the prosecution includes possession of Ministry of Defence official press releases and a photograph of the Post Office Tower to press home the charges of activity "prejudicial to the safety or interests of the state... sketches, notes, documents and information concerning defence communications which might be directly or indirectly useful to an enemy". Banners assert the central point 'Sig-Int isn't secret any more'.
- 5 September 1978: Callaghan at TUC Conference. He lunches with David Basnett, TUC chairman, and Len Murray, TUC General secretary. Callaghan is heckled at TUC Congress in Brighton. Two unemployed protesters from the Right To Work campaign are removed from the hall. Several cries of "rubbish" occur during his speech, particularly when he stresses that it is acceptable for unions to negotiate reductions in hours worked so long as it does not increase unit costs. He states the government will bring forward a £70mil scheme for the support of micro-electronics (even though this will mean further job losses) He warns of dangers in exceeding a 5% pay policy declaring "you will be stepping on the escalator going up again" for inflation and price rises. He states too many trade unions have not honoured the productivity element of productivity deals that have allowed 10% deals over the past year. The warning is of a future imposed by trade unionists (not firm owners) where "the devil takes the hindmost and the weakest go to the wall." He nonetheless is given a standing ovation at the end of his speech.
- 5 September 1978: Paisley's Free Presbyterian Church announces plans to set up schools in the province to counter low moral and educational standards of state education. It cites in particular the teaching of Darwinian evolution theory, sex education within human biology, and the use of "unsuitable" textbooks in GCE English Literature. Rev. Ian Foster, convenor of Free Presbyterian Church Education committee, states the plans have been drawn up with the support of the Department of Education and Science in

Northern Ireland. It has made clear establishing schools, provided they are registered and open to HMI inspections is acceptable. He states the church's schools will teach a Biblical version of the origins of life on earth in preference to Darwinian theory. He claims the church has enough qualified teachers within its ranks and enough fund-raising ability for success.

5 September 1978: David Basnett, TUC Chairman, unilaterally defersthe debate on the agenda on a NUJ resolution about the ABC case and the Official Secrets Act. Norman Willis, Deputy TUC General Secretary, then leads the charge in applying pressure on NUJ delegation to withdraw its motion, or call off the debate.

Denis MacShance, NUJ President states: "Anybody concerned about civil liberties will find it difficult to campaign for a Labour Party that has one of the worst records this century in defending journalistic freedom." He later becomes MP and then Minister in a Labour government 1997-2010 that viciously hounds both journalists and journalist sources.

5 September 1978: Hugh Scanlon, president of AUEW, moves a resolution offering support for the re-election of a Labour Government. John Boyd, AUEW General Secretary, is voted back onto the TUC General Council as are CPGBers Ken Gill and George Guy.

6 September 1978: Glasgow Lord Provost David Hodge welcomes South African Ambassador Mathys Botha on a tour of Scotland.

6 September 1978: Len Murray carefully endorses the TUC Executive's vote for the end of formal pay restraint: "There must be sufficient flexibility if unions and employers are to sort out difficult problems and anomalies, and to take account of profitability, without splash headlines about defeats or surrenders or nonsense of that sort." He says government has underestimated the effect that the inflation of 1974-5 is still having on the attitudes of trade unionists, where memories are still strong enough to influence negotiations downwards: "Unions know that, when the chips go down, there are limits to what can be achieved at any one time. We cannot back every demand chat every union makes."

He explains: "We all want to see the continuing battle against inflation won."

6 September 1978: <u>The Times</u> is happy to report in spite of the Bingham Report publication: "it is clear that oil from British companies will continue to flow to South Africa and that the companies believe they can exercise no control over South African use of its own supplies."

6 September 1978: Association of British Travel Agents announce a new policy to cover travellers against industrial action that causes delay of at least 24 hours.

6 September 1978: Trade union leaders meet Ron Hayward, Labour Party secretary, pledging to work " as never before" to ensure Labour re-election. On the financial front, Labour Left Norman Atkinson: "We are stretching to the limits the combined resources of the party and the trade unions to mount as effective a campaign as we can. I do not think the £4.5m the Tory Party has will be enough to win the election."

"Labour's campaign fund stood at £330,000 at the beginning of [1978], but much of that has been spent on a poster campaign that started six days ago. The general election in October 1974 cost £800,000." A TWGU "donation will be £160,000. The miners and the General Municipal Workers' Union have each promised £100,000, and the steelworkers are expected to give £10,000. Officials of the electricians' union have been asked to give a day's pay, and the 450,000 members an hour's pay."(TUC rejects 5% pay limit as general election fever rises, The Times 7 Sep 1978, p1)

6 September 1978: European Court of Human Rights rules, with the support of the British judge, that Federal German laws allowing routine telephone tapping and mail interception by police do not infringe the European Convention of Human Rights.

6 September 1978: 18 British aerospace engineers and technicians all working on an Iranian air force base in northern Tehran, avoid any harm as a guerrilla planted device misses the private militaryrun bus taking them from their home compound to the base.

6 September 1978: Première of the Buddy Holly Story, a giant Columbia Hollywood biopic, with a post-screening celebrity party to provide 'buzz' and boost receipts. It marks the start of Buddy Holly Week 1978. Paul McCartney has purchased Holly's entire song catalogue in 1975 and maintains 'Buddy Holly Week' ever since " in Great Britain.

7 September 1978: At TUC, Jack Jones, International chief, calls for restricting oil supplies to South Africa only if it carries only supplying Rhodesia: "Shell and BP still supply 40% of South Africa's oil, and a lot of that finds its way into Rhodesia. Surely, our Government should use all its means to stop the supply to South Africa unless an absolute guarantee is given to the United Nations that no oil goes through South Africa to Rhodesia."\*\*

7 September 1978: Former tax exile Keith Moon dies after a prescription tranquilliser (prescribed for alcohol addiction) overdose mixed with alcohol.

7 September 1978: Callaghan announces he will not call a general election. He is accused of "running scared" by centre-right.

7 September 1978: A gunman assassinates former Iraqi prime minister Abdul Razzak al-Naif, as he walks from Intercontinental Hotel, Mayfair to a taxi. The doorman at a nearby hotel and the taxi driver capture and arrest the gunman.

7 September 1978: 51 shop stewards representing 1500 striding machinists at British Leyland Bathgate plant, on strike for just under 4 weeks, are removed from office by AUEW district committee of full-timers for refusing to order a return to work. British Leyland has earlier warned Bathgate will be run down unless industrial relations "improve" and the productivity and output rate rapidly increases.

32 toolmakers remain threatened with expulsion by the AUEW for refusing to end an unofficial 5-week strike of 3,000 at Leylands SU Fuel Systems, Birmingham.

7 September 1978: CBI publishes "Britain Means Business", which cites reduction of inflation, improving profits in industry, reduction of taxation by £5.25bn by 1981-82, as the priorities for present and future government. Alan Devereux, chairman of Scotland CBI says Britain is "three-quarters done for" unless it adopts a plan like it. He states: "This is what must happen.... The first aim is to conquer inflation before it does for us. With the Trades Union Congress rejecting a 5% pay rise, we are at one with the Government in saying we cannot afford more and to give it will mean much more unemployment. But there must be some room for easing differentials and pay structure problems. We want the creation of an independent body with no political affiliations to advise the Government on what the country can afford. The Government will produce a Green Paper saying what wage settlements should be. This vital document states that if certain objectives are not achieved then the UK, in the context of a flat European economy, will not survive."

8 September 1978: UPW Tom Jackson, pro-pay policy, recently elected chairman of TUC states of Callaghan's decision: "I think it is a bit unfair. I was very disappointed to hear that the election bad been postponed. It would be bad for the Government if this was a winter of discontent in relation to the effects of industrial action over high pay claims."

8 September 1978: Thatcher urges resignation and election in a TV broadcast, with the studio supplied by BBC in Birmingham: "The longer he puts things off, the worse they'll become, and the worse they become the longer it will take to put them right. But I believe they can be put right, once we've a government that has confidence. ... In a world full of danger what can a broken-backed government do to defend Britain's interests, to strengthen the free world, to help end the bloodshed in Rhodesia?"

- 8 September 1978 am: Shah declares martial law, following demonstrations in 12 major cities. As the demonstrations become more frequent, Several Rolls Royce plant workers start to notice their tanks being used in the brief TV reports.
- 8 September 1978: Alter failing to persuade unofficial AUEW car worker strikers at the British Leyland Erdington plant to return to work AUEWs East Birmingham district secretary Ken Cure states: "I am bitterly disappointed by their hostile attitude. They simply refused to see reason and much cf the aggression which was evident at this meeting I feel was pre-orchestrated."
- 8 September 1978: A single father living in a council house in Drongan, Ayrshire self-immolates.
- 8 September 1978: Teddy Taylor accompanied by the managing director of the Corpach pulp and paper mill flies to Fort William, where he declares Conservatives will take a harder line against EEC's agreed decisions on fishing.
- 8 September 1978: South Africa suppliers Plessey announce closure of its Garrard Engineering plant in Blunsdon and significant cuts to the Newcastle Street plant in Swindon, meaning a loss of 1250 jobs. It blames the presence of Japanese firms in home electronics. In the past 3 years Garrard has reduced its workforce from 9,850 to 2,500 (Mar 1975- Mar 1978). At the end of Oct 1978 a £159,796 'golden handshake' to Eric Frye, deputy chief executive and finance director has been announced for his retirement.
- At a mass meeting of Garrard workers is called, a shop-steward describes: "The managing director of Garrard, Mr Mike Parsons, was called to the meeting and he was told that if be could not run the business, we will run it for him." Labour Chief executive of Tempsdown Borough Council, David Kent, declares: "In view of the adverse balance of trade that the United Kingdom has with Japan, it is surely time that selective import controls were introduced by the government in order to preserve the jobs and investment in fundamental UK industries."
- 8 September 1978: London Merchant Securities announces profits from 1 Jan-31 Mar of £9.4m. London Merchant, apart from its investments (27.2% in Carlton, majority in Century Power), is a specialist property firm that has secured the rights to a proposed development in Islington. Century Power, main owners of the Hewitt gas field, are intent on developing the Maureen oil field. Net rental income shows a £300,000 increase over the quarter. Carlton is controlled since the Apr 1978 sale, by Hawker Siddeley.
- 8 September 1978: 4 engineering firms responsible for the 2 Jun 1970 Cleddau Bridge collapse, killing 4 workers and severely injuring 5, settle with Dyfed County Council, before the compensation case is heard at the High Court. Freeman Fox and

Partners, Sir Alexander Gibb and Partners, Bovis (Civil Engineering) and Clarke Chapman, agree to pay in total just under £3mil for breach of contract which has meant the bridge opening 4 years late.

- 9 September 1978: Iran Radio carries reports that the crackdown in Iran over the past days has killed up to 200.
- 9 September 1978: Italian riot police block thousands from protesting against the Iranian Embassy in Rome and Vatican City.
- 10 September 1978: <u>The Observer</u> reports Basingstoke Council asking the government to provide troops to help clear the mounting piles of rubbish uncollected by the town's refuse collectors who have come out on strike a month previously in sympathy with other striking council workers, but not been given any increased hours to clear the backlog. A mobilisation is half-prepared but the dispute is resolved without any intervention.
- 10 September 1978: Hyde branch of Young NF plays football as part of a Manchester youth league. ANL protesters storm the pitch leading to scuffles.
- 10 September 1978: A French coastal vessel intercepts the 31,000-ton British vessel August Pacific after it is caught emptying oil from its tanks causing a 4-mile-long oil slick.
- 10 September 1978: Nicaraguan aircraft bomb sites south of Managua, killing according to the Red Cross at least 20 and severely injured more than 100.
- 10 September 1978: Zambia's sole ruling party UNIP approves changes to Congress blocking any opposition figures from contesting the Presidential elections. Little press comment is made at this point, only when grassroots public attempts to rescue property out of the hands of whites occur in Nov 1978, is attention accorded to 'tyrannical' Zambia.
- 11 September 1978: Bulgarian journalist defector Georgi Markov is poisoned by Bulgarian intelligence agents with an umbrella tip. He dies 4 days later. It marks the start of the Zhivkov regime's application of outright terror and repression.
- 11 September 1978: David Steel at the Liberal Party conference at Southport announces it is ready for any attempt to bring a noconfidence vote when necessary: "I warned the Prime Minister that if he did not give the country the chance to go to the polls, then the Liberals in Parliament would do all we could to force him to seek a fresh mandate. Polling day may have been postponed but it will not be delayed long". A seminar at the conference, sees Steel and northern Ireland spokesman Clement Freud attack "electioneering" interventions on Ireland by US and other politicians, expressing the party's opposition to British withdrawal.

- 12 September 1978: TGWU full time officers and the Central Bus Committee at London's Central Bus Conference vote to accept London Transport's "Bus Plan '78". A proposal to continue one-day and lightning strikes, if the Apr 1978 cuts are not withdrawn and the further cuts in Oct 1978 and March 1979 are not suspended, is defeated 37-31. Bus Plan '78 means cutbacks on over 80 routes, including the withdrawal of some routes entirely, and the loss of over 200 jobs as part of productivity deal.
- 12 September 1978: In spite of the expense of an earlier British visits, French Foreign Minister de Guiringaud and Indonesian Defence Minister, General Jusue conclude a deal for the purchase of armaments including tanks from French firms.
- 12 September 1978: Radio Mogadishu reports the National Security Court has sentenced 17 army officers to death over the 9 Apr 1978 coup attempt against the dictatorship of Siad Barre. Others are given 20-30 year prison sentences.
- 12 September 1978: South African police arrest Kaya Biko, bringing to 14 the number of Biko friends arrested in past days.
- 12 September 1978: ZANU spokesperson announces over 300 supporters have been arrested and detained in past 4 days, including at least 230 in a mass raid in Gwana.
- 13 September 1978: Somoza bans publication of Xaxier Chamorro's La Prensa, Nicaragua's largest opposition newspaper, and introduces complete news censorship, with government produced bulletins the only permissible ones on radio and TV. The order remains in effect until a new round of guerrilla assaults results in a u-turn 9 Oct 1978.
- 13 September 1978: Somoza reinstitutes martial law in a decree for 30 days across the entire nation, extending it from only provincial martial law orders. Nicaragua has been under martial law from 1974-7.
- 13 September 1978: Nicaraguan aircraft bomb Leon with rockets. Many thousands escape to the countryside. In the evening, President Somoza issues a new 30-day decree for national martial law and curfew. The decree allows the Government to suspend all constitutional guarantees.
- 13 September 1978: <u>Wall Street Journal</u> complains "the Shah until now has been attempting to conciliate rather than crush what is obviously deep-seated unrest in Iran"
- 13 September 1978: PRC government announces that charter flights to and from Hong Kong will begin in Oct 1978, right in time for the Guangzhou International Trade Fair.

- 13 September 1978: Carter extends for another year the US trade embargo against Vietnam. Vietnam had dropped any pre-conditions for establishing formal diplomatic relations, including US reparations and aid.
- 14 September 1978: Thatcher reaffirms her belief in capital punishment "I don't want it to be used a lot. but for those cases of really cold, callous thuggery... Thugs should not be allowed to go happy in the knowledge that although they are prepared to take away other people's lives their own can never be forfeit"
- 14 September 1978: South African police with dogs, tear gas and batons swarm into the Crossroads squatter area, Cape Town, killing one black and injuring several others.
- 14 September 1978: Sir John Keswick, former president of the Sino-British Trade Council, president of the China Association and Vice-President of the Great Britain-China Centre, current chairman of Hong Kong-based investment firm Jardine Matheson, director at De Beers and Hambros, having returned from a BOT official government mission to Beijing gives a lecture 'China in 1978 A New Situation' urging British firms to make much greater efforts to conclude joint ventures with PRC.
- 14 September 1978: Michael Edwardes, chief of British Leyland, warns unofficial strikers in Bathgate that the plant will be closed for as long as necessary to block their demands: "I don't care whether this plant is closed down for six months, I mean what I say".
- 14 September 1978: 3 workers are killed in an industrial accident in Davy Roll Works, Gateshead.
- 14 September 1978: Ian Smith shuts off for good negotiation with ZAPU. Using the cleverly designed provocation of commandeering Air Rhodesia aircraft for military action, meaning that an Air Rhodesia craft is shot down on 3 Sep 1978, Nkomo is branded a monster: "[Nkomo's] action has disclosed him as a monster of no mean proportions, and when I use the word monster I am referring not so much to his physical condition as to his spiritual and mental condition. Certainly as far as I am concerned I haven't left any doors open. I sincerely hope I don't have to have any truck with the gentleman concerned. I think he has put himself out of court."
- 14 September 1978: Nigel Lawson in <u>The Times</u>: "the overriding need on the supply side is to replace the gamut of discretionary government interventions... with a really significant reduction in personal taxation, at all levels, in order to recreate the incentive to take risks, to acquire skills, to expand and, above all quite simply, the incentive to work."
- 14 September 1978: In the first full day of nationwide military curfew Somocista armed forces attack Leon and Esteli mercilessly, killing 2 local Red Cross, Cruz Roja Nicaraguense, medical

attendants. The CRN is to suffer another 15 deaths before Somoza finally gives up on 19 Jul 1979.

15 September 1978: Special Branch plainclothes Metropolitan Police arrest Astrid Proll at a workshop where she is teaching auto-repair to YOP youth in Chalk Farm, London. She is later deported to Federal Germany. One fellow worker states: "She is a staunch supporter of Women's Lib. She was a person who thought a lot about other people, and seemed more interested in helping rather than harming them." Another: "She was very likeable, quiet personality. She never talked about her political views."

A lawyer reads a statement after the arrest on Proll's behalf: "I have lived in England for the last four years. I nave had no contact with the Red Army Faction" and states "She does not want to return to Germany under any circumstances."

- 15 September 1978: 850 workers from the Ninian Central oil platform vote to continue a strike over working conditions, after CJB Offshore and Balfour Kilpatrick have sacked several in response.
- 15 September 1978: A soldier is drowned in an army practice in the River Tay near Perth.
- 15 September 1978: Sir Norman Elliott, chairman of Howden Group, confirms at its AGM its Canadian subsidiary has secured orders amounting to a C\$140mil share in joint tenders with Brown Boveri for turbine generators for 2 large Canadian power-stations.
- 16 September 1978: Met Police receive, from a Central London magistrates' court, a provisional extradition warrant against Astrid Proll allowing her continued detention.
- 16 September 1978: Third World delegates to the Commonwealth Press Union conference in Toronto accuse Western news agencies and publications of hostile and biased journalism in their reporting of conditions in underdeveloped countries.

William Saidi of The <u>Times of Zambia</u> attacks Western coverage of a recent shooting down of an Air Rhodesia airliner and the alleged killing of survivors, where reporters accepted unquestioningly the account of the episode given by the Salisbury Government.

- 16 September 1978: Tanzanian government begins the take-over of Lonrho assets in its 18 subsidiaries operating in the country. Examining the account books, it discovers that Lonrho has overestimated the value of its operations in the country by in its compensation negotiations.
- 16 September 1978: LWT programme <u>Saturday Night People</u> chat show hosted by Russell Harty, sees supporters of ABC announce the perversions of the jury in the ABC case.

- 17 September 1978: C. V. Devan Nair, General Secretary of the Singapore NTUC (National Trades Union Congress), president of the Asian Regional Organisation of ICFTU launches a heavy attack on the British TUC for allowing closed shop agreements. "Any political party or religious organisation which attempts to enforce on citizens a total allegiance would be laughed out of court in a democratic country. It is therefore, incredible that trade-unions in professedly democratic countries like Australia and Britain should seek a totalitarian hold on the working population." ICFTU's ARO has affiliates in 22 countries, including Australia's ACTU. Trade unionists who are deemed disloyal within Singapore remain in prison, and ultra-Lee-loyalist C. V. Devan Nair becomes Singapore President within 2 years.
- 17 September 1978: Police gather to protect a Hyde Young NF football team taking part in a youth Sunday football league. ANL protest occurs again with a pitch invasion. The NF football team is eventually withdrawn.
- 18 September 1978: A large new HQ for NF is opened in Shoreditch, near Brick Lane, where plans begin to increase turnout for a planned march (24 Sep 1978) through the East End. South Hackney and north Tower Hamlets becomes an NF base of sorts with backlash complaints by older female sympathisers recorded in south Hoxton: "Look at those Ugandan Asians. They all had new houses given them when we couldn't get them ourselves... A lot of this violence what's coming up is a lot to do with the Race Relations Board. By law a white man has to take on a coloured worker, but a coloured man don't have to take on a white... There's a flat upstairs in this block, it's one lot of Nigerians out, another lot in. They're selling the key to each other. Now if that was a white person you'd get slung out."
- "Every shop you go in now you've got a Pakistan there. Every post office round here has got a Pakistan in. They'll talk to you as they want to, but you can't talk to them as you want to. It reminds me of years ago, the Jews, when they come in here." (Inside the Inner city: Life under the cutting edge, Paul Harrison, 1985)
- 18 September 1978: Bob Collins, ALP Northern Territory Legislative Assembly member for Arnhem produces tapes of the Land Council's secret meetings last week to support claim that the ratification of the Ranger uranium agreement has been signed under severe threats of curtailment of services to aborigines.
- 18 September 1978: Racal Electronics Group announces it has won the largest defence communications contract ever placed by the Australian Government. The contract is worth £8.8mil and Ernest

Harrison, Racal chairman says it is an important breakthrough against "the most fierce international competition".

- 18 September 1978: President Kaunda bitterly attacks British governments' complicity in ensuring that oil reached Rhodesia in contravention of United Nations sanctions: "Successive British Governments were leading us up the garden path, cheating the whole international community into believing they were serious when they were talking about sanctions... It is much worse than-Watergate. At least in terms of Watergate no human beings were lost, but here, in this oilgate... it makes it all the more agonising when you think that the people of Zambia have suffered all along the line to satisfy the madness of successive British Governments... I am going to take certain steps"
- 18 September 1978: Because the Health and Safety Act provisions do not apply in full to offshore activities, Comex Diving Ltd is fined £250 for causing the death of a worker electrocuted in the north Sea. The firm supplies an electrically-heated suit without a monitoring circuit, in contravention of the Offshore Installations (Diving Operations) Regulations.
- 18 September 1978: Youth vandals burn down an unoccupied former warehouse in Rutherglen.
- 18 September 1978: Small scale operator Cluff Oil signs an agreement with the Omani state to explore for and exploit oil and gas in an 2400 km2 area east of Oman.
- 18 September 1978: Rolls-Royce Motors reports a 45% rise in profits in the 24 weeks to June 17 1978. Profits have climbed from £3.7mil to £5:4mil. Turnover is at £64mil.
- 18 September 1978: Manpower, the international work contractors, publish the results of confidential survey from reports of financial directors of 70 companies. More than half the smaller firms surveyed have well over half their debtors exceeding the standard 30 day period of credit at any one time. "The larger the company, the worse the culprit" at the same time they are subject to early demands for payment from their larger suppliers.
- 18 September 1978: David Plastow, chairman of Rolls-Royce Motors, is appointed a non-executive director of GKN. He has recently attacked in Detroit, any state involvement in improving fuel efficiency of vehicles: "...dangerous nonsense... legislators or bureaucrats in either country [USA and UK, considering] that it is good to level down to a basic type of car.... the symbol of his success during most of this century has often been the type of car he drives" (Big car squeeze 'Dangerous nonsense' Autocar no149 29 July 1978 p20)

- 18 September 1978 pm: Times Group management announces <u>The Times, Sunday Times, TES, THES</u> and <u>TLS</u> will cease publication on Nov 30 1978 unless trade unions can guarantee industrial discipline, continuous production, reductions in manning
- 18 September 1978: Sir Freddie Laker's Laker Airways announce purchase of 5 McDonnell Douglas DC10s and 10 wide-bodied versions of the European Airbus. It is one of the largest ever single orders placed by a private airline.
- 18 September 1978: ABC Trial is suspended after the LWT chat show broadcasts the facts about jury vetting and tampering. "The defence had discovered at the start of the first trial that

potential jurors had been vetted through police and Special Branch files, 'for loyalty'. All the names on the jury list had been secretly made available six weeks early to the prosecution. ... the foreman of that jury was a former member of the Special Air Service regiment, and had participated in counter-insurgency campaigns in Ireland and elsewhere. He made little secret of his strong views on the case, and intention to convict." (Duncan Campbell,Official Secrecy and British Libertarianism, Socialist Register 1979)

The prosecution has secretly applied to the judge to vet the jury, the jury contains 3 members who have service roles meaning they have signed the OSA themselves, the foreman has been boasting to fellow jurors of his (necessary, loyal, defensive etc etc) service in the SAS in the Middle East and six counties. (Anna Coote 'The Loyal Jury and the Foreman with Firm Opinions' New Statesman, 1978)

- 18 September 1978: British emigre Zambian white landowner Ian Sutherland is found guilty of storing weaponry for Rhodesian armed forces' raids into Zambia. Even though Kaunda, representing Zamiban official attitude explains in response that he will not allow "witch-hunting because of an idiot like Sutherland" a British press campaign continues warning of Zambia's increasing tyranny.
- 19 September 1978: Thatcher attends a key ceremony for the sale of the 2,000th GLC council house in Ryde Vale Estate, Balham.
- 19 September 1978: Ma'ariv reports Prime Minister Begin's analysis in the USA of the peace treaty: as described to Israeli correspondents in the US (Sep, 19, 1978): "We did not commit ourselves to vacate settlements in Judea and Samaria within five years. We did not agree to vacate Judea and Samaria after the five years.... Security" would be provided by "the Israeli army alone" for he also does not agree "that there should be any foreign [non-Israeli] army there, including the Jordanian army. The Israeli army alone will remain in Judea and Samaria after the five year period."

This promise is realised by the Knesset endorsement on 31 Jul 1979 for granting around \$10mil for the construction of 13 new all-Jewish settlements in occupied Arab territory, after the Full Peace Treaty is signed.

- 19 September 1978: New Zealand and Indonesia sign an important trade agreement, cementing New Zealand acceptance of the Australian line.
- 19 September 1978: Bingham Report (QC Thomas Bingham) is finally published, concluding that Shell, BP and the British government knew and condoned "swap'" arrangements that ensured oil supplies to Rhodesia. Over 1,880,000 tons of oil is delivered between 1968 and 1975, until the collapse of the Portuguese regime in Mozambique discovers and exposes the fraud. At the request of Director of Public Prosecutions Tony Hetherington, Bingham report is published without an annexe which contains important information relevant to individual firms' behaviour. Wilson's 2<sup>nd</sup> government accepts BP's arrangement that oil to Rhodesia is sent on its behalf by Total, French state firm and supposedly its rival competitor. BP and Shell then arrange to deliver matching amounts to Total in South Africa. In 1972, Shell South Africa begins delivering oil to Rhodesia, that have been supplied and earmarked for Rhodesia by the London-registered company. Shell Mozambique, a BP subsidiary. Bingham states the government's position over oil meant other British firms also considered sanctions "was to be regarded as a matter of form rather than substance, that it was the letter which mattered, not the spirit." Bingham exonerates the government due to its apparent ignorance "make statements and give assurances which they would not have done with full knowledge .of the facts". Bingham also states Louis Walker, general manager of Shell South Africa, can not be held responsible since he is "acutely aware of the difficulty of Mr. Walker's position as a South African living in a society very unsympathetic to the policy of the sanctions orders."
- 19 September 1978: Britain votes in the World Bank to approve a \$35mil loan for the intensification of Phillippine agriculture, based on existing landowning structures.
- 19 September 1978: France's Dassault concludes a deal with four Middle East countries on a joint venture production in Egypt of Alpha trainer and ground support aircraft. BAe had been attempting to secure the deal.
- 19 September 1978 pm: Nicaraguan forces attack Esteli with an enormous rocket barrage by Nicaraguan aircraft turning "large areas of the town into blackened ruins" (Reuters). Nicaraguan

forces move in and go from house to house opening fire with heavy machine guns. Estimates

19 September 1978: A 13-year-old paper boy Carl Bridgewater, is found shot dead. A moral panic begins to develop over 'armed burglars'. Within 48 hours of the murder newspapers' rewards reach £7,000. Within a few days, Detective Chief Superintendent Bob Stewart, of the Staffordshire CID has declared: "Every police officer in this enquiry is appalled at the viciousness and callousness towards this poor little boy." The brutality of those police training Turkish riot police, also child-killers of teenagers, and supplying them with helicopters is of course not expressed. The National Federation of Retail Newsagents organises also its own reward in addition to police rewards for information that assists the police. "I recall the cry being amplified at the time by the press - because Carl had been delivering newspapers when he was killed. Police culture also reflects and enlarges popular antipathy to child-killers. The pressure to find culprits was enormous. When one looks back at similar cases where the convictions are now in doubt - Hanratty... the Guildford bombers, the Birmingham pub bombers – there is an evident link between the gravity of the crime and the risk of a miscarriage of justice... [which] followed a classic pattern. About ten weeks after the burglary and murder at Yew Tree Farm, near Wordsley, a burglary occurred at Chapel Farm, Romsley, in Worcestershire, about an hour's drive away. Its inhabitants, like those of Yew Tree Farm, were two elderly people, and again a shotgun was used. The burglary threw up a ready hypothesis: catch the Chapel Farm burglars and we may well have the Yew Tree Farm killers." (Stephen Sedley, Who didn't kill Carl Bridgewater?, LRB 9 Oct 1986)

Using this hypothesis, Detective Cons. John Perkins forges (one of the Chapel Farm burglars) Vincent Hickey's signature on a sham confession, in order to implicate the other 3.

- 20 September 1978: Pope John Paul II reiterates the importance of empty hoping and warns "it is a mistake to state that political, economic, and social liberation coincide with salvation in Jesus Christ; that the regnum Dei is identified with the regnum hominis" (Catechetical Lesson on the Theological Virtue of Hope).
- 21 September 1978: <u>Daily Mirror</u> attacks Thatcher (over the meaningless scoop that she sometimes cries in private) in ugly, anticommunist, sexist and chauvinist fashion in an editorial: "What would happen if the Russians squeezed Berlin again? Or put nuclear missiles into Cuba? Would everything stop while she got her hankie out?"

- 21 September 1978: Since the basic assumptions set forth as the premises for the 'debate' over Thatcher as a female and have zero merit, contrary opinions are indeed "avidly sought," but only when they conform to doctrinal presuppositions.
- 21 September 1978: Dutch police arrest 40 protesters outside the British Embassy, Den Haag, denouncing a British round up of squatters, from an abandoned site in Huntley Street, London.
- 21 September 1978: Israel performs a world-wide public relations exercise as IDF units expel settlers from Gush Emunim, hard-rightist movement, in a high-profile, anguish-ridden 'Israel making painful concessions'/'using armed forces against its own people'/'displays the vitality of Israeli democracy' charade. The model of this action is successfully repeated in 1982 in Yamit, in several far-flung West Bank sites the 1990s, and in 2005 in Gush Katif, Gaza.
- 21 September 1978: 300 spectators hear Dean of Sydney, Lance Shilton, Patricia Judge of anti-abortion Right to Life, and president of Sydney University Students' Representative Council, future Liberal Party leader, Tony Abbott, speak at a rally alongside Mary Whitehouse in Sydney Square. 8 protesters against Whitehouse are arrested in scuffles.
- 21 September 1978: Singapore, currently hosting 400 refugees, declares: "We cannot accept any more, we have reached maximum capacity in our ability to take in refugees", and announces its naval forces are ready to action to prevent an attempt by to unload 1,000 Vietnamese refugees, including 500 children on the *Southern Cross* liner. Malaysia and Hong Kong similarly oppose accepting the refugees.
- 21 September 1978: Pope John Paul II in Rome adresses a group of US bishops on the importance of keeping firm against divorce: "the importance of the indissolubility of Christian marriage. Although it is a difficult part of our message, we must proclaim it faithfully as part of God's word, part, of the mystery of faith... Today we want to-express our admiration and praise for all the efforts being made to guard and preserve the family as God made it, as God wants it. We believe that the Christian family is a- good place to start."
- 21-24 September 1978: State visit of Socialist Vietnam's Prime Minister Pham Van Dong to Indonesia. Suharto holds long talks and in a press conference Van Dong announces Vietnam has adopted a policy appropriate for friendship and co-operation with Indonesia on the question of East Timor. Dong states Vietnam used to oppose Timor's incorporation into Indonesia but he now fully accedes to the

Indonesian position after Suharto's briefing. An agreement of noninterference in internal affairs is signed.

- 22 September 1978: Britain agrees it will grant independence to St Vincent in 1979.
- 22 September 1978: Callaghan and Owen hold talks with Begin in London approving the broad ongoing policy.
- 22 September 1978: 15,000 Ford UK workers, organised from the rank and file of TGWU begin an unofficial strike.
- 22-23 September 1978: Callaghan and Owen fly to Kano, Nigeria, their RAF plane aiming to keep Kaunda in orbit after his declaration of 18 Sep 1978. President Kaunda has pressed Callaghan over the revelations of persistent Rhodesia boycott-breaking by British firms, as detailed in the Bingham Report. His threat is that he might switch to non-British sources of capital, shutting out British firms, similar to Nyerere in Tanzania expelling Lonrho and Rio Tinto Zinc. A change in mood slowly occurs in the press against Kaunda and Zambia. It turns from being 'friendly ally of the West' into 'basket-case economy', 'increasing signs of an infection with black nationalism' 'brutal black-led Afro-tyranny'. 'Tyranny' on the African continent is broadly judged in terms of proximity to British interests. In general the closer to 'us' and 'our way of life', the less 'tyrannical'. The more adverse, the greater the tyranny meter.
- 22-25 September 1978: Rhodesian aircraft launch bombing raids over at least 2 dozen ZAPU guerrilla bases in Mozambique.
- 22 September 1978: Northern Ireland Secretary Mason, in Parliament, attacks idea of withdrawal from Ireland. He is followed by Airey Neave who makes a near identical statement.
- 23 September 1978: A 20 year old Sparkhill resident Chelsea fan is killed by a group of Birmingham City 'hooligans' pushing him into the street under a moving double decker bus.
- 23 September 1978: Princess Margaret presents colours to the Royal Highland Fusiliers in Edinburgh for its service in N.I. to mark 300 years of the regiment. On the following days it marches in Ayr, then in Glasgow. It parades colours from its triumphs in the anti-Napoleonic wars, the subcontinent, the Xhosa wars, the invasions of Egypt, the Boer Wars, Malaya, Aden and Cyprus.
- 24 September 1978: Mary Whitehouse holds a Festival of Light rally at the Sydney Town Hall followed by a march "for the child" to Hyde Park. She states the West must can only find answers to economic, industrial and social problems by facing the assault on the moral

character of nations. Making a reference to the importance of limitations on freedom, she states people have allowed themselves to be seduced by the idea that it is their right to see what films they wanted to sec, or read what books they wanted to read. She refers to an apparent increase in Sydney crime and pornographic material on open sale in Adelaide that "never got above the counter in Soho" Police bar the entry of 3 women who have been involved in other Sydney City demonstrations. Some reporters and photographers are also blocked. A small protest by women occurs in favour of homosexual equality. 2 are arrested in the event.

24 September 1978: Ian Paisley delivers a sermon full of antiecumenism but no political points in Mansion House, Dublin to a 300-strong congregation. He says he hopes to see a Free Presbyterian church in Dublin.

24 September 1978: <u>Lillie</u>, a historical dramatisation series of the life of Lillie Langtree begins its broadcast on ITV. It is later distributed to Western Europe, Canada and the USA. It once again portrays Edward VII, Queen Victoria and various royal hangers-on as noble and caring people.

24 September 1978: "Carnival 2" the second national Rock Against Racism Carnival is held Brockwell Park, near Brixton, organised by ANL. 80,000 attend the event.

24 September 1978: An NF march is held from Charing Cross east into the Brick Lane area and the 'Cockney estates' beyond. About 2,000 Anti-NF protesters and 3,000 NF marchers are kept apart by 8,000 police with riot units ready. Most anti-NF protesters statically hold Redchurch Street, allowing the NF march to pass on but not into Brick Lane itself. The Hackney and Tower Hamlets Defence Committee has repeatedly asked for a diversion of the carnival in south London to east London. ANL makes no diversion, requests to the ANL to divert its carnival to the East End in order to defend the area. Around 40 antifascists are arrested, many in Shoreditch, where a non-ANL counterprotest has been organised by the site of the invasive NF HQ. NF chants on the day include: 'The reds, the reds, we're gonna get rid of the reds' and 'The National Front is a White Man's Front.' Union Jacks dominate the procession led as ever by the band out front beating out drum-taps and versions of the national anthem and 'Land of Hope and Glory'.

"National Front celebrated its greatest triumph in years. Unchallenged and unmolested, they marched 1,500 strong through the City of London to Great Eastern Street in Shoreditch, 'within spitting distance of Brick Lane', as the NF leader Richard Verrall gloatingly put it. ...Already, the Bengali community in Spitafields is paying the price for this defeat. [Towards the evening] groups of fascists began prowling the area. One gang of 50-60 thugs got

through to Brick Lane and smashed up an Asian shop before being driven off. In several underground trains and stations, black people and anti-fascists were attacked by cock-a-hoop National Front bullies. The hugely boosted morale of the Front will mean an escalation of racist assaults in the area and a renewed push to control the Sunday market in Brick Lane. That is the price of the fun and games in Brockwell Park" (Workers' Action, SCLV paper)

Despite the rhetoric, prominent SCLV leaders Ernie Roberts and Ted Knight participate in Carnival 2. Ernie Roberts chairs the ANL's Hyde Park platform he strongly welcomes Tony Benn onto the platform

Knight participate in Carnival 2. Ernie Roberts chairs the ANL's Hyde Park platform he strongly welcomes Tony Benn onto the platform stating he has played "an excellent part in the struggle against racism" and Labour Party members could "do no better than elect him as the party leader." Ted Knight of Lambeth Council welcomes the demonstration into Brockwell Park but makes no call for anyone to move to Brick Lane.

"Lulled by ANL leaders into thinking that all was well in the East End, an estimated sixty to one hundred thousand people stood in the sun and 'rocked against racism' in Brixton, and only a handful of ANL supporters joined leftists and local immigrants in the Brick Lane area for an anti-fascist demonstration called by the Hackney and Tower Hamlets Defence Committee. In all, perhaps a thousand or twelve hundred anti-fascist militants gathered in the East End. Pitifully weak and woefully disorganised, they had no chance of getting near, let alone stopping, the Front's deliberately provocative 'march against communism'." (Spartacist Britain, Oct 1978)

SWP chief, Tony Cliff, states the SWP could have mobilised 40,000 of the committed from the ANL for Brick Lane, leaving a smaller Carnival but: "The result would have been 1) The disintegration of the ANL 2) The realisation that even such a movement on the empty streets of the City of London facing 8,000 police might not have broken through and beaten the Nazi marchers." (30 Sep 1978, Socialist Worker)

Mensi, lead singer of the Angelic Upstarts, looking back on the events: "Fundamentally I believed in the principle [of Rock Against Racism], it was a fantastic idea. In reality I thought it was a load of fucking shit. I didn't understand, right, how the white middle class fucking lefties, SWP types, could justify having this massive event, right, and preaching to the converted, ya know? I think in principle we should have been out on the corner of fucking Brick Lane, right, and kicking fuck out of the National Front. Basically, that's my fucking Rock Against Racism." (Internet Interview 2005)

The failure of ANL to place a call for anti-fascists to converge on Brick Lane instead of all heading to Brixton marks a breach in

- relations between Hackney and Tower Hamlets Defence Committee and ANL.
- 25 September 1978: Prince Charles writes "I only agreed to [donate] this idiotic trophy on the clear understanding that I would not have to present it or go anywhere near a golf match"
- 25 September 1978: Mass meetings of Ford UK workers today endorse unanimous strike call for a nationwide strike at its 23 British plants. countered: The walk-out is a very serious breach of last year's agreement.— which still has a month to run that there should be no strikes until negotiations are completed."
- 25 September 1978: Chiefs in IMF Governing Council meet alongside Finance Ministers of its members to continue its transformation into hard, predatory lending and expenditure cutback.
- 26 September 1978: Lynette Phillips, 24-year-old daughter of Australian mining millionaire Millie Phillips, attempts self-immolation outside the Houses of Parliament. Pedestrians prevent her from striking the match. She is then deported to France on a ferry. A member of the Proutist Universal Movement in Sydney later receives a letter, posted in advance, associated with the act, naming it as an act "my own choosing and planning in secrecy... Divulgence would have meant sure prevention... This action is taken to arouse the consciousness amongst all good wishing people. It grew from a burning desire, an inner need to do something. May this action pave the way for the establishment of a new social order that is devoid of exploitation, misery and injustice." It is signed "Lynette Phillips (Shanti) Proutist Universal Citizen... Lover of Humanity... Self immolated in London on 26<sup>th</sup> September 1978"
- 27 September 1978: Jacob Prai and Otto Ondawame of the Free Papua Movement (OPM) are arrested in Vanimo, Sandaun, Papua New Guinea.
- 27 September 1978: At the start of the 3<sup>rd</sup> session of Annual IMF discussions Third World countries attack the policies of the major Western powers (including Britain). They broadly argue against anti-inflation policies in the West, that are also causing retrenchment across the globe.
- 27 September 1978: Rhodesia's Lieutenant-General Wells says Rhodesian armed forces are constantly active in Mozambique and Zambia and that there is "no single day of the year when we are not

operating beyond our border". (Ian Smith has frequently categorically denied Rhodesian troops crossing the border).

- 27 September 1978: Worried by the Ford strike, fearing major open confrontation between the government and TUC trade unions, that effectively rejected the pay limits for 1978-9 at the TUC Congress in early Sept 1978, Len Murray presses for immediate talks with Callaghan.
- 28 September-2 October 1978: A Royal Navy vessel docks at San Francisco Bay. Protesters meet the ship, denouncing British militarism in Ireland. Shore leave is restricted to avoid tensions.
  28 September 1978: Rhodesian Prime Smith states he does not rule

out returning the territory to a British Commissioner's rule.

- 28 September 1978: Britain and the Sultan finally sign an accord envisioning the complete independence of Brunei at the start of 1984.
- 29 September 1978: 13 detainees, all Hong Kong Chinese, charged with conspiring to contravene the Immigration Act by making arrangements for illegal immigrants to enter between 1 Dec 1977- 3 Jun 1978, and obtaining passports by incorrect answers to questions Jan 1977-Jun 1978, begin their trial in London.
- 30 September 1978: <u>Billboard</u> reports "EMI here believe 1978 is the "vital year" for the industry in terms of the relationship between record companies and the retailers.... [Record firms] now selling more than \$600million worth of product annually are realizing they have great muscle power... Peter Hulme general sales manager of EMI's group repertoire sales division: "This represents the moment when the record industry at least realized it had to talk with and listen to the retail trade... Rather than pandering to the trade, we have to incorporate an awareness of its opinions into how we run our business." In the U.K.. Boots, [W.H.]Smith and Woolworths account for 35% of EMI trade, and the multiple stores all together for nearly 50% of total sales."
- 30 September 1978: Army shoot dead James Taylor, a 23-year old, wild fowling in Ballygonny. Army soldiers, not wearing uniform, release the tyre pressure in all four tyres of the party's parked vehicle and then follow the group as they begin walking to find a pump. Two shots are fired into him. Army at first state shots have been fired in the direction of armed militants but on 1 October 1978 puts out a statement saying "It now appears that the civilians had been wild-fowling, were carrying firearms, and were not engaged in any criminal activity"

30 September 1978: Police stringently enforce picketing laws to prevent a mass march in central London from approaching Garners steak houses, where TGWU workers have been on strike. The strikers are being slowly starved, they have been receiving £6 a week strike pay from the TGWU since the dispute was made official.

October 1978: According to official figures 1,414 successful deportations of 'illegal immigrants' to PRC are completed over the month.

October 1978: Department of Employment Gazette announces that over 23% of adult male employees in agriculture and horticulture earn less than £50 a week. NUAAW reiterates official figures showing that over 100 are killed every year in largely preventable farm accidents, on average 25 of them are children.

October 1978: British government finally imposes tighter export conditions over Emerson Electric Industrial Controls, which has been working on a further hundred inverters to be supplied to Pakistan's nuclear industry.

- 1 October 1978: At PRC National Day celebrations in Hong Kong there is "unprecedented toasting of the Queen's health by Chinas unofficial "ambassador" to Hong Kong" (Reuters)
- 1 October 1978: A small group from the Irish Solidarity Campaign protest against a Territorial Army parade in Aberdeen to mark the opening of barracks. Their banners are torn from them and they are bundled out of view. 10,000 parade spectators see Prince Charles open the refurbished barracks declaring: "The units using this building deserve something reasonable. I am always gently impressed by the men of the TAVR. Their dedication and self-sacrifice, I think, should be an example to all of us"
- 1 October 1978: A construction worker is killed performing duties by the dock gates near Grangemouth docks.
- 1 October 1978: Torness Alliance stage a protest on the proposed site of a nuclear reactor.

## Independence

- 1 October 1978: Ellice Islands within Gilbert and Ellice Islands gain neo-colonial independence, as agreed in 1975, without securing access to royalties from phosphate mining over the past 80 odd. Tuvalu becomes independent, the island chiefs, significantly bolstered rather than weakened in the colonial era remain significant players in the non-party system.
- 1-4 October 1978: Princess Margaret stays in State Government House, Sydney greeted by New South Wales Governor, Sir Roden Culter. She has arrived with a special NZAF plane equipped with a wood-lined compartment to block out engine noise, since she is

unwell. She is accompanied on the flight by an Air Force doctor by her side.

- 2 October 1978: Self-immolation of Lynette Phillips, heiress daughter of millionaire Australian mining baron Millie Phillips. UPI's report: "The woman complained the United Nations was not doing its job and promised. "Something spectacular is going to happen that is going to stir up the world." A half-hour later, she burned herself to death In front of Europe's U.N. headquarters the first immolation ever at the world body. The young woman telephoned UPI Monday evening, said she belonged to a mysterious organization known as Proutist Universal and asked for a cameraman to film a demonstration and her "spectacular."
- "It is not going to be a mass demonstration with placards... There is going to be action but nobody will be hurt." She sounded excited but was coherent as she explained the demonstration was to criticize the world body for "not doing its job." Dusk had fallen when the woman.. stepped into the grassy island in the center of U.N. Square... placed several posters on the ground, took off her boots and arranged them neatly alongside her handbag and travel bag, then doused herself with gasoline from an orange juice bottle.... struck a match and within seconds was wreathed In flames. ... One placard the woman brought said U.N. "delegates prefer luxurious lives to their humane responsibilities... Moralists of the world unite." Another "a flaming torch in the dark night"" The event leads to a wave of self-immolation-suicides in Britain, around 90 are recorded in the space of a year.
- 2 October 1978: Labour Party Conference carries a resolution rejecting restraint on wages in a general sense and specifically opposed to the government's 5% limit for increases.
- 2 October 1978: Anthony Burgess' 1985 is published. Part 1 is praise of George Orwell (his assistance to intelligence operatives to hound down the non-loyal ignored and unmentioned) and analysis of Orwell's 1984. Burgess sees, even more than Orwell probably, 1984 as reflecting the trends of 1948 extended and intensified. He states he will use a similar concept, based on his observation of British society and the world around him in 1977, to suggests what 1985 will be if present trends continue trade union organisation alongside Middle Eastern immigration and dominance of oil. He describes the likely future as one of "kidnapping and skyjacking by dissident groups. Microbombs of immense destructiveness place in public buildings... New oil strikes, but the bulk of the oil in the hands of the Arabs. More and more Islamic propaganda. Islamic

religion taught in schools as a condition for getting oil... jet travel on super Concordes... Yves St Laurent makes kilts cheap and popular" [meaning men abandon trousers for skirts]. He warns that "the literal power that drives the machines sleeps in Islamic oil ... Islam is one of the genuine superstates, with a powerful religious ideology whose mailed fist punched Christendom in the Dark Ages and may yet reimpose itself on a West drained, thanks to the Second Vatican Council, of solid and belligerent belief.... The Christian ecumenical movement will have reached its limit, meaning that Catholicism will have turned into Protestantism Protestantism into agnosticism.... Islam will not have lost any of its rigour... Supernature abhors a supervacuum. With the death of institutional Christianity will come the spread of Islam." He warns this will be result of 'the muddle and mess of contemporary Britain"(p19).

In Part 2 is Burgess's short novel set in a 1985 where TUC trade unions conduct strikes for utterly implausible purposes. Its hero is a history lecturer Bev Jones, who is demoted by the closure of history departments as a result of trade union demands for solely manual, trade-based vocational education, and is a confectionary worker in what was called Britain but is now TUKLand (The United Kingdom Land) or TUCLand (Trades Union Congress Land). Brother Bill, the symbolic trade union brother appears on posters across the country [similar to Ingsoc's Big Brother]. Hyper-inflation is present. Kumina [Swahili for teenage] gangs mug, rape and murder constantly (without any record of state punishment for them unlike the strikebreaker dissidents). His wife, ill in hospital, is burnt to death by a fire left to spread by a firefighters' strike. His 13-year-old daughter, left without a mother becomes dangerously sexually active and begins living out a fantasy world, able only to masturbate in front of erotically-charged television, in part as a result of prescribed drugs taken by her mother during pregnancy. The supposed content of television is 'low culture' with "Road Floozie" [the television version of 1950s pop novel 'Road Floozy' that featured a very low-cut-top girl on its cover] as her daughter's favourite

Burgess's vision as summed up by Bev: "a man has a right to work if he wants to work without having to jump at the shop steward's whistle, and that, given certain circumstances, a man has a duty to work. A duty to put out a fire, if that's his trade. A duty to –" He was going to say drop nuts on chocolate creams, but he saw the absurdity of it. And then he did not see the absurdity of it. A child dying and wanting only one thing: a box of Penn's Assorted. And everybody on strike and not a box left in the world, and the defiant worker, braving the threats and the blows, going to the machine"

In a bid to honour his wife's dying words 'Don't let them [trade unions, employers, demands and management are utterly absent] get away with it' he revels in meeting rebels to the system these are muggers, who are rebels at the back of the class reading carefully hidden copies of Latin classics whilst most pupils receive their brainwashing in terms of sociology classes [content unspecified but *ipso facto* a bad thing] and WE (Workers' English) that features grammatical no-nos on the likes of 'you was' 'he weren't'. WE also features unisex pronouns as genders become confused and merged (with the ongoing dominance of feminist trade unionists).

Many of these muggers attend an 'underground university' to study the classics away from school. As his rebellious act, Bev breaks a strike as a confectionary worker, which means the instant loss of his employment, apparently an 'un-employable status', and imminent seizure of his house, all apparently under trade union pressure. He gives his daughter to a state care home. Bev then meets a group of homeless former dissident strikebreakers, and in starvation steals food from a shop to survive. He is caught, detained and sentenced to re-education at a high-security psychiatric hospital type of facility [similar in many respects for trade union activists in the Soviet Union]. A powerful union official Pettigrew warns him that trade unionisation will win. Bey raises no demands for universal welfare provision, to avoid his having to endure hunger and homelessness. Pettigrew's Tucland sees a "materialist syndicalist" [both historical materialist and pro-trade union] Tucland (Britain) with a nonalcohol pub chain called Al-Buinbush [brainwash] sustained as a neo-colony of a country called Islam: "Where would Tucland be without the Arabs? The oil at a price even more exorbitant, flowed in from Islam and kept Tucland's industries going. And Islam was not only the hot desert but also the cold ocean.... The Arabs were in Britain to stay. They owned Al-Dorchester, Al-Klaridges, Al-Browns, various Al-Hiltons and Al-Idayinns, with soft drinks in the bars and no bacon for breakfast. They owned things that people did not even know they owned, including distilleries and breweries. And, in Great Smith Street, soon would stand the symbol of their strength - the Masjid-ul-Haram or Great Mosque of London."

With a luxury car owner the following conversation: "What's your trade'? asked Bev, 'or, of course, profession?" I'm with Bevis the Builders,' said the man. 'We specialize in theerection of mosques. I have built mosques all over the world. I built that one on the Vila della Conciliazione in Rome... At present, I am engaged in the Great Smith Street contract.' 'Ah,' said Bev. 'The Masjid-ul-Haram.' 'You speak Arabic?' 'La. Ma hiya jinsiyatuk?' The man chuckled. 'First you say no, then you ask me where I'm from. Call me Islamic, no more. Islam is a country, just as your Tucland is a country. Ideas and beliefs make countries. The big difference between Islam and the

materialistic syndicalist states is the difference between God and a bottle of beer."

TUCland sees, of course, sustained strikes: "At dawn on Christmas Eve there was no bread, for the bakers locked the doors on their flour stocks and went on strike... So they sat together that evening chewing dates and cracking walnuts... and they saw White Christmas with Saint Bing and Rosemary Clooney, and when Arab Hour came on they switched over to a new musical version of Charles Dickens's A Christmas Carol"

Bev sells his teenage daughter into sexual slavery to a very rich Middle Eastern oil sheik (supported and sustained not boycotted by trade-union committees), who is sexually turned on by her during a visit to the Al-Dorchester. Bev then joins a grouping *The Free Britons*, that aims to do its loyal duty of strike-breaking during the chaos across Britain. He then discovers The Free Britons is a front for an Islamic group aiming at establishing Britain as an Islamic state [similar to reported events in Egypt, with disloyal Islam-lovers Colonel (derived from T.E.) Lawrence].

""Look, Colonel, sir. What exactly are you after? A free Britain or an Islamic Britain. I have to know. You've appointed me as your provisional mouthpiece." "The only way out of Britain's troubles, Mr. Jones, is a return to responsibility, loyalty, religion. A return to God. And who will show us God now? The Christians? Christianity was abolished by the Second Vatican Council. The Jews? They worship a bloody tribal deity. I was slow in coming to Islam, Mr. Jones. Twenty years as one of His Majesty of Saudi Arabia's military advisors, and all the time I kept, as was my right, to my father's Presbyterianism. Then I saw how Islam contained everything and yet was simple and sharp and bright as a sword. I had dreamt of no Islamic revolution in Britain but rather of a slow conversion, helped by an Islamic infiltration expressed in terms of Islamic wealth and moral influence. Slow, slow.""

Charles III [Prince Charles] takes command of Britain on behalf of the forces which have sustained a general strike over several months, caused by the dismissal of a supermarket cashier that has led to an armed forces' strike. Bev reports the strike and general chaos as an unauthorised journalist on an unauthorised publication meaning he is arrested and sentenced to life imprisonment in a secure institution. He begins to unofficially act as a teacher to other strikebreaker dissidents a standard 'old-fashioned' nation-centric history syllabus- from Anglo-Saxon England to the Industrial Revolution. News circulates amongst the prisoners that the Isle of Man has been supplied with a stimulant-depressant drug in place of the alcohol content in its beer, in line with Muslim law.

3 October 1978: The standard centre-right view on Callaghan after the Labour Party conference with trade union votes rejecting wage restraint, in the <u>Daily Mail</u>: "As Prime Minister he has offered an increasingly bewildered British nation one excuse and one excuse only for clinging on limpet-like to office [that] he is the man who can talk to the unions in a way that they can understand. He is the man who can persuade them... to deliver a degree of incomes restraint that will keep this country's inflation rate at least in single figures. Who after yesterday can take that claim seriously? The Prime Minister has become a damaged and sad figure."

- 3 October 1978: Callaghan continues backlash politics, fingering scapegoats (unofficial strike participants, parents criminals) without directly naming them: "Yet we do seem to have lost - do we not - a certain amount of consideration for one, another. Modern society, as I was saying earlier, is now so interdependent and organised that it is fatally easy to disrupt it. When there is a dispute, how often is it the innocent person caught in the middle who suffers most? That was not the attitude of the pioneers, nor is it the attitude of a society that calls itself caring and considerate. We have a responsibility, as a movement, to find a better way for resolving disputes than invoking anarchy to make our point. Another issue of deep concern to our people, in which standards have slipped, is in the matter of crime, violence and vandalism. I look forward to the discussion we shall have on Thursday afternoon. I am very glad the Conference Arrangements Committee has put it in. The statement we shall consider then, which I believe is already before you, emphasises that the Government has provided and will continue to provide full resources and support to all those responsible for crime prevention, but it will remind us, too, that every citizen has his part to play. The nature of crime, the causes of crime, depend to a large extent upon the values that society lives by, and in determining the attitudes of the young, the example of their parents is paramount."
- 3 October 1978: Second ABC trial begins. "an anonymous army intelligence witness in the case ('Colonel B') rapidly achieved the position of a national figure of ridicule"
- 4 October 1978: The Age reports Australian firm Pioneer Concrete's international arms have given an immense boost to profits. Group profits have risen from A\$14.6mil last year to A\$19.6mil. Chief Sir Tristan Antico says international operations have contributed more than 60% of the profit increase."The major contributors to this increase were once again Hong Kong, United Kingdom and Israel". South African and Portuguese operations are, however, flat and "trading losses occurred in Italy and Spanish operations". It has won orders from Hong Kong municipal authorities' squatter clearance programmes.

- 4 October 1978: SNP councillors join with Conservatives in Glasgow Council to allow private contractors to perform repairs on vacant council housing on the Easterhouse estate. The council building department destroyed by government cuts, receives a further bodyblow. SNP councillors stress the streets look derelict and the work is not being done fast enough by the council building unit.
- 4 October 1978: Eamon Gallagher, head of the EEC Commission's Fisheries Directorate says Britain could be taken to the European Court of Justice over its "so-called conservation measures" for herring that are both discriminatory and non-conservationist.
- 5 October 1978: Carter vetoes a \$10.2bn public spending programme put together by Democratic members of Congress. The event provides ammunition for monetarist arguments in Britain.
- 5 October 1978: TGWU finally make the Ford UK dispute official. However it declares that the 38,000 TGWU Ford members will not be getting £6 a week strike pay back-dated to Sep 23. The back-dated measure costs the union an extra £250,000, but is a necessary trade union managerial investment in an attempt to try and bring the rupture to heel.
- 5 October 1978: From midnight, police and army units are placed on 'stand-by' to take over the duty of POA members, some of whom have been taking unofficial industrial action over a claim for payment during lunch hours, which has been demanded for 7 years. Observer (7 Oct 1978) reports that the situation could have been contained by police for 4 or 5 days and then soldiers would be needed. The action is called off, with the POA assuring members that the inquiry into the issue, recently announced, will satisfy the claim.
- Lord Harris later remembers "With a number of my colleagues, I began to make contingency plans involving the use of both the police and the army, and if I may say so, the use of temporary prisons." (1980, Hansard)
- 5 October 1978: Leaders of Peace People, Betty Williams, Mairead Corrigan and journalist-editor of <u>Fortnight</u> Ciaran McKeown, announce they intend to step down from the organisation.
- 6 October 1978: Kenya's acting President, Daniel arap Moi, is unanimously declared head of its only legal party KANU, at its party conference Friday, clearing the way for his coronation as president on 10 Oct 1978.
- 6 October 1978: Patricia Rosenblit (pregnant at the time) and partner Jose Manuel Perez Rojo are kidnapped by Argentine security forces. Before she is killed, Rosenblit gives birth to a baby in ESMA

on 15 Nov 1978, that is removed from her and distributed to a rightist family.

6-25 October 1978: Second Middle East trade mission organised by the Scottish Council (Development and Industry) visits Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and UAE and the United Arab Emirates.

Its leader, Eric Harris, commercial manager of Reyrolle Belmos, explaining the visit, states: "Our goods and services are well regarded and the value of personal contact through visits of this kind cannot be over-emphasised." A previous Scottish Council tour to the gulf states in Nov 1976, has returned with significant orders.

7 October 1978: Annual exhibition of Scotland's most important art organisation, the Royal Glasgow Institute of Fine Arts, opens with 3 paintings by Prince Charles of landscapes in the royal estates at Sandringham Castle.

7 October 1978: Sale of BAE Jaguar medium-range bombers to India is concluded. Indian Air force's expansion, as part of a defence modernisation programme, continues including a number of new or enlarged training facilities. This occurs parallel to the warming relations with the PRC (typified by the A.B.Vajpayi visit to Beijing in 1977). The deal later involves the transfer of 40 Jaguars from the Warton BAE plant and 120 licence-constructed Jaguars as a Hindustan Aeronautics Limited-BAE joint venture called 'Shamshar'. As part of the deal, 18 R.A.F. Jaguars are loaned to the Indian Air Force in 1979 before production is completed.

7 October 1978: Kaunda announces Zambia will bring a case at the UN against British firms' sanction breaking to Rhodesia. He says "Zambia is studying the Bingham Report very carefully so far it reveals the astonishing extent of the British Government's knowledge of and even collusion in the breach of the UN sanctions. This action by the British Government has done irreparable damage to Zambia and its people. The damage is estimated in billions of kwacha and we believe we are entitled to compensation for this great loss suffered by the Zambian people."

No Shell or BP executives have been tried by the British government, instead BP has received government assistance in setting itself up in the North Sea.

8 October 1978: <u>The Sun</u> reports that Princess Margaret's 16-year-old son, Viscount Linley, has been caught and punished for underage alcohol use with 2 others in the dormitory of private school Bedales. It represents <u>The Sun</u> retaining its royalism but treating the Royal Family as yet another high-life celebrity to be used for sensation purposes.

- 8 October 1978: The marriage of the Grosvenor heir is a cause for celebrity speculation and rumour: "26 year old Gerald Grosvenor owns all the lands of Belgravia and one third of Mayfair including the south side of Oxford Street and land of 35 embassies ... a shopping centre in Wales, shooting in Scotland, trout in Shropshire; family seats in Cheshire and Fermanagh; office blocks in Melbourne; a palm-fringed hotel in Hawaii and an island in Vancouver" (World's richest wedding cake, Observer)
- 8 October 1978: Peace People's 16-strong executive unanimously select Peter McLachlan, its current projects manager, as its new chairman. He is a former researcher at the Conservative Party, then UUP South Antrim Assembly member at the height of internment and then UPNI (Unionist Party of Northern Ireland), a party representing the slither of pro-Sunningdale culturally loyalist 'Ulster Unionism'. He later resigns from the organisation in 1980, at the time that interest and enthusiasm for Peace People disappears because it challenges in a more head on fashion state violence in the prison system.
- 8 October 1978: <u>Daily Express</u> release excerpts from Chapman Pincher's book adding fuel to the fire: "The main function of MI5 since the Second World War has been to protect the realm from Communist penetration and subversion, and over the years suspicion has been building up against certain Labour MPs, some of whom have become Ministers.... I can quote from a live intelligence report in my possession which states that 'at least 59 serving Labour MPs 19% of the Parliamentary Labour Party have current or recent connections with Communist, Trotskyism or other Marxist organisations. The incidence of such activities has increased enormously over the past five years."
- 8 October 1978: General Council of British Shipping states British shipping is facing disaster. At August 1978 over 12% of the entire British merchant fleet is laid up, compared with only 5% at the same point in 1977. A spokesman states: "Most people in the industry now see little hope of an upturn in the tanker market before 1983 or of extra work for bulk carriers much before the early '80s. Even the most pessimistic five years ago would not have believed the slump would last so long without any real break. It is the worst worldwide crisis for 50 years."'

Its figures show in 1977 7% of the world fleet, equal to 43.2 million (2.6million British) deadweight tons, was laid up. Latest figures in indicate that 8% of the world fleet (795 ships, 54.8 million tons) are idle. Those flying a British flag that are idle are 53 ships (5.7 million tons) laid up.

- 8 October 1978: <u>Le Figaro</u> publishes an interview with Nixon where he states he is enjoying life and playing a little golf.
- 8 October 1978: Iain Sproat produces a classic backlash speech: "Too many judges and magistrates have become totally out of touch with the views of ordinary people." he said. "They live in comfortable, safe areas, and live comfortable, safe lives. They do not usually live in council estates where gangs of hooligans terrorise law-abiding citizens. They do not usually live in the poorer streets where old folk are afraid to go out after dark for fear of violence. They do not usually stand on football terraces at the mercy of the knives, bicycle chains, and broken bottles of rampaging thugs. It is not usually judges who are assaulted and beaten up. It is usually the poor, the elderly, and women. I have a simple suggestion to remedy that problem. Instead of handing out some £70Um of taxpayers' money in overseas aid to countries like Vietnam and Mozambique, spend some of it instead on protecting the decent citizens of our own country."
- 8 October 1978: A group of unemployed youth, in an act of 'vandalism', smash windows in five factories, ransacked an office in Tweedside industrial estate, Berwick.
- 8 October 1978: Belgium and France announce they will re-organise and further train the Zairean armed forces.
- 9 October 1978: Liberal leader David Steel is greeted by senior Communists in Bucharest, Romania on a party leadership-approved trip.
- 9 October 1978: In the general debate of UN General Assembly, Israeli Foreign Minister Dayan states of the post-1967 militarily occupied territories: "The Israeli settlements in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza district are there as of right."
- 9 October 1978: Eric Morley accepts from Mecca a golden handshake of £200.000, covering his salary for the next 5 years until his pension begins. He is to run Miss World contests. He states "I'm quite satisfied with what has happened—you could call it a draw."
- 9 October 1978: Union officials announce British Oxygen fearing industrial action from its 3000 gas workers has offered a pay increase of 7.7%.
- 9 October 1978: Princess Margaret presents, in Tokyo, the Dame Grand Cross of the Order of St Michael and St George award to

Princess Setsuko Chichibu, Emperor Hirohito's sister-in-law, for her apparent contribution to Anglo-Japanese friendship.

- 9 October 1978: Treasury and Employment Ministers and TUC representatives meet for a NEDC meeting with Chancellor Healey chairing. He sticks to the 5% limit, setting the tone for later Callaghan-TUC negotiations.
- 9 October 1978: Australia's Centre-right The Age reports 'Outlook grim for 'Sunny Jim': "a decision by the British Labor conference a decision which carries the weight of the trade union movement cannot be brushed off as frivolous, rhetorical or simply ideological steam-venting. So last week's conference vote rejecting the Government's attempt to impose a fourth year of non-statutory wage restraint... justified the middle-of-the-road Guardian's comment that it was Callaghan's most serious rebuff... it had an immediate effect on the stock-markets and the international currency exchanges, where the pound crashed two cents against even the ailing American dollar. ... The tragedy of it all is that the vote came at the same time as - and maybe partly because of - a miracle in the recovery of the British economy that Jim Callaghan can at least claim some credit for. For the first time in three years the Government is cheerfully waving monthly economic indexes about, instead of trying to lie them away.... Two years ago... Economically Callaghan was able to fix it with the unions for swinging cuts in public spending, by blaming it all on the IMF gnomes. Politically, he could justify failure to implement Labor policy by his parliamentary dependence on the Liberals. He earned the nickname "Jim'll fix it" — and he did. For three years the Government's pay policy has been the oak beam holding the whole edifice up: first a ... flat limit to pay rises, then 5% "norms", then last year a 10% limit... North Sea oil revenue started to come on stream in a big way. Strikes fell (although productivity has not risen significantly) and ironically last week figures came out showing that Britain is in the middle of a mini-consumer spending boom, with hire-purchase debts jumping A\$200million in a month. But now the axe has fallen, and it seems that there is nothing Callaghan can do but leave it to the next Government to mop up the blood."
- 9 October 1978: Annual report of National Cyrenians, Britain's biggest voluntary organisation involved in practical work for the single homeless, says the Housing Act has been so considerably weakened in its passage through parliament, that only families with children are given housing rights whilst the single homeless and mentally-ill are largely ignored. It states that even those with children and those who are pregnant "can be refused permanent housing if they are judged to be 'intentionally homeless"

- 9 October 1978: Moshe Dayan at the UN General Assembly states Jerusalem will remain Israel-occupied: "We have resolved never again to compromise the unity of Jerusalem and it is our hope that other peoples will share our positions."
- 10 October 1978: A resolution calling for much stricter controls on immigration and heavier fines for those who assist illegal migration into the EEC is passed by the EEC Parliament.
- 10 October 1978: A unemployed 24-year-old who gains 20p from a middle-class pensioner by pretending to collect for Christian Aid is jailed for 60 days by Arbroath Sheriff Court.
- 10 October 1978: Attorney General Sam Silkin, admits that, since 1975 when apparent guidelines on jury-rigging have been introduced, the weeding of unwanted jurors has been authorised in 25 cases, but that these have been only in serious cases with strong political motives, cases under the Official Secrets Act or serious offences concerning professional criminals. He states investigation can take the form of a check at the criminal records office, Special Branch and local CID records.
- 10 October 1978: Conservative Conference. In order not to rock the Party boat to achieve cohesion for the backlash push over the coming year, debates on the economy and immigration have been restricted to 3 hours only.

Constituency parties send in 74 motions on the first debate on employment and economics. 29 demand the scrapping of all forms of legislation defending closed shops. 7 demand a change in the political levy system, to restrict trade union assistance to political parties. 8 call for the repeal, or the drastic curtailment of the Employment Protection Act. Most of the others are general pained remonstrations against unemployment or economic decline. The motion selected for debate is: "This conference condemns the present socialist Government for their ineffectual handling of the continuing unemployment crisis, and calls on the next Conservative administration to implement, with all possible speed, a policy package which will properly face up to and effectively find solutions, both short-term and long, to this most tragic situation."

Chairman JP Sir Herbert Redfern, industrialist member, former Mayor of Brighouse, owner of the Ashlea stately home property (1,000m2 of home space, private landscaped gardens and lawns, 6 bedrooms, garages, garden rooms, veranda, orangery, library, offices, door handles replicas of a set from Buckingham Palace from the inter-war era etc), does not call any amendments and the motion passes unanimously. The second economy debate titled

"Economic Policy and Taxation." sees 112 motions from constituencies of varying demands, including abolition of all taxation of capital, abolition of sex discrimination legislation, reduction in the rates of unemployment benefit. The motion reads "This Conference is appalled by unemployment at levels unknown since the last war and affirms that industrial production can be expanded realistically by reducing the level of direct taxation so that firms can find it pays to produce and business can find it pays to pays to invest in plant." It too features no amendments and is passed unanimously.

On immigration, Stephen Conway, of Birmingham, Northfields, former policeman, backs the call to scrap the Race Relations Act declaring it "the most stupid, ineffective act passed by a government" in the country and "the sooner the Conservative Party commits to its withdrawal, the sooner race relations in this country would start to improve". Sam Swerling, councillor on Westminster City Council, Conservative Party parliamentary candidate in both elections of 1974, London Guildhall University law lecturer, who states: "We have the right to protect not only the indigenous people but the ethnic minority. Say 'Enough is enough and we are going to stop immigration tomorrow.' It is now time all parties started to take this attitude." He too urges the repeal of the Race Relations Act and a stronger repatriation scheme. Keith Speed, Conservative spokesman on race relations and immigration, says that having returned from a visit to India and, Bangladesh, party policy, as outlined in detail by Whitelaw in Leicester in Apr 1978, is correct, and a soft, unfocused motion in favour of tight immigration control but against the National Front is narrowly passed.

- 10 October 1978: Callaghan, Len Murray and five biggest General Secretaries meet over dinner at Downing Street to discuss 'Phase Four' guidelines in an attempt to claw some limits together in spite of the overwhelming rejections at Labour Party and TUC Conferences.
- 10 October 1978: After 16 hours of overnight talks TUC Steel Committee and BSC agree that the Glengarnock plant will close by 23 Dec 1978 with the loss of around 750 out of 980 jobs. Steel manufacture will be replaced by a rolling mill operation. Redundancy payment package is expected at between £3mil-£4mil.
- 12 October 1978: Sid Vicious' girlfriend Nancy Spungen is found stabbed to death, Chelsea Hotel, New York.
- 12-23 October 1978: 36 British firms take part in a scientific trade exhibition in Moscow (Nauka 79). Their products range from X-ray scanners, microscopes, computers to laboratory equipment.

15 October 1978: NUJ emergency committee allows 70 journalists on 10 weekly newspapers in Ayrshire and Lanarkshire owned by Scottish and Universal Newspapers. Ltd, to begin strike action from Mon 17 Oct 1978, however it refuses to call out other branches. NUJ in Scotland is under serious attack as the <u>Daily Record</u> and <u>Sunday Mail</u> chairman and editorial director, Derek Webster, sends a letter to over 1000 employees warning if a threatened strike action in support of pay parity proceeds occurs it will be regarded as a breach of contract and a lock-out of and purging from employment will result.

16 October 1978: Tarn Paton, millionaire manager of the Bay City Rollers, owner of 2 Rolls-Royces, a luxury home outside Edinburgh and other properties in various countries in USA announces his move as a tax exile to the Bahamas: "There are one or two properties in the Bahamas I want to look at, either with a view to buying or lending. As a tax exile, I will be only allowed into Britain for 60 days in the year. One point I would make is that I will never sell my house in Scotland." He states "I don't mind paying tax, but i don't want to buy the country" to explain his move. Of the Bay City Rollers he states they "are having a seven-week cooling-off period.... After the seven-week period I hope we will all sit down together round the table and work out some kind of future. Even If I am out of the country, I can still control their programme through our London office." He states his product has been successful in USA and Japan with high-profile television appearances leading to successful tours. Showaddywaddy's Dave Bartram describes moves in 1978-9 to become tax exiles: "In 1979 our bags were almost packed to move away as tax exiles - I actually had a flat rented in Jersey, most of the band were going to the Isle of Man. We were due to go in July but Margaret Thatcher got into power and immediately cut tax from a ridiculous 83% down to 60%." (7 December 2004 Interview)

16 October 1978: Sir John Methven, CBI, threatens government against stronger price controls. He states any tightening of price controls unacceptably restricts managerial decision-making. An investment squeeze, continuing contraction and limited expansion is threatened. He states CBI is opposed to a 5% norm on the grounds that "everyone believes it is something to be beaten" - ie it emboldens rather than dampens pay claims. CBI still supports "moderation" on pay but urges flexibility, even whilst it states settlements below 5% are needed in the main, but some varied increases to deal with the problems of eroded differentials.

- 16 October 1978: The new Pope is elected Karol Wojtyla, selfdeclared as John Paul II, to continue the path of John Paul I, who opposes 'Liberation Theology'. During his election "the Vatican Press Office, aided by other Curial elements, was busily engaged in rewriting Wojtyla's past [lead by] Cardinal Vilot, a man who had already demonstrated a remarkable ability to hide the truth concerning the death of Pope John Paul I... While the official details of Wojtyla's life contained, for example, in L'Osservatore Romano, were accurate, they were a masterpiece of brevity when dealing with Karol Wojtyla's war years... There was the issue of Wojtyla's non-existent wartime assistance to Jews. He had never lifted a hand to save a single life or assist any. There was the issue of his wartime work for the East German Chemical Works, previously called Solvay: work that merited him special protection of the Third Reich because it was deemed vital to the war effort... the Religious News Service, AP, Time, Chicago Sun Times, NBC News, San Francisco Examiner and The Times of London all concurred in the [fabricated] story of Wojtyla's wartime activities. Greeley wrote:
- 17 October 1978: NALGO full-timers urge a total return to work, and offer no strike pay, in a dispute over management impositions and slurs on the workforce in Glasgow's housing department.
- 17 October 1978: Brook Street Bureau, the employment agency firm with around 200 branches and divisions, gives 6-month profit results up 50%, setting it on course to reach its previous (1971) peak of £1.8mil.
- 17 October 1978: A sheriff throws out a case brought by Maureen Clark, who has taken Angus District Council to court under the Homeless Persons (Scotland) Act, over its refusal to rehouse her and her 2 young children after they are thrown out of their caravan in Brechin. He states that the family living in a Salvation Army hostel should simply try once again at another office.
- 17 October 1978: Rev. Paisley announces the election of Karol Wojtyla as Pope proves the convergence of "Vaticanism and Kremlinism"
- 17 October 1978: <u>Liverpool Echo</u> sees MP Anthony Steen urge the government for harder action in its opposition to strikes amongst social workers. He states "indoctrination by militant left-wing and Marxist lecturers on training courses" mean the loyal social worker "dedicated to the deprived have turned against them [the deprived]"
- 18 October 1978: "The unions are doing the British motor industry and their members no favours. The implications are worrying in the

- extreme, both from a point of view of company viability and. ultimately in terms of job security for the very people that this local action is intended to support."
- 17 October 1978: India announces it will buy at 8 Sea Harrier aircraft from Britain for use on its only aircraft carrier, the Vikrant.
- 18 October 1978: Carter, having discussed with NATO partners, announces the likelihood of a new generation of nuclear weapons with neutron technology.
- 18 October 1978: Indian Defence Minister Jagjivan Ram says he is interested in submarine and tank purchases from Britain, Federal Germany or Soviet Union.
- 19 October 1978: US Secretary of State Vance holds talks in Sudan with Vice president and foreign affairs minister, Rashid el-Tahir, to confirm Saudi Arabia's payment for 12 US-built F-5E jet fighter-bombers for the Sudanese air force.
- 20 October 1978: Ford stand at the International Motor Show, in Birmingham, is unfilled due to strike action. As a result of dockers' unofficial action in support of Ford UK workers, importation of Ford vehicles from other European plants has been hampered. 28 Ford cars and 14 trucks are remain on transporters outside the gates of the National Exhibition Centre as TGWU officials refuse to bring them inside.
- 20 October 1978: The Times reports on the efforts of the Namibia Contact Group including Britain: "The Western powers will have difficulty in persuading the United Nations that the compromise reached in their Foreign Ministers talks with the South African Government on Namibia is anything but eyewash. What emerges from the communiqué yesterday is that South Africa under its new hardline Prime Minister is determined to go ahead with elections in the Territory on its own terms on the ground that the UN plan is both unacceptable and procrastinating."

<u>Financial Times</u> notes "The root of the problem is that the South Africans are determined to prevent Namibia being controlled by SWAPO."

20 October 1978: <u>Canberra Times</u> reports an intrepid group of Australians who enter Dili harbour in a small yacht who observe "frigates, patrol boats, barges crammed with Indonesian soldiers, and many aircraft and helicopters" hearing explosions and "were left without doubts that Dili was still a war zone" (Canberra Times, Oct 20, 1978)

- 20 October 1978: Government again opposes political status prison clothes must be imposed at all costs, otherwise "terrorism would become respectable. Obviously, therefore, the granting of any of these claims as rights is out of the question"
- 22 October 1978: 3,000 Hong Kong postal workers begin an overtime ban and work-to-rule to further their demand to reduce standard contract working hours from 54 hours a week to 48 hours a week.
- 22 October 1978: Elmo Zumwalt, Chief of naval operations from 1970-74. commander of US naval forces in IndoChina war from 1968 on, gives a lecture at Northeastern University urging greater Western defence expenditure. He estimates that over 100 million Americans, compared to only 10 million Russians will be killed in a nuclear war and states the Soviets have steadily increased military strength since 1962. He asserts, in an attempt to revive a foreign scare, the Soviet Union has twice as many warships, over 2.5 times as many nuclear submarines, 3 times as many conventional submarines, and 4 times as many conventional ships. He urges stronger measures to protect U.S. shipping lanes was vital, because, "we can't support our economy if we can't bring in 50 percent of our oil overseas." (UPI 24 Oct 1978) Zumwalt has previously visited South Africa in Apr 1977 to urge consideration of South African as contributing to Western sea-lanes.
- 22 October 1978: An international commission, invited by the Iranian Jurists' Committee, featuring Carlo Francanzani, DC MP, US Professor James Cockcroft of Rutgers University, and Labour Left MP Russell Kerr issues a preliminary report from Tehran, after having struggled for months to receive travel visas: "The West's political support of the Shah, and continued supplying of armaments to him, hardly becomes nations bent on the preservation and strengthening of peace and justice in the Middle East and elsewhere. It should, in our view, be altered forthwith."
- 23-27 October 1978: Prince Charles official state visit to Yugoslavia. He is flown by an Andover aircraft of the Queen's Flight straight to Dubrovnik for sightseeing tours. He meets President Tito for a banquet and talks at the Presidential Winter Residence. He visits 4 of Yugoslavia's 6 republics. Charles, in private, praises Tito's role in the non-aligned movement. He inspects a Yugoslav naval training facility which Britain has supplied with much of its electronic equipment. He has lunch alongside Admiral Branko Mamula, Yugoslav Naval chief of staff, on board the flagship *Vis*. Wearing his RN uniform, Charles talks to naval cadets and their instructors to

boost still fairly tentative British-Yugoslav naval and military cooperation.

- 24 October 1978: Crown prosecutors drop sec.1 OSA charges against Duncan Campbell collecting information useful to an enemy, since the alleged information is widely disseminated by a strong Broad Left NUJ defence campaign. This information touches on the farcical including photographs and names of the Post Office towers in London and and Birmingham. Campbell has placed a picture of a communication infrastructure based on public records, photographs of public structures (such as radar antennas) and even from entries in the public telephone directory.
- 25 October 1978: Publication of opposition weekly <u>Al-Ahali</u> is finally fully banned and remaining editors are arrested after the newspaper has been confiscated from printing 9 times and forced to stop publication several times.
- 25 October 1978: British planners reassert the importance of Flyingdales air base for Britain "The balance of operational interest in the site remains with the UK... Fylingdales is useful to the Americans, providing as it does warning of missile attacks on ACE and space intelligence data, but it may not be essential. It is possible that the US could assemble sufficient BMEWS data from their stations in Greenland and Alaska" (DEFE 13/995 CAS 91092, 25 Oct 1978)
- 25 October 1978: General Council Session of TUC sees delegates give an explicit warning to TUC Council of Len Murray, Moss Evans, Terry Duffy, Geoffrey Drain, Allen and Dave Basnett that they are not to attempt to "smuggle in" a new pay deal in discussions with the government in Oct-Nov 1978.
- 27 October 1978: Staff at the IMF in Washington DC vote for strike action in protest at increasing inflation and minimal pay increases. Managers fear it will polarise the organisation between participants and strikebreakers.
- 27 October 1978: Begin and Sadat are awarded the Nobel Peace Prize by the Nobel Committee, sharing a prize of 725,000 krone, £85,500. PLO responds: "As far as the Palestinian people are concerned the Nobel prize has been shared by two fascists with a black history." (The Times, 28 Oct 1978)
- 27 October 1978: Rhodesian police break up a mass demonstration by black students at the University of Rhodesia, Salisbury over the law requiring black males between 18-25 to register for military service by 1 Dec 1978. Esmael Chatikobo, leader of UR Students' Union, who pledges defiance "under force of death".

- 27 October 1978: Cammell Laird announces close to 800 will be made redundant in Jan 1979 at its Birkenhead shipyard.
- 27 October 1978: Ford hints it will offer its 75,000 manual workforce a 12.5% pay rise, when talks resume on 31 Oct 1978. The 6-week long period of strikes has seen production has been halted or severely affected in all 23 factories. Ford UK profits are £246mil in FY1976-7.
- 27 October 1978: British Caledonian says it faces serious financial difficulties because Spain has withdrawn its landing rights in Madrid. The move is widely understood as pressure against the government's decision to transfer Iberia from Heathrow to Gatwick in Apr 1978.
- 27 October 1978: Len Murray, after seeing the 5 NHS trade union general secretaries secures an end to the hospital engineers' strike. Employers agree on an even more sharply graded salary structure in favour of supervisors, many of whom as NALGO members also participate in the strike.
- 27-28 October 1978: Over 100 tonnes of British military equipment arrives on RAF Hercules aircraft for the Zambian government, estimated as £8mil worth of ground-to-air missiles to be deployed, strictly for Lusaka Airport, to deter Rhodesian raids there. The deal has been secured by Major-General F. W. E. Thursdon, head of the Military Assistance at the Ministry of Defence, who has recently visited Zambia. Significantly the equipment goes to the Zambian military authorities not to any guerrillas. It is a British diplomatic success, since it means Zambian reliance on BMATT training teams continues (prolonging the era of the Rapier systems) but also Kaunda having significant leverage over the guerrillas, by dangling the prize of defence from Rhodesian aircraft raids over their camps. Standard analysis: "Dr Kaunda has steadfastly avoided large-scale Soviet and Cuban involvement here, but there were fears that in the absence of military help from the West, he might be forced to turn to" (The Times, 26 Oct 1978, p7)
- 31 October 1978: <u>Jerusalem Post</u> records Israeli Prime Minister Begin stating that "the Jewish people's right to settle in all parts of the land of Israel is inalienable. This right has been carried out in the past, and will be in the future."
- 31 October 1978: President of the World Food Council, Philippines' Agriculture Minister, Dr. Tanco, says insufficient world resources-are being invested in food production.... aid for raising food output in developing countries has fallen badly since 1975, while global military spending had grown to more than \$400,000mil annually.

He notes several major countries in the Third World have needed to import 16 million tonnes of grain in 1978 thus far. "Unless checked, this will rise to the staggering figure of between 125 million and 145 million tonnes by 1990. Where this huge amount will come from — only 12 short years from now — and how the foreign exchange resources will be generated by the developing countries will continue to be a dilemma."

- 31 October 1978: Sir Jeremy Morse, chairman of Lloyd's Bank urges membership of the EMS and a propaganda campaign in gfavour of it reducing inflation and unemployment: "For five or six years, the western world has been deadlocked in a mixture of inflation and unemployment.... In addition we have had severe exchange instability which is likely to recur periodically over the next, decade as we continue to move away from reliance on the dollar as the sole pillar of the system [but] proponents of the scheme.... in the hurry to get something started by the turn of the year, the more fundamental and long-term aspects of the proposals have been largely lost sight of, at least in public presentation" He states EMS will mean the ECU will stand beside the dollar as an international currency, one down, and EMS will co-ordinating policies to resist inflation.
- 31 October 1978: NALGO starts its bargaining putting in a claim for a £60 a week wage for municipal workers in local authorities, who have been ordered to resist the claims.
- 31 October 1978: Financial Times group launches a new international weekly edition, <u>Financial Times World Business Weekly</u>, for the business reader US market. The pages are to be made up in Britain but flown on the Friday-Saturday using statesubsidised Concorde aircraft, ready for distribution over the weekend. Its cost is \$2.50.
- 31 October 1978: Metropolitan police attack women marching against male violence in Soho on a 'Reclaim the Night' demonstration. Met Commissioner McNee advises women to avoid going out at night to avoid violence.
- 31 October 1978: US Delta Airlines announces US Delta Airlines an order from for 5 Rolls-Royce RB211-22B engined Lockheed Tristar aircraft and options for a further 15. It means a £150mil minimum or £240mil maximum contract for Rolls-Royce. Other Tristar component manufacturers Dowty and Smith, British Aerospace Prestwick, Short Brothers Belfast and Lucas Aerospace also benefit. Government announces Rank Toshiba's formation, 70% owned by Rank Radio International, Rank's Bush and Murphy offshoot and Japanese firm Toshiba, will not to be referred to the Monopolies Commission. It is celebrated as a massive triumph in job creation, when it simply transfers from other firms' cutbacks, physically

taking over Rank's television and audio factories in the West of England.

31 October 1978: Zaire's currency the Zaire begins free flotation once again rapidly losing value against Western currencies, securing cheaper copper and other resources.

November 1978: Charlie Wilson, last of the imprisoned Great Train Robbers is released. A large party occurs in the East End. He is later to be shot dead in his villa in Marbella, Spain, as 'The King' chief operator of a cocaine ring.

November 1978: Defence Intelligence Staff's most senior officer Brigadier J. M. Glover, who is later promoted to Commander of Land Forces in Northern Ireland, writes a report distributed to all senior leaders in the Ministry of Defence: "The Provisional IRA (PIRA) has the dedication and the sinews of war to raise violence intermittently to at least the level of early 1978, certainly for the foreseeable future ... Our evidence of the rank and file terrorists does not support the view that they are merely mindless hooligans drawn from the unemployed and unemployable. PIRA now trains and uses its members with some care. The Active Service Units (ASUs) are for the most part manned by terrorists tempered by up to ten years of operational experience.... Conclusions - The Provisionals' campaign of violence is likely to continue while the British remain in Northern Ireland..." (New Statesman 13 Jul 1979)

November 1978: Around 200 S.P.G. descend on Brixton and use the sus laws (section 4 of the 1824 Vagrancy Act) to arrest mostly black young, unemployed people in a series of shows of force. Home Office Research Study report no58 entitled Race, Crime and Arrests, published in 1979, shows that in general a black person is around fifteen times more likely to be stopped compared to a white person.

- 1 November 1978: <u>Protestant Telegraph</u> examines figures showing that 10% of Britain is Catholic but Britain's prison population is 23% Catholic. "It is evident that Romanism does not decrease crime. Let church leaders and social workers ponder this" it states, urging extreme caution against social work or youth schemes of a mixed or ecumenical nature.
- 1 3 November 1978: A 3-day seminar and interchange between Malaysian and British firms, offering opportunities to discuss the setting up of joint ventures, is held in Kuala Lumpur opened by the Malaysian trade minister.
- 2 November 1978: Foreign Office denies it is assisting Tanzania in the Developing military confrontation with Uganda stating it is "in

- no way a part of or in collusion with such an invasion, of which we are not aware"
- 2 November 1978: Sierra Leone announces its withdrawal from the sterling zone and its pegging to the IMF's SDR unit.
- 2 November 1978: A massive Rhodesian armed assault on refugee camps near Lusaka, Zambia.
- 2 November 1978: POA in Birmingham votes 49-46 for limited industrial action to begin.
- 2 November 1978: Equal Opportunities Commission reports a detailed survey of 575 firms in Britain, finding that 2% have trained or even encouraged women to consider work in traditionally 'male' fields. It explains hardly any have any awareness of the root causes of workplace imbalances between men and women.
- 2 November 1978: British Airports Authority announces an initial £19mil earmark plan for further expansion at London Gatwick.
- 2 November 1978: Commonwealth Committee on Southern Africa, with the support of Sonny Ramphal, express "grave concern over the disquieting revelations" in the Bingham report. It urges Britain as the only Commonwealth representative in the UN Security Council to push the case for an embargo on oil supplies to South Africa, so that this oil cannot be transferred to Rhodesia.
- 2 November 1978: The Times reports on "the immediate reactions to the economic debate in the Chamber" 31 Oct 1978 "Andreotti, the Prime Minister, managed to save his minority Christian Democratic administration from defeat on issues arising from wage demands by the hospital workers.... The Communists feel that he laid down important principles in insisting that wages in the public sector must be kept strictly within the limits laid down in the Government's economic planning while responsibility for negotiations should be under the control of the Treasury."
- 3 November 1978: <u>The Times</u> Kenneth Owen examines the Post Office's long-term efforts to replace labour with capital.
- 3 November 1978: <u>The Times</u> reports British Board of Deputies' fairly open rejection of the ANL and confrontational anti-NF protests, demonstrations "they say [lead] to 'punch-ups' and to the publicity on which the National Front thrives."(William Frankel, How "real" is the threat to Jews in Britain?)
- 3 November 1978: US confirms it will not use a veto in NATO's COCOM (Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls) against any member selling military equipment to PRC.
- 3 November 1978: Patrick John, millionaire leader of the Dominica Labor Party becomes the first Prime Minister of independent

Dominica. Another successful neo-colonialist decolonisation process has been completed. Several trade unionists are still in prison over a six-week civil servant strike some months back.

- 3 November 1978: Aboriginal leaders accede to Complex uranium mining, in Northern Territory, and are promised state facilities in return.
- 5 November 1978: British interests in Iran are attacked by large popular demonstrations throughout the day and afternoon. 'Imperialists Out!' is a prominent slogan. A group of 300 women storm the compound. Electric power and telephone lines to the embassy are cut. Sir Anthony Parson, Britain's ambassador intending to fly by private jet, takes shelter in the French Embassy instead. British Embassy's telephone lines are cut, rocks and Molotov cocktails are thrown into its compound, causing large fires. The Waldorf Astoria Hotel, full of foreign business guests, is burnt out. Headquarters of the Irano-British bank. British Airways' headquarters are raided and looted. British Embassy's telephone lines are cut, rocks and Molotov cocktails are thrown into its compound, causing large fires. A MK123 spy system is used to relay a message to Darwin Australia seeking support.
- 6 November 1978: Robert McClement, Scotland secretary of NASUWT: "What you get in the way of education depends on where you live. This is true not only from region to region, but from place to place within regions." He makes the strongly anti-democratic argument that councillors should be stripped of education responsibilities. "Change is essential. Local authorities have had their chance and failed. Education is too important to be left with them any longer" He urges that management of education should be stripped away from elected local authorities and handed over to appointed ad-hoc authorities.
- 6 November 1978: John Greenborough, President of CBI, gives the centrepiece address at the CBI conference in Brighton, strongly calling for secret ballots on strike action for restoring profitability in British business.
- 6 November 1978: CBI conference of 1200 employer delegates votes for reducing direct taxation. It votes that there should not be any back-up legislation to encourage boardroom-level participation from workforce "industrial democracy". It agrees only to a voluntary code of practice encouraging participation. It votes almost unanimously that there should be no further state intervention into industry. This state intervention (which redistributes profits from one capitalist to the other) eats into the majority of private-sector firms' profits. David Nickson, Scotland Vice-Chairman, proposes a motion in favour of electoral reform (on lines suggested by Liberals)

declaring that since the collapse of the Lib-Lab Pact: "we are moving dangerously fast from a democracy towards an elected dictatorship." This is also won. As is a Scottish and Welsh CBI motion, critical of the Government's devolution plans.

Michael Edwardes, British Leyland chief: "What I say is let profits rip.... Competition will stop the bogeymen, be they multinationals or the local success story".

He calls for no restriction on prices. He says firms can pay more taxes if they are allowed to make greater profits, and this is vital for the CBI to achieve its target of reducing personal taxation by 30% in 1981. John Greenborough CBI president states: "We must get through to the workers and a system must be created whereby they are able, without hindrance, to express freely their individual views on all issues, particularly on strike action. Perhaps two of the most important words in the English language at this point in our history are 'secret ballot'.... The inescapable fact is that low productivity leads straight down the road to the dole queue"

7 November 1978: A 17-year-old is court-martialled in a Spanish Basque town accused of insulting the flag by using it in a play to wipe his brow during a performance of a satirical play.

7 November 1978: <u>Daily Telegraph</u> reports "The crisis in Iran could have disastrous consequences for Britain's flourishing arms export industry which for the past few years has prized the Shah as its biggest customer."

7 November 1978: <u>Times Journal of Manila</u>'s Ernesto Granada denounces Hong Kong immigration sweeps and entry restrictions on Filipinos: "It seems the Hong Kong immigration authorities are of the single-minded impression that every Filipino who wants to visit Hongkong is determined to walk the streets. And they perhaps feel that they have to protect Hong Kong's own streetwalkers, estimated at 30,000 to 50,000 right now"

7 November 1978: In anger at ongoing rises in food prices Zambians attack property and loot shops, including those of whites and emigre Rhodesians. The events inevitably are reported as 'black savagery' anti-white racism.

8 November 1978: Church of England's General Synod, its ruling body, narrowly rejects, 174-204, a plan supported by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Donald Coggan, to formalise a special prayer to be said after abortions featuring the line "into your hands we commit in trust the developing life that we have cut short."

- 8 November 1978: The government, responsible for serious internal security, foreign relations and defence on Antigua, announces a probe into cases of weapons being routed through Antiguan purchasers to South Africa, in defiance of the 1974 restrictions.
- 8 November 1978: Callaghan sacks Labour Left junior government PPS under Tony Benn's Department, Brian Sedgemore, who quotes from a Cabinet document about Britain joining the proposed European Monetary System during a Parliamentary Select Committee. Callaghan also orders an inquiry into the leak.
- 9 November 1978: Government-controlled Bank of England raises MLR to 12.5% from 10%, increasing the squeeze on certain small firms.
- 10 November 1978: <u>Bulldog</u>, Young NF's paper, has a music special. Punk dominates the issue. It expresses the idea that many punk bands are forced to conform to anti-NF statements due to Zionist (meaning Jewish) music industry pressure that stifles freedom of expression.
- 10 November 1978: Another meeting of the 10 Zaire Group nations and representatives from the World Bank and IMF over conditions to be imposed upon Zaire over the drawing of new emergency and long-cover loans for Zaire.
- 10 November 1978: The Times in an ugly analysis on Zambia: "despite the presence of some 30,000 white expatriates, the economy is crumbling. Black African leaders blame the 'colonialists, neo-colonialists, imperialists, fascists and racists' of the West- 14 years after independence President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia is holding Britain responsible for the shortage of powdered baby milk. Since winning their freedom, black governments, with a few exceptions such as Kenva and Botswana, have had a dismal record in seeing that their people reaped the benefits... In Zambia, economic mismanagement— beginning with, a failure to use the profits from copper to diversify the economy at independence coupled with an inability to develop the country's rich agricultural potential, has resulted in food shortages, rampant unemployment and inflation... Through it all, the black African sees the white man living in ease. The Government might realize the importance of the white expertise to the economy, but the African peasant probably does not. Convince him— as the Zambian press has been doing in the past weeks— that white men are potential Rhodesian spies and the simmering resentment will erupt into violence... Now that the violence has broken through to the surface, many here wonder whether the atmosphere may have already been too poisoned for a white man to walk again down Lusaka's Cairo Road without looking over his shoulder. If the bitterness and hatred has reached such a

point here, the potential implications for Rhodesia are too terrible to contemplate."

11 November 1978: Trade Secretary Edmund Dell, one-time 'hard' pro-Moscow CPGBer, announces his resignation to resume his career as a chairman of Guinness Peat merchant banking group. His annual salary will be upwards of £40,000. the firm is largely a device to avoid payment of inheritance tax for the Guiness family. The dad makes investments into the bank (where the sons sit on the board) from which .

"The merchant-banking Guinnesses of Guinness & Mahon (now Guinness Peat) have long been a separate scion of the main line Guinnesses, though one of them, A.P.B. Guinness, is on the board of Arthur Guinness Son & Company, the main publically-quoted holding company. Its chairman is the present Arthur Guinness, 3rd Earl of Iveagh. A vice-chairman of the group is Lord Moyne (Bryan Walter Guinness whose eldest son Jonathon, was the controversial chairman of the right wing Monday Club in British Tory politics) though Lord Moyne is perhaps better known as a poet, playwright and novelist." (The Barons of European Industry, Anthony Rowley, 1974, p137)

- 12-18 November 1978: Indira Ghandi's 7-day visit to Britain. She attends a public meeting in Southall, organised by the pro-Moscow CPI-loyal IWA. Confrontations occur.
- 12 November 1978: Malaysian armed forces, threatening to open fire from its naval vessels, drive away the Hai Hong, with 2,500 Vietnamese refugees, out of Malaysia's coastline.
- 13 November 1978: Financial Times Survey reports on Turkey. It records stagnating 'growth' with an expected rise in GDP by well under 2% expected over the course of the year. In the second 6 months of 1977, productive industry is running at 50% of capacity, chemical industry at 53.5%, metal-based sector at 51.2%, a trend that has extended into 1978. Inflation over the course of 1977 is at 40%. Comparing prices needed for sustenance on the poverty line in July 1978 versus the same time in 1977, sees that the costs of meeting it has risen by around 70%. Official ie urban (not including the rural underemployed) unemployment stands at over 20% according to the Treasury (but is estimated well above this figure). British and Federal German police teams are working on strengthening police assaults against popular mobilisation and describe the state of the Turkish police forces, on the verge in some areas of breaking into 2 rival (pro-strike vs anti-strike). They describe

- 13 November 1978: Callaghan gives his Guildhall Speech, once again analysing in national terms that 'Britain' is a large net contributor to the EEC's funds.
- 14 November 1978: US Under-Secretary for Defence Perry reveals recent tests of a new jet-powered Cruise missile have shown that "the present Soviet air defence system is totally ineffective against this threat" and says USA will stay 2 or 3 years ahead of USSR in ways defences to overcome Cruise missile.

Cruise missiles can at present be launched from B2 bombers up to 1000km from their targets, which can be struck with a computerised terrain map navigational system.

- 14 November 1978: <u>New York Times</u> reports Carter has also approved a \$2.2mil plan to begin development of 2 new ICBMs, a new land-based MX missile and a long-range version of the submarine Trident missile.
- 14 November 1978: A resolution against pay claims above 5% is put to the TUC General Council, it is tied 14-14 and rejected by the Chair's casting vote. Chancellor Healey at a Treasury Press conference states: "You will say it is a disastrous blow for the Government — that's show business." On 15 Nov UPW's Tom Jackson attacks those who have voted against the resolution and in favour of 'free collective bargaining': "I grow tired of the posturing of those who claim to be Socialists, who claim they have some vision of a more equitable society when at tie same time they demand the right to get not just their share but as much as is going for their particular members" He attacks NUPE: "Mr Fisher voted against one of the best things which could have happened for his members and could have given him the opportunity to do something about the people at the bottom of the heap, who deserve better treatment than what his left is likely to give them" He attacks Moss Evans, TGWU, who is on holiday in Malta and Sid Weighell, NUR, who has taken part in a BBC discussion over incomes policy, during the vote, meaning support for the government was lost. He also asserts those who oppose government pay limits in the Fords strike are "joining hands with Sir Keith Joseph and Mrs Margaret Thatcher". He states that during the last "free for all" UPW had secured 33% overall increase, but lost this through inflation of prices and job losses of 25,000 in the Post Office were inflicted. Unsurprisingly he failed to attack the job cuts by halting production and urges against any extension of strike action in support of TUC claims.
- 14 November 1978: Aubrey and Berry of ABC are found guilty.
- 14 November 1978: <u>Social Work Today</u> reports on backlash against social workers' strike. Birmingham Council starts to take steps to

block offering student social workers' training experience if they are deemed to come from radical courses: "Councillor Banner Adkins, chairman of Birmingham social services committee ... said that information was being sought in an attempt to connect courses with the recent protests over social services policy in the city. Councillor Adkins was reported in the Birmingham livening Mail as saying,"I think the universities are very much to blame for all this. We spend about 6,000 pounds to send a social worker for two years training and at some universities they come under political influence. We have known that this goes on at certain universities like Warwick." 14 November 1978: Protests meet Indira Gandhi as she addresses a public meeting in Southall.

14 November 1978: UPI reports on Iran "Rioters fire bombed the car of an American oil worker and torched the home of a British citizen. Some 300 American phone workers stayed off the job in Tehran following threats against them and western diplomats said the situation Is "extremely tense" between Iranian and foreign workers [incorrectly labelled supervisors and managers] in the southern Iran oil fields. No casualties could be confirmed in the shootings in the capital, but Tehran Radio said 'troops fired into a crowd of demonstrators posing as students' in south Tehran....

"There is an extremely tense situation between strikers, non-strikers and foreigners," one diplomat said. US oil sources in Ahvaz said George Link, a US oil company official, was sitting in his car when one demonstrator hurled a fire bomb inside. The sources said Link leaped from his car as flames engulfed the vehicle and caused it to explode. Link was not hurt... A British embassy source said a British family in Ahvaz had to flee its home before a mob burned It to the ground. In other attacks in the same area, three British oil workers were beaten up, the source said. British Embassy sources said the Oil Service Co. of Iran asked for and got troop guarded checkpoints around the area inhabited by its 2,000 foreigners in the oil fields."

14-17 November 1978: President and Commander-in-chief of the Portuguese armed forces Antonio o Ramalho Eanes' official visit to Britain, sees an open carriage ride with Queen Elizabeth. Britain remains Portugal's largest trading partner, exports totalling over £100mil in 1978 in machinery, transport equipment and chemicals, with Portugal supplying textiles, wine, wood, paper pulp, cork, fruit and vegetable. A deputation from TUC and group of British industrialists also call on him at Buckingham Palace. Britain Chiefs of the Defence Staff also visit to discuss Portuguese resolve in maintaining defence spending in spite of IMF-imposed austerity schemes. Eanes attempts to secure trade concessions in textiles in talks with Callaghan.

- 15 November 1978: In a fact of "concern" about the "Southern Tier" Turkey accedes to Soviet warships call at Istanbul for the first time ever since the 1936 Montreux Declaration.
- 15 November 1978: Buckingham Palace hosts a gala for 350 guests to celebrate Prince Charles' 30<sup>th</sup> birthday. US pop group The Three Degrees perform.
- 15 November 1978: Chair of Highland Distilleries presses the claim for tax exemption: "as regards the industry's justifiable claim for credit on duty payments, the arguments against granting it are not worthy of consideration if logic was a prerequisite of the debate... as I said last year, subject to Government Interference, the prospects of your company continue to be good with The Famous Grouse brand, backed by substantial promotion funds, showing every sign of continued growth." It has profits are up from £3.35m to £4.08m in 1977-8.
- 15 November 1978: Under the effect of the continuing strike at its 23 plants Ford UK drops the lateness clause from its proposed attendance payment weekly supplement plan. Under the plan in its modified form, coming late once will no longer stop payment unless lateness has led to disciplinary suspension. Sickness and authorised absence can also qualify with the changed offer.
- 15 November 1978: St Lucia Premier put backs independence until "at least 1979".
- 15 November 1978: A 14-year-old at work on a milk delivery is killed after the float malfunctions and hits a tree.
- 15 November 1978: Scotland POA delegates vote for a work-to-rule, 4-hour stoppages and overtime ban to cover all 21 prisons in Scotland. "We can kill them stone dead with wildcat action and no overtime might be the real cruncher because how are they going to bring the bodies in?" Peter Mulrooney, HMP Barlinnie POA states. The mean four-hour stoppages will be targeted at areas in prisons particularly related to wider social production: workshops and laundries, some of which service contracts including N.H.S. hospitals.
- 15 November 1978: Zambia's white landowners grouped as the Commercial Farmers' Bureau issue a threat to cease production at a a public rally in Ngwerere to protest ZAPU guerrilla encroachments on their territory.
- 16 November 1978: After 2 years of talks, agreement on a trade deal is reached after meetings at No.10 Downing Street between

Callaghan and PRC Vice-Premier Wang Chen. It plans for British construction of high-technology plants as well as science cooperation. Recently-appointed Trade Secretary John Smith and Industry Secretary Varley have secured most of Britain's terms. It envisions a fourfold increase, by value, of trade within 7 years. British-PRC trade running at under £200mil a year, is to reach a 7-year total of between £4,000mil-£5,000mil. Callaghan states Britain will sell the Harrier jump-jet aircraft system, provided USA does not use COCOM to block the deal. Varley accepts an invitation to visit PRC early in 1979.

- 16 November 1978: LWT announces ITV has bought exclusive rights to cover all Football League and League Cup matches for 3 years beginning next season. The deal has cost over £5mil.
- 16 November 1978: St Vincent Premier Sir Milton Cato states the island will not be independent as originally planned on 22 Jan 1979, attempting to wrong-foot labour protest. Colonial system continues ready to ensure a smooth transfer of power. An AP report sums up 6 years of Labour's (non-)influence: "Kingstown marketplace [is] next to a river that smells like an open sewer... Every time it rains, the tap water turns brown... The biggest event is the weekly arrival of the banana boat from the British multinational Geest company that comes to pick up the island's main export crop. If the banana boat misses a single week, the island has no way of getting its crop to its overseas market in Britain and is threatened with economic ruin. The colonial power left little infrastructure... apart from a Catholic cathedral... an Anglican church across the street and a botanical garden around what used to be the British Colonial governor's residence. ... youths have joined the black Rastafarian cult in dreadlocks. ... "This government is a do-nothing government, man" says one youth hanging around market square in Kingstown." (AP, 27 Oct 1979)
- 16 November 1978: Cabinet agrees to introduces a pilot scheme to pay a weekly stipend for pupils aged between 16 and 18 to stay on at school. The pilot scheme later operates in 12 areas. It does remove them from unemployment classification.
- 16 November 1978: Duncan Campbell of ABC found guilty.
- 17 November 1978: Sentencing in the ABC case. Aubrey conditionally discharge for 3 years, £2500 towards prosecution costs. Berry suspended sentenced for 6 months and £2500 defence costs. Campbell conditionally discharged for 3 years, ordered to pay £5000 in costs. NUJ declares "the verdict could only give heart to those who wished to create a more closed society in which journalists were unwilling or unable to expose improper

activities by government...All journalists are now placed at risk whenever they interview unofficial sources about government activities."

- 17 November 1978: POA work-to-rule by 1400 Scotland prison officers due to start 20 Nov is called off by the Executive. John Renton, SPOA Secretary states: "We have asked for an urgent meeting with Secretary of State Bruce Millan. We hope our members will follow our advice until this can be arranged." 17 November 1978: The first direct ferry service from Hong Kong to Guangdong since 1949 begins operation with a 3-times daily service.
- 18 November 1978: Nigeria's Daily Times notes there are around twenty "legitimate" ways in which decrees on Nigerianisation of foreign-owned firms can be sidestepped or evaded altogether. They include varieties of large salaries for expatriate employees, one-off contracts for foreign engineering 'subterfuge' investors. These Nigerian investors receive 'gifts' from foreign capital sources, usually banks, to modify terms in joint ventures push to release dividends and share options for foreigners. The gifts cannot be stored within the country due to capital controls, aiming to avoid capital flight, so many such gifts are stored in 'foreign bank accounts'. They are used to help a growing elite (recipients of newly Nigerianised industry), send their children to foreign universities. They also allow an escape location with resources ready and waiting in case of a coup or investigation that might uncover the corruption.
- 21 November 1978: Bentley Colliery, NCB Doncaster Area, sees the derailing underground of an overloaded diesel-hauled man-riding train, killing 7 and injuring 17.
- 23 November 1978: <u>The Guardian</u> reports the Scottish Office is preparing to use the Royal Navy to break a strike by ferry workers on the Orkney Islands inter-ferry service. The dispute ends the same day.
- 23 November 1978: Transport Minister Rodgers announces plans for Britain's abolition of road tax (registration) in favour of increased petrol duty to be adopted over 5 years. The move comes as a result of motor car owners increasingly avoiding payment of road tax as the recession has gone on. The plans are never implemented.
- 23 November 1978: Another failure in EEC Fisheries, due to British intransigence.

- 23 November 1978: Another round of talks ends in disagreement with British chauvinism in demands over fishing. Jozef Ertl says Agriculture Minister Silkin "wants a change of the treaty, wants overt and conscious discrimination in Britain's favour, and pushes British preference [in fish catches] to the extreme."
- 23-24 November 1978: A COMECON-EEC joint meeting.
- 24 November 1978: British Leyland workers at Longbridge and Solihull vote against strike action by narrow margins, facing government threats of cutting off supply
- 24 November 1978: Environment Secretary Shore announces the rate support grant settlement for 1979-80- the government paying only £8.6bn (61%) of the £14.1bn total. It assumes most services will be maintained with rate increases under 10%, pay deals for local authority workers at 5% as per pay guidelines, and an assumption that inflation (for local authority purchases) will be at 7.5% over the period. This limited rate support, is the first real shot in the 'winter of discontent' dispute, a headlong assault against local authority workforces.
- 25 November 1978: Colour licence fee increases £4 to £25 and monochrome £2 to £10. (BBC having sought fees of £30 and £12). ABS (Association of Broadcasting and Allied Staffs) general secretary Hearcy joins the management line attacking the increases as "ridiculously inadequate" instead of pressing for nationalisation of the private sector that supplies the BBC.
- 26 November 1978: 12 RAF Buccaneers and 10 RAF Phantoms are launched from the carrier HMS Ark Royal to St Athan RAF base for conversion and allocation to new RAF squadrons planned for the provision of tactical air support of maritime operations (TASMO).
- 26 November 1978: CIA-endorsed Institute for the Study of Conflict publishes its pamphlet *The Campaign to Destabilize Iran* by Robert Moss. It urges all support for the Shah, described as "the linchpin of any realistic Western strategy for the containment of Soviet expansion in the area." It berates media investigation of intelligence efforts of the "Western intelligence agencies" presumably DGCE, MI6, CIA, BND, Italy's SISMI and Japan's Naichō that alll conduct foreign operations: "The fact that the West nowadays seems to be so often in the position of merely attempting to catch up with events, Instead of trying to help shape them, is probably due in part to the damage done to Western intelligence services by the witch hunt against them by sections of the media. It is clearly damage that must be repaired at once if there is to be any hope for

the emergency of a constructive Western strategy to meet the dangers of a steadily worsening international situation, now centred in the Persian Golf region."

Its assertions (largely all the Soviet Union's doing) are quickly picked up by all national newspapers. It reaches the left-liberal New Republic 'Who's Meddling in Iran?' on 2 Dec 1978 and features in a column syndicated across the USA by United Features Syndicate in over 100 newspapers.

- 27 November 1978: USS Biddle, part of the Mediterranean 6th Fleet, a guided missile cruiser completes its mission to Turkish ports in the Black Sea.
- 27 November 1978: Amnesty International publishes *Political Imprisonment in the People's Republic of China*, a report detailing continuing arrests, imprisonment and executions of oppositionists within PRC. It draws on published sources and over 50 interviews with former prisoners, relatives and friends. It uncovers that the picture painted by the escapees and former prisoners is very similar to that revealed in official documents, General Secretary Martin Ennals stating: "That is unusual in Amnesty's experience and it shows that we are not dealing with a situation in which the Government says one thing and the prisoners say another. We are dealing with a pattern that has been relatively constant" in spite of the various changes and swings in political hue, over recent years, from rightist-to-leftist and back again.
- 28 November 1978: Spain's King Juan Carlos meets Argentinian junta in Buenos Aires.
- 28 November 1978: Callaghan and Healey announce government will blacklist Ford UK from government spending and contracts as a punishment for exceeding the pay limits for its workforce of 57,000. Press Association estimate if the sanctions are enforced a drop of 25,000 purchases is possible.
- Sir Terence Beckett, Ford chairman describes it as "remarkably arbitrary action to take penal measures against only one of the parties to a wage agreement" It is, of course, a continuing attempt to impose wage restraint upon workforces and trade union members in other firms, with minimum pain for the majority of shareholders and managers. Noticeably, no other firm, large or small, comes to the aid of Ford by also breaking the pay limit and making the government blacklist unworkable, unlike 1974, the business class is largely unified in an effort to restrict wages across industry.
- 28 November 1978: Government passes its bill to increase the number Northern Ireland MPs from 12 to 17. Organised to secure

Unionist support in government votes, the new seat arrangements buttress an already impregnable gerrymandered Unionist veto and fist in the security forces.

- 30 November 1978: Argentine President General Videla attends the annual dinner of former Argentine Congress members, in a sign of official Peronist reconciliation with the hard militarists.
- 29 November 1978: Unsurprisingly after insistence on its own sterling zone, Britain officially announces it will not participate in any EMS plans.
- 29 November 1978: EEC Commission, headed by Roy Jenkins, approves a report welcoming Spain's application to join and urging negotiations open as quickly as possible, recommending a flexible transition period for Spain of up to 20 years. Jenkins has earlier indicated his wish for Portugal and Spain to enter together.
- 29 November 1978: Catholic priest Jose Ernesto Barrera Motto and 2 guerrillas are shot dead in a home raid by armed police in San Salvador.
- 30 November 1978: The Times in 'Material needs make Bulgaria look West' reports: "in the past few years, there has been a trend towards a more open relationship with, the West, especially, though not only, in economic matters" noting that West Europe's share of trade with Bulgaria has reached close to 20%, in spite of the closest ties anywhere in COMECON with the Soviet Union.
- 30 November 1978: Prince Charles holds talks with European Commission first Roy Jenkins privately, then the entire cast of 14 collectively.
- 30 November 1978: Prince Charles has dinner with King Baudouin, ardent colonialist, supporter of the Belgian settler vision of the Governor-General's vision of the 'communaute belge-congolais' to the bitter end, at his palace.
- 30 November 1978: <u>The Times</u> begins its lock-out of journalists after the NGA refuses to accept a pay-reduction and job-loss deal. William Rees-Mogg, editor, explains <u>The Times</u>'s struggle against "anarchy" in Fleet Street: "It is quite certain that the Times will return, [a lock-out] has become necessary to get to the other bank, and not to flounder like a drowning kitten in the middle of the stream" Its publishing owner Thomson group states the lockout will continue for as long as necessary. The Times eventually returns on 22 Oct 1979 to celebrate the return of backlash victory.

30 November 1978: Nixon makes his first public address abroad since his resignation. He addresses the Oxford Union, the university debating society, stating his actions to assist South Vietnam were 3 december 1978:honourable because they "had elections and opposition voices in their national assembly, and Saigon had 17 newspapers". Vanfuls of police mount a heavy presence against the small numbers of protesters. He has been met at the airport warmly by US Ambassador Kingman Brewster, apparent opponent of the Vietnam war as chief of Yale University.

December 1978: Third Plenum of Eleventh Central Committee of CCP declares PRC will "actively expand cooperation in terms of equality and mutual benefits with other countries" including Hong Kong.

- 1 December 1978: Prince Charles is warmly greeted at NATO headquarters in Brussels.
- 1-5 December 1978: Prince Charles takes a holiday on one of the Spanish estates of the Duke of Wellington, accompanied by Lady Jane Wellesley. They ride horses and hunt partridge.
- 2-3 December 1978: 2 flimsy refugee boats waiting outside Kuala Lumpur port sink, killing over 150 Vietnamese refugees.
- 3 December 1978: General Zia-ul-Haq announces the formation of new courts with increased powers to apply hudud punishments and the power strike down any law contravening Islamic law. The following day Mazhar Ali Khan, editor of left-wing weekly. Viewpoints, is arrested without charge in a pre-emptive attack to blunt the edge of criticism.
- 3-4 December 1978: Cledwyn Hughes, Callaghan's newly appointed African emissary holds talks in South Africa with the government, particularly over Namibia.
- 4 December 1978: The first nation-wide strike by provincial newspaper section of NUJ begins to secure a pay rise.
- 5 December 1978: Australia rejects asylum claims of 2 key figures of the Free Papua Movement (OPM) Jacob Prai and deputy Otto Ondawame. "Australia does not want to give shelter to two leaders of a dissident movement, who have also, in recent times, been active propagandists for their cause. OPM is a small movement but its nuisance value for both PNG and Indonesia has been high. OPM guerrillas ambushed an Indonesian helicopter and took a number of hostages this year. A drive by Indonesian troops against the rebels

caused an exodus of hundreds of villagers across the border into PNG." (Sydney Morning Herald 6 Dec 1978)

- 6 December 1978: Downing Street Press notice 'Prime Minister Announces Major Programme of Support for Microelectronics' congratulates the sector's importance for the defence industry and notes that the microchip and IT sector (later to be dubbed 'Silicon Fen Silicon Glen etc) is being sustained by state support.
- 6 December 1978: Britain votes against a UN General Assembly resolution which is nonetheless passed that asserts only "the inalienable right of the people of East Timor to self-determination and independence"
- 6 December 1978: Callaghan tells Parliament Britain will not join the European Monetary System, but it is free to join the ERM at a later date.
- 7 December 1978: Albert Booth in Cabinet discussing pay restraint
- 7-20 December 1978: Lu Tung, PRC Minister of Machine Building with 23 other Chinese engineer experts among others tour British plants as a guest of the Ministry of Trade. The visit starts with Harrier fighter jet factories. The plan is a sale next year. The delegation looks at aviation production generally, university research and engineer and pilot training techniques. Harriers are particularly desired because they allow vertical-take off and landing, and hence can be deployed without needing airports. This is useful for the troublesome border regions in the north. PRC has recently purchased Trident jetliners, aircraft simulators and custom-built Rolls-Royce-Spey engines for the next generation of PRC fighter planes MiG-21s.
- 7 December 1978: Eric Clapton and Elton John together perform a concert at the Guildford Civic Hall, Surrey. George Harrison, a spectator and close friend of Clapton, joins them on stage performing 'Further On Up The Road'.
- 8 December 1978: As recorded in <u>Daily Express</u> Prof Ray Curnow, Science Policy Research Unit at Sussex University, predicts with the rise of computers further job losses, this time affecting white-collar employment aswell: "The first jobs to go will be in the office and light assembly work in factories, mostly carried out now by working housewives.... The typist, secretary, lower white collar management man will become redundant"
- 8-9 December 1978: Mass Rhodesian armed forces raids into Mozambique.

- 9 December 1978: <u>Financial Times</u> reports "Reversal in wealth distribution trend" noting how successful Labour has been in promoting inequality. Nearly all statistical trends show increasing asset and income equality: "Between 1974 and 1976 the top 10 per cent improved from 57 per cent of the total to 65 per cent [in share of personal wealth in the country]"
- 9 December 1978: Eric Clapton explains his views again in the Melody Maker: "I think Enoch is a prophet... His ideas are right. You go to Heathrow any day mate and you'll see thousands of people sitting there waiting to know whether or not they can come into the country. Enoch said six years ago, stop it, give 'em a grand, and tell' em to go home... [Powell] is a very religious man. And you can't be racist and religious at the same time. The two things are incompatible. ... Enoch was the only bloke telling the truth for the good of the country"
- 10 December 1978: Woodrow Wyatt in <u>Sunday Mirror</u> compares Margaret Thatcher with Winston Churchill as a national figure and declares large parts of the Labour Party are under "Russian slavery" he describes EEC citizens as "the 250 million most intelligent, inventive and industrious people in the world". He makes a strong defence of the EEC: "bashing the Common Market is popular. Despite the huge subsidies we have had since we joined, we blamed our deficiencies upon it."
- 10 December 1978: Concorde lands at Fort Worth, Dallas, Texas marking the start of its extension into a further 16 American cities. These are primarily in the South and have the effect of being a conduit for American oil barons to invest and extract profit from North Sea oil and gas fields.
- 10 December 1978: Observer reports on avoidance of the government's redistributive and capital control measures income has become expenses: "Company car of course three out of five on our roads are. Big meals... live in the tied Penthouse at company's expense, get medical insurance on the firm; school fees, go to the races in the company box, get your golf club subscription paid ... good for the firm's publicity. Help with moving costs and low-interest mortgages." (Katharine Whitehorn, The unfair exchanges, Observer, 10 Dec 1978)
- 10 December 1978: 19-year-old Michael Ferreira, a West Indian, is stabbed to death by a group of white attackers in Hackney Fields. A large funeral is later held through Kingsland Road and Stoke Newington High Street. Hackney Black People's Defence Organisation takes up the campaign for justice and is immediately harassed by police with raids friends and family's on homes. At the end of 1978 Hackney & Tower Hamlets Defence Committee, marking Michael Ferreira's death, in its newsletter lists the

confirmed racist street attack murder victims in 1976-8: "Gurdip Chaggar, Dinesh Chaudry, Kimmi Alhadi, Frederick Stewart, Baby Aszaloliana, Victor Grant, Michael Nathaniel, Benjamin Thompson, Kenneth Simon, Altab Ali, Michael Brookes, Ishaque Ali, Mark Matthias, Dessie Matthias, Tyrone Matthias, Aru Nagan, Cynthia Athisayaratnam, Mukhtar Ahmad" Michael Ferreira's mother is later arrested on a protest.

- 12 December 1978: Viscount Cobham and his wife Lady Cobham auction to private buyers some family heirloom letters via Sotheby Parke Bernet auction firm. The letters of the Lyttleton family run back to the start of King John's reign and feature letters by Queen Elizabeth I, Dr. Johnson, Voltaire, Jonathan Swift, Thomas Carlyle. Alexander Pope, Queen Victoria. Several letters relate to the Lytttleton Governor of Jamaica, who puts down Bogle's rebellion. Many letters are nonetheless retained. Declining profits from traditional agricultural land has led to the move. Lord Cobham declares of keeping the Midlands stately home Hagley Hall as private property via the auction "it seems terribly cowardly to chuck it in". Nationalisation or reapportionment for ordinary people, implicitly means waste and failure, private ownership success. A sample of the finance secured is £50,000 for a few letters about 18th century South Carolina, written by William Henry Lyttleton, British governor of the colony at the time. Lady Cobham later
- 12 December 1978: <u>Daily Mail</u> states that after the abolition of the House of Lords as envisaged in a leaked draft manifesto called 'Keep Britain Labour' the Labour party will ensure that no more general elections to parliament take place.

marries Major era Conservative Minister David Mellor.

12 December 1978 am: Cabinet agrees to support British Steel Corporation's decision to close its plants in Shotton and Corby. Callaghan: "Summing up [the Cabinet's decision], Eric will see Sirs, the Government should support BSC, and there could be a tripartite committee to consider the consequences of the closures." Gerald Kaufman announces the plan: "BSC now proposes major closures at Corby and Shotton in 1979-80.... It would involve 5000 redundancies at Shotton in north Wales, affecting Merseyside and 5,500 at Corby.... the failure to close Shotton would cost £29mil and defer the viability target for BSC beyond 1980 to 1981." Benn's response: "I am in favour of operating as we always said we would, on a tripartite basis through some sort of a planning

Eric Varley responds to Benn's Labour Left suggestion: "We have talked to the unions, and as far as BSC is concerned the six elected

agreement"

steelworkers on the BSC board support [Chairman of BSC, Sir Charles] Villiers"

Benn concludes "Jim thanked Kaufman, and Kaufman left – the butcher on behalf of the Government, of another great industry. I don't know what to do. I say my piece and nobody takes any notice. I can tell that Jim is angry with me at the moment and there is nothing more I can do." (Tony Benn's Diary)

- 13 December 1978: UN General Assembly vote 127-2-0, endorsing independence for British Honduras and that Britain and Guatemala cooperate peacefully over the future of the Belizean border.
- 13 December 1978: Only 5 Labour Left MPs abstain, instead of rejecting, a Commons amendment condemning the use of government sanctions on private firms that exceed pay limits. It is carried by 6 votes.
- 13 December 1978: Kaunda storms to victory as the only candidate in Zambia's Presidential Election.
- 14 December 1978: US State Department admits 11 UH1 "Huey" Iroqouis helicopters have been supplied, presumably by reexportation, to Rhodesia in violation of UN sanctions.
- 14 December 1978: Peter Shore: "There is an immediate issue in the public services and, as far as last night is concerned, our moral authority on pay policy has been stripped... We need a reassertion of our authority."... I was going to speak but I didn't." (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 14 December 1978: Labour continues its haughty attitude towards the remaining official colonies such as St Lucia. A sample statement Renee Short MP warns against industrialisation: "The Prime Minister of St. Lucia is asking for industrialisation of the island after independence. That needs to be carefully considered, because it could destroy many of the island's marvellous attributes and reduce the possibility of future development on the lines that should be followed"

"Tourism" and "agriculture" should be its future. She nonetheless concedes: "St. Lucia is a beautiful island, but it has many serious economic problems. The standard of living of the working people is very poor. The average wage is about £6 a week and living conditions are appalling. Most of the people live in wooden shacks on the plantations

15 December 1978: A £100mil aid deal is agreed for Daniel arap Moi's Kenya as it negotiates a dangerous period with anger over declining real incomes, rising food prices and lay-offs.

- 15 December 1978: Government is defeated in a Commons vote over its use of economic sanctions against Ford UK over its 17% settlement.
- 15 December 1978: Cabinet committee "last week we had approved putting the troops on standby Jim said he didn;t want troops on standby until much later on.... It was agreed that Albert Booth and I should see Len Murray" [on 18 Dec 1978] (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 15 December 1978: McDonnell Douglas admits in a declaration to a US court its decades of constant corruption using bribery to secure sales to Federal Germany, Korea, the Philippines, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Austria, Italy, Mexico, Zaire, Venezuela, Netherlands, Pakistan, Japan, Argentina, Iran and Kuwait. It admits "several members of past and present senior management" authorised corrupt commission payments between 1969 and 1976. It further admits that the bribery continued into 1977 and 1978, after the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act took effect. British Aerospace continues its collaboration for the Goshawk, an aircraft carrier-suitable version of the RAF Hawk. Various British firms including Cathay Pacific, British Caledonian and British Airways continue the purchase of its civil aircraft.
- 15 December 1978: HMS Brilliant Type 22 frigate of the Royal Navy is launched from Yarrow shipyard, completed under the nationalised British Shipbuilders.
- 16 December 1978: David Owen welcomes extension of US-PRC links declaring it "an overdue and a much needed development." 16 December 1978: The Economist notes the dangers of serious popular mobilisation in Iran: "The uprising against the Shah in Iran faces the West with what is potentially its worst crisis in 25 years. Iran is not just a major oil supplier. It has also been the major protector of Western interests in a region that produces half the non-Communist world's oil." Britain's arms sales to Iran, involving tanks and military aircraft are above £950mil. The triumph of Islamist forces is *not* considered the problem. Islamist punishments are already widespread in Saudi Arabia, YAR and increasingly applied in both Pakistan and Egypt, key Western pro-British, pro-US forces.
- 18 December 1978: PRC Trade Minister visits Hong Kong.
- 18 December 1978: "It is very exciting because if you call in the trade unions to help you allocate government then you are getting to the situation of a joint government... I said 'Moss will help us to

- avoid the use of troops, but if we have to use them we would need a state of emergency.'" (Tony Benn's Diary)
- 18 December 1978: Oil tanker driver section of TGWU employed by BP and Esso begin an overtime ban. The Cabinet Office soon prepares 'Operation Drumstick' and the Army is put on-standby to begin strikebreaking, which can be activated with a declaration of a state of emergency.
- 20 December 1978: Ford UK assures the Price Commission it will not pass on in price increases the whole cost of its pay settlement. Squeezed by the strike and price limits, it begins planning a transfer of future production to plants in Belgium.
- 20 December 1978: PCI-controlled Bologna authorities help police round up dozens of student activists on the pretext of the war on terrorism.
- 20-21 December 1978: ABS selective action at the BBC, management says it will not exceed the 5% government guidelines.
- 21 December 1978: Hong Kong government refuses to permit the freighter Huey Fong to dock. It is anchored a mile outside the Hong Kong harbour and contains 2,500 Vietnamese refugees, many very ill and hungry.
- 21 December 1978: Another vast Rhodesian raid into Zambia.
- 21 December 1978: EEC and Greece agree to conditions for its entry.
- 21 December 1978: Lomé Convention ACP-EEC ministers begin talks to secure the extension of a second round.
- 22 December 1978 4pm-12pm: An all out strike, lasting 8 hours, (planned to be 3 days) at the BBC. Only recorded programs are broadcast without news or weather. Agreement is reached between BBC management and 16000 ABS Association of Broadcasting Staff over the sacking of 12 staff who have refused to process film produced by strikebreakers.
- 23 December 1978: Malcolm Caldwell is murdered in Cambodia, after meeting Pol Pot.
- 25 December 1978: Queen Elizabeth tells her subjects that 'political structure' doesn't matter, Christianity (on the lines of what has come before) does: "The context of the lives of the next generation is being set, here and now, not so much by the legacy of science or wealth or political structure that we shall leave behind us, but by the example of our attitudes and behaviour to one another and by trying to show unselfish, loving and creative concern for those less

fortunate than ourselves. Christians have the compelling example of the life and teaching of Christ and, for myself, I would like nothing more than that my grandchildren should hold dear his ideals which have helped and inspired so many previous generations."

- 25 December 1978: Philippe Wignolle, 49, a French salesman who fears he will not find work in his sector because he can not speak English, shoots dead his wife, three children and dog and then shoots himself. Le Monde reports his suicide note: "It will be impossible for me to survive for a long time without employment or resources. I prefer to finish it with those I love."
- 25 December 1978: A Taiwanese fishing boat brings 34 emaciated refugees to Kaohsiung, Taiwan, after taking them off a tiny islet amongst the Spratlys, South China Sea, where they have spent 54 days with virtually no food or water. The remaining 86 of an original group of 120 refugees have all starved to death. The refugees explain that freighters with British and Japanese flags have passed them by and two come within 120 metres of them on October 3 1976. The refugees explain they wave and fly makeshift flags for help, but sailors on both ships raise their arms sideways, indicating they can not help. The engine of their boat has failed five days after leaving Vietnam and they have drifted slowly starving week by week.
- 26 December 1978: Brunei, an effective British protectorate, drags and tows out to sea a freighter, Tung An, carrying 2000 refugees from Vietnam. Brunei navy patrol boats have barred its entry into Muara port even though many of the refugees have no food. It had anchored off the Brunei coast after being rejected from the Indonesian and Malaysian coast. Another freighter with some 2,700 refugees from Vietnam has been anchored off the British colony of Hong Kong for more than a week, and authorities there still refuse to let it land, saying the colony is already overcrowded.
- 26 December 1978: David Steel, spending Christmas in Rhodesia, gives a message to Liberal activists saying he is "mixing an important political visit with the pleasure of taking my family to Africa for the holiday we all missed this summer" and that they should prepare for an Apr 1979 election.
- \*27 December 1978: New York Times "car manufacturing appear to be more interested in new materials that could achieve economic goats the reduction of weight, cost or labour. The Ford Motor Company in particular, is working to replace conventional metals with light synthetic materials... Some of the new materials are quarded secrets of the Defense Department. But outside experts

- say that a new miracle armour invented in Britain for tanks, warships and other military applications is probably a composite using a ceramic mesh to reinforce the basic steel. Called chobham armour, it is said to be incredibly resistant to missiles and shells and has been adapted for use in the new United States Army XM-1 tank scheduled to enter service in the 1980s."
- 27 December 1978: South Africa, that secures most of its oil from Iran, announces it is preparing to introduce rationing if the strike by oil workers in Iran continues much longer.
- 27 December 1978: <u>Daily Telegraph</u>'s defence correspondent Clare Hollingworth, reports that under the pressure of rising social pressure and demands in Iran, the Shah might cancel its latest contract for Chieftain tanks however "some of the arms manufacturers to whom I have spoken hope that if the Persian contract is cancelled or greatly reduced the tanks or special parts already made for them may be sold to China."
- 27 December 1978: Turkey's (Socialist International) CHP government announces the establishment of special military courts to deal with political crimes in the 7 largest provinces of the country. It has come following a meeting between the Prime Minister Ecevit and General Evren.
- 28 December 1978: Pope John Paul gives a strong message urging non-cooperation of doctors and medical staff with abortion.
- 29 December 1978: Hugh Scanlon becomes a life peer.
- 29 December 1978: Road Haulage Association, employers' group, warns that thousands will lose jobs if TGWU strike action occurs.
- 31 December 1978: Pope John Paul II's New Year's Eve message gives another strong anti-abortion message: "It is very hard to see... that someone is acting with real human dignity if he betrays matrimonial faith or permits the annihilation and destruction of life conceived in the womb"
- 31 December 1978: 4 are killed in a fire at a croft on South Uist in the outer Hebrides. No column space is given to the fact that fire coverage on islands of Britain is limited and basic. Had the event occurred a year ago in the midst of the FBU strike, it would have become an important tale to promote clampdown on unions otherwise firefighters will let people burn.
- 31 December 1978: Colonial Hong Kong authorities again stress the Taiwan freighter Huey Fong carrying 2,700 Vietnamese refugees will not be allowed to port at Hong Kong.

- 31 December 1978: Nicolau Lobato, FRETILIN President, and 22 others are shot dead in a mass assault by Indonesian special forces to conclude a 2-week military operation. The intense operation has featured 2500 soldiers assisted by helicopters and IAF planes. Months of heavy fighting on several fronts, backed with air strikes by Bronco aircraft have taken their toll. Britain has recently sold new helicopters to Indonesian armed forces. FRETILIN sources have regularly reported the presence of US advisers with Indonesian forces on the island. Neither of these facts are pointed out in any BBC report on the assault.
- 31 December 1978: Callaghan on a BBC radio interview from Chequers, urges workforces to accept technological changes or suffer a drop in its standard of living. "Unless Britain's standards are going to decline, we must keep up with them, so I do urge that we must accept change, turn it to our advantage — the Government must play its part by making it possible for people to get trained in new skills and employers must make it possible by being willing to accept that workers have a share In planning that kind of change. I want to see the best policy [5% pay norm] for this country and I know clearly what is the best policy for this country.... I have always said that we rely on peoples' acquiescence and agreement on this — the sanctions were a help because they did enable a number of companies to say we cannot afford to take this step. Now that weapon has been, removed, so it is a great test for democracy in this country. It is not good enough for this country to have inflation that Is just within single figures. It ought to be 5% or helow."
- 1978 Round-up: Over the year Joint Argentine-British economic working party meets, it is dominated by YPF and BNOC the two respective national oil firms. YPF is willing to go only so far as to discuss the halfway house of cooperating not with Britain but with foreign oil companies. Argentina's government readmits foreign oil firms' operation to work under Argentine license. Esso are impressed by the new era of contracts with Argentina.\*\*
  1978 Round-up: Over the year, 411, who have been detained under the EPA or PTA but then released, make a complaint about their treatment, overwhelmingly for physical assault.

January 1979: <u>Labour Research</u> "In 1975 male local authority manual workers in England and Wales were paid £13-30 less than the average for all male workers; by 1978 this gap had widened to £22.40. The position in Scotland is almost identical. For National Health Service ancillary staff, the equivalent figures are £10 less in 1975 and £21.40 in 1978.. However, it is not only the money gap

which has widened. In percentage terms in 1975. the weekly earnings of male local authority manual workers in England and Wales were equivalent to 78.1% of average male earnings; by 1978 this had fallen to 74.9%... until 1975. the gap between the two public sector groups and the average, narrowed; since then it has widened. Thus, in the three years since the introduction of the present series of pay policies, the earnings of local authority manual workers and NHS ancillary staff (both male and female) have steadily fallen behind earnings in the economy as a whole. This is true even of the period of the £6 pay award, which was operative from the end of 1975 and is reflected in the 1976 earnings figures."

January 1979: ECGD Export Credits Guarantee Department guarantees funding for a £16.5m loan which Baring Brothers — acting for Barclays and Lloyds — has made available to Alimentaria San Luis, Argentina. This form of boost is welcomed by the Argentinian private sector. It will finance contracts by ASL to Baker Perkins, Samon-Vicars and Simon Food Engineers for machinery and equipment for new higher-technology plant in the food sector.

January 1979: TGWU publishes 'Support it or Lose it' about public transport in Britain. It estimates that the public subsidy to transport routes has been cut under the Labour administration, dropping below 30% of costs. The Labour government has severely cut grants to South Yorkshire Council for sticking to a manifesto pledge on transport cost reductions.

January 1979: Labour Left Peter Shore, in spite of verbal protests from Geoffrey Drain NALGO Gen Sec, applies a credit squeeze to local authorities, cutting the rate support grant. This gives local authorities of all colours an excuse to impose redundancies and resist wage claims.

January 1979: Dunlop, British Leyland, British Steel, Singers Clydebank announce future redundancies and plant closures. Triang in Merthyr Tydfill announces its closure.\*\*

January 1979: Sir Peter Hall displays his opposition to trade union action in his diary "I was about to leave an embattled England about to seize up with strikes and come to a place which is clean, well-organised and efficient. God, the tattiness of England now, we seem to be presiding over the collapse of decency and integrity without the energy even to realise what's happening." \*

January 1979: Namibian workers organise a strike against discriminatory practices at Rossing Uranium Mine, Rio Tinto Zinc, which dismisses several workers, restructures but does not accede to miners' demands. \*

## 1 January 1979:

- 2 January 1979: Former Papua New Guinea Defence Secretary Noel Levi, says the country's independence is paper thin due to the influence of Australians in PNG security and defence services. He asserts Australian officers have spearheaded the arrest and detention of OPM leaders Jakob Prai and Otto Ondowame. He states Papua New Guinea, 3 years after independence remains an Australian puppet, but that Australia is an "imperialist friend of Papua New Guinea".
- 2 January 1979: <u>Financial Times</u> begins printing part o£ its run in Frankfurt to enable it to reach European market and New York earlier and also avoid labour disputes in Britain.
- 2 January 1979: More RAF Hercules move to RAF Akrotiri, Cyprus to be ready for evacuation plans from Iran. 3 Royal Navy ships on charter to the Shah have earlier been warned to be ready to take evacuees. 5,000 Britons oil workers, military advisers and trainers, firm representatives and some families remain in Iran.
- 2 January 1979: Australian Prime Minister Fraser holds talks with Carter and Cyrus Vance. Fraser notes that Carter and the rest of the US Administration consider "inflation is the kind of evil that the Australian Government believes it to be. ... nothing was said that would indicate any difference in policy or any suggestion that other policies should be pursued in the Australian context" Fraser's anti-union thrust continues, reaping rewards for BP, as striking petrol workers are heavily defeated with Federal police organisation.
- 2 January 1979: Callaghan in a broadcast message urges workforces to abstain from industrial action stating "Let those who possess industrial muscle resolve not to abuse their great strength"
- 3 January 1979: Non-official lorry drivers' strike begins. Tanker drivers' for Texaco also begin their strike. Many picket ports and refineries. As the strike progresses the lock-out threats from other industrial sectors become sharper, Dunlop Ltd. announces 10,000 at 4 major plants will be laid off. ICI warns it will close every single one of its plants if the strike continues. Drivers' pay rates are between £49-£53 a week depending on a vehicle's carrying capacity and the employer firm.
- 3 January 1979: Sensing the danger in Iran, Buckingham Palace announces that the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh have cancelled their visit to the Shah.
- 3 January 1979: Under the pressure of mass protests and an ongoing oil workers' strike Iran's new Prime Minister Bahtiar

announces Iran will not sell its oil to Iran or South Africa. He also states that CENTO is "dead" to Iran.

- 4 January 1979: Kenneth Williams approves "all the talk at the bookstall was about the utter hatred of unions and strikes.: one day, I think this loathing will be channelled into action" (Kenneth Williams' Diary)
- 4 January 1979: <u>Financial Times</u> summarises the 'investment squeeze' under Labour from 1974-77. "Capital outlay" in manufacturing sector was £3.82bn in 1974 but £3.57bn in 1977 (unadjusted). Inflation over that period is at least 40%.
- 4 January 1979: The Age reports on intense rivalry in Australia to secure British drama and comedy exports: "Both Channels 7 and 9 are laying claim to Thomas and Sarah, an offshoot of the tremendously successful [LWT product] Upstairs, Downstairs.... Hudson the butler, Mrs. Bridges, Rose, and those other marvellous characters from the show appeared on Channel 9 when it was seen in Australia. Since then the Seven Network has developed its relationship with London Weekend and has an unwritten contract on the rights to purchase programmes from the British company. Among the shows it has bought from London Weekend are Mixed Blessings, Mind Your Language and The Rag Trade. Others it has coming up include Lillie, the story of Lillie Langtry, and Bless Me Father, a comedy starring Arthur Lowe. Thomas and Sarah stars John Alderton and Pauline Collins as the chauffeur and maid who left the Upstairs, Downstairs house to get married and set up business on their own. It is set in the years just before World War I. But who will be showing what is likely to be one of the best buys from Britain this year?"
- 4 January 1979: Preliminary to St Francois, Gaudeloupe, summit. "Carter and his wife, Rosalynn, spent a relaxed, convivial evening over an elaborate French meal with Schmidt, Giscard, British Prime Minister James Callaghan and their wives." Callaghan "seems ready to take the lead in arranging a major arms sale to China a deal that could mean thousands of jobs and billions of dollars for the British economy. The Chinese want to acquire about 80 Harrier jump-jet warplanes, a British product effective against tanks and capable of taking off from short runways... leaders are united in hoping Iran will achieve political stability and resume oil production without total repudiation of Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi." reported by AP (5 Jan 1979)

"Unlike the early years of the seventies, when the major complaint in Western Europe was that the US was taking too strong and dominant a lead in the NATO alliance, the complaint heard here now is just the opposite: that Washington is too indecisive, too capricious, amateurish and unpredictable. ... Why such bold proclamations out of Washington in favor of the Shah of Iran while evacuating Americans from that country?" (NYT, 3 Jan 1979)

5 January 1979: Fred Jarvis, NUT general secretary, says: "Pay negotiations this year are absolutely crucial and we cannot see ourselves in isolation from the rest of the public sector. Unions in the public services have been, and are making it absolutely clear to the Government that 5 per cent is gravely inadequate to deal with the effects of incomes policy and inflation in recent years. The Government must end pay discrimination in the public sector. The facts show that teachers have been unfairly treated in recent years, and we can no longer tolerate discrimination."

5-7 January 1979: Gaudeloupe Summit. Britain secures acceptance of its sale of Hawker vertical take off places to PRC. Callaghan states: "We do not improve our relations with China at the expense of any other country"

Iran dominates: "the most urgent concern of the four Western leaders was Iran. Its revolution threatens Western strategy In the Middle East and Western oil supplies from that revolution-ridden country.... the upheaval in Iran has dramatized the vulnerability of the West to the instability of developing countries all around the world." (NYT, 7 Jan 1979)

A major discussion is Carter seeking to secure acceptance of the new Euro-Missile system for NATO. Gaudeloupe allows the NATO High-Level, Ministries of Defence joint meetings, dominated by the superior numbers of US DoD personnel, to begin behind the scenes cajoling of governments for commitment to the programme.

It sows the seeds for nuclear expansion in 1980: "Carter's willingness to sell Trident to Britain may have been a quid pro quo for Britain's willingness, agreed by Callaghan with Carter at the Guadeloupe Summit in 1979 to take cruise missiles as part of the Euro-missile decision." (Oxford Research group: Who decides)

"Britain by virtue of its special relationship... has always played a substantial role in orchestrating cold war ideology... Labour government supported the planned increases in NATO military expenditure, and theatre nuclear modernisation through the installation of cruise missiles and Pershing II ballistic missiles. They also carried through the £1 billion Chevaline programme to modernise the warheads on the UK Polaris missiles, proceeded with planning for Polaris replacement, and projected large increases in the defence budget." (Capital & Class no12, 1980)

- 6 January 1979: Strike at Pilkington plant in South Africa for recognition of Glass and Allied Workers Union begins. It lasts 10 weeks. Pilkington's South African subsidiary resists the claim.
- 6 January 1979: Some BP drivers in the Midlands join the strike.
- 6 January 1979: Conservative Bow Group taking up the mantle of efficient nationalised industry urges the government to take the initiative in funding a joint-venture between British Leyland and a major car builder in Japan. "This would capitalise on the specialist car strengths of BL and the volume car strengths of the Japanese. It would produce component orders for British firms, cash flow for BL and balance of payment advantages for Britain"
- 7 January 1979: <u>The Observer</u> in a facetious, leaked review of Michael Rutter's research later published as *Fifteen Thousand Hours: Secondary Schools and Their Effects on Children* reiterates in a careful nuanced fashion backlash themes in education titled 'When potted plants are better than discipline'.
- 7 January 1979: Michael Dalgleish, chief of electronics Goldern River Company, announces that it is providing the equipment and expertise for Saudi Arabian authorities to count various sizes of pilgrim buses on the Jiddah-Mekka motorway.
- 7 January 1979: Patrick Hutber, City Editor of <u>Sunday Telegraph</u> explains how to solve unemployment, by reduce workforces to create a larger pool of surplus unwaged labour to drive down wages in the paid sector, which might then allow greater capital reinvestment: "Everything that is happening In Britain today is consistent only with one hypothesis that the country is suffering a severe case of over-full employment. To those accustomed to believing official statistics (a dwindling band, I like to think) this may seem improbable. But when you have discarded the impossible, what remains must, however improbable, be true."
- 7 January 1979: After 5 days of 'panic buying', ie purchases in order to hoard, many petrol stations, begin to run dry as soon as they are supplied. However only a fraction of tanker drivers are on strike.
- 8 January 1979: Cabinet meets and agrees against the declaration of a state of emergency. Nonetheless the CCU has chains linked to Generals with forces on standby if necessary for piecemeal military strikebreaking.

- 9 January 1979: British Rail tickets rise on average by about 12%. The Price Commission has refused to take any action or hold any inquiry.
- 9 January 1979: Various British tax exiles including the Bee Gees, Elton John and Rod Stewart perform for the Music for UNICEF live telethon from the UN General Assembly, New York. The event is hosted by, among others, business owner and journalist David Frost. Rod Stewart and Elton John later show their non-commitment to UN principles by defying the artistic and cultural boycott of South Africa, playing the Sun City venue on multiple occasions.
- 9 January 1979: BP ballot result sees TGWU tanker drivers working for BP accept 13%-15% wage increases. This is in line with the result of ballots of Esso and Shell workers.
- 9 January 1979: Meeting of representatives from Scotland's 13 TGWU regions sees 5000 Scottish lorry drivers vote by a margin of 75%-25% against accepting a conditional 15% pay offer in favour of continuing strike action. It also sees a centralisation of decision-making in the dispute as the Scottish region executive is given a mandate to accept or reject any new offer, avoiding any balloting process. Over 50,000 drivers are estimated on strike on this day.
- 9 January 1979: Strike committees in Glasgow and Edinburgh, conforming to a standard pattern, give assurances to NFU that drivers of supplies of feedstuffs to farms will not be picketed, where livestock is endangered.
- 9 January 1979: Liberal leader Steel holds talks with Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere over Rhodesia.
- 9 January 1979: Tom Brattin, Scottish secretary of the Road Haulage Association, says "it will be virtually impossible to obtain a return to work before at least another week. This assumes that both sides will be in agreement. Before that could happen there would need to be a lot of meetings and many people would need to be consulted. While this unofficial strike which started in Scotland is now hitting England and Wales we are regarding a settlement in a Scottish context.... We will offer what we can afford but we believe we have already reached the economic limit. As employers, we have a responsibility... to ensure that companies get a fair return and also, as a major service industry, to ensure we contain any increase in the cost of living. If the public wants us to settle with the Transport and General Workers' Union are they prepared to accept increases over and above those already seen in the shops within the last week or so?"

- 9 January 1979: Peter Talbot, Scottish group secretary of TGWU responsible for the road haulage sector, says he also considers the dispute as a Scotland region one he states "the men have shown by the result of the ballot that it is not enough. If the Scottish employers are prepared to increase the basic highest rate from £53 to £65 then we could settle here. The offer so far is worth a top basic of £60 for a 40-hour week. I cannot see any solution being reached within a few days because I have been negotiating since September 12. I don't think we are all that far away in Scotland, but the employers don't seem to think that way."
- 9 January 1979: Labour Party's International Committee again comes to its government's defence by deferring a vote critical of British fighter aircraft sales to PRC. Instead, it simply requests a statement on general government arms sale policy.
- 10 January 1979: Scotland's largest refinery Grangemouth is released from picketing and pressure to join the industrial action. TGWU officials have called off Texaco's tanker drivers' picketing activities across many parts of the country on 9 Jan 1979 pm. Faced with BP tanker drivers agreeing to return to work Dominic Flanagan, senior shop steward of Texaco in Edinburgh has said:"In the light of the current situation I have withdrawn the pickets which we established in the Central Scotland area".
- 10 January 1979: TGWU Executive meet to discuss the pros and cons of declaring the lorry drivers' strike official.
- 10 January 1979: ASLEF drivers in the Southern Region hold a 24-hour unofficial strike today in support of pay claims.
- 10 January 1979: Callaghan returns from Guadeloupe and questioned on the lorry drivers strike states: "I don't think that other people in the world would share the view that there is mounting chaos, you know we've had strikes before." Centre-right opposition including Liberals have been calling for troops to commandeer lorries normally driven by drivers currently on strike.

This answer is later turned into 'Crisis? What crisis?' by the centrist press, notably the Sun front page (11 Jan 1979) suggesting that Callaghan is in effective collusion with wreckers and ought to have seen 'crisis'. For example: "He shouldn't have gone to Guadeloupe. And he shouldn't have observed "What crisis?" when he returned" (Glasgow Herald, Mar 12 1979)

"Admiration was lavished on her because she kept her cool after the bombing and could still talk in sentences. What else did people expect - that she would run about like a headless chicken? Would Jim Callaghan have been in a panic? I think not. He is the man who said "What crisis?" when the International Monetary Fund was about to put Britain into bankruptcy. (Why Maggie's wrong about hanging 18 October 1984, Evening Times)

- 11 January 1979: <u>Sunday Express</u> "There is a weak man in the White House. Under Carter, US policy has been a mixture of vacillation and retreat. The President dithered ever the neutron bomb. He tamely acquiesced in the overthrow of Afghanistan, watched the Marxist threat grow in the Horn of Africa and did nothing. New he abandons the Shah of Iran, as casually as he would shell a Georgian peanut. If Mr Carter decides Britain is expendable, who will defend her against the Russian menace?"
- 11 January 1979: Press conference with TGWU union General Secretary Moss Evans, who declares the lorry drivers strike official. He promises no secondary picketing should happen. Its official claim is for £65 a week and a reduction in hours. With the intervention of TGWU full-timers, the dispute is settled in a patchwork regional fashion, and the push for a reduction in hours worked is ignored.
- 11 January 1979 pm: Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Mahatir announces he is prepared to institute a total lockout in response to the MAS go-slow by cabin crew. He says there are forces who are out to sabotage and destroy MAS and declares that unless uninterrupted service is assured "it would be better to close it down" and allow other airlines to have its landing rights to ensure flights. He states strike action in MAS must be illegal because "it is not even on its feet when it gets bashed left, right and centre. How then do you expect It to survive? I'm sure many of the workers realise the seriousness of the situation."
- 11 January 1979: Thai military officials announce they have launched Bronco aircraft strikes during the past 24 hours against CPT guerilla camps, killing over 50. They are conducted at the same time as a joint Malaysian-Thai operation against guerrillas on the Thai-Malaysian border continues attempting to trap and eliminate escaping guerrillas.
- 11 January 1979: As the Shah is on the verge of resigning <u>Daily Telegraph</u> runs down his wealth "Among the known holdings of the Shah and Pahlavis are: a 25 per cent stake in the Krupp steelworks in West Germany; a 36-storey New York skyscraper almost ready for opening on Fifth Avenue; a 10 per cent stake in General Motors in Persia; interests in 17 banks and insurance companies in Persia, including an 80 per cent ownership in the third largest insurance concern; interests in 25 metal enterprises, 8 mining companies, 10 building materials firms, 45 construction companies, 43 food firms and 26 enterprises in trade or commerce. The Shah and his family are also said to have a share in the ownership of almost every major hotel in Persia. One estimate puts the Pahlavis' holding at 70 per cent of the country's hotel capacity."
- 12 January 1979: Over 100 British-registered ships wait at ports since their export cargo has not arrived from the manufacturing

firms since lorry drivers are on strike. Many foreign shipping companies-have cancelled services to British ports, diverting distribution to other countries where possible. A handful of key ports and dock holding facilities have reached saturation point (including Grimsby, Immingham and Southampton) with cargo kept waiting undistributed by lorry drivers.

- 12 January 1979 pm: Dunlop halts production at 4 of its plants (totalling 10,000 workforce). Since lorry drivers supplying carbon black for tyre-making are on strike. (Firestone Tyre Company has also issued 2,000 workers at its plants in Birmingham and Wrexham plants a notice of imminent shutdown).
- 13 January 1979: Reuters reports US DoD officials have cancelled a proposed \$4.7bn purchase of 360 British AV-8B Harrier vertical take off fighter aircraft. The AV-8B would have been made under licence in the US by McDonnell Douglas, at least \$1bill would have been spent in Britain on Rolls Royce engines and other items. US Marine Corps already has 110 Harrier AV-8A fighter aircraft. These planes have been involved in 32 crashes with 11 US Marine airmen killed in these accidents, since the early 1970s. It states that US Defence Secretary Brown and Carter still seek to fulfil the 1986 goal of 1.500 high-tech aircraft, but using more inexpensive and trusted planes.
- 15 January 1979: Strathclyde EIS chairman's committee calls off strike action and recommends abandoning half-day strikes by teachers in secondary schools at the national executive committee in Edinburgh. EIS spokesperson states the chairman's committee has been "mindful" of industrial action in other quarters and by the weather. EIS says it hopes to persuade the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities and the Scottish Education Department to hold a review of secondary school staffing standards.
- 15 January 1979: Annual Review of Agriculture for 1977-8 is published as a White Paper. It records farms have broken production records, but farmers' incomes have fallen in real terms by 11%. A record cereal harvest of 17,400,000 tonnes and a high output of milk and other crops is recorded. "On general cropping farms nearly everywhere the value of total output fell and income was down by a half or more" In England the net income per farm has fallen by 7%, in Scotland by 33%, in Northern Ireland by 9%. but has risen in Wales by 16%. Total net income in 1978. excluding appreciation (increasing values of land and capital) is forecast at £1256m compared with £1301m in 1977. Specialist dairy and marketed cereal farms show rises in income.

The overall number of farms continues to decline at 258,000, 5% down compared to 1975. The average size of a full-time farm is at 114 hectares, compared to 111 hectares in 1975. Public

- expenditure on price guarantees, grants and subsidies for farming amount to £248m in 1977, an increase on the year before of £43m. C.A.P and all EEC support is estimated at £293m, compared with £185m in 1977.
- 15 January 1979: Mike Burnett, president of NFU Scotland: "What the White Paper shows on the incomes side is little short of scandalous. Farmers' returns do 'not reflect the performance of their industry and the reward for increased effort has been lower incomes.... the drop is drastic indeed. Looking to the UK as a whole, incomes in 1978 are estimated to be down 3.5% compared with the previous year, and that means a drop of 11% in farmers' purchasing power. ...The fact of the matter is that in real terms incomes are now right back at the level of the 1970s."
- 15 January 1979: Stan Orme calls for a new 'concordat' with trade unions, on the subject of wage control. He avoids talking of any price control within the agreement.
- 15 January 1979: 2 striking lorry' drivers picketing a depot at Triley Mill, Abergavenny, Gwent, South are injured by shotgun shots fired from a nearby railway embankment. Keith Williams suffers a face wound, and Dennis Britton is slightly hurt. A picket at the scene declares: "I was on picket duty with three other drivers when I heard what appeared to be a shotgun being fired, and ran for cover behind my car."
- 15 January 1979: Old Etonian Sir James Goldsmith announces he has set up a new company, Cavenham Communications for an eventual move into publishing. Goldsmith already owns <u>L'Express</u> and has recruited as editor-in-chief Anthony Shrimsley, assistant editor of <u>The Sun</u> and political adviser to News International.
- 15 January 1979: A spokesman for the blood transfusion service in Edinburgh states Scotland hospitals have various levels of shortages of blood because of snowfall preventing regular donors giving blood and halting mobile transfusion vans. A spokesman in Glasgow says the action of hospitals in reducing the number of non-essential operations is slowly easing the problem.
- 16 January 1979: 24 hour ASLEF and NUR national rail strike the first after management refuse inflation-level pay increases. Transport Secretary Rodgers attacks the strike as "pointless."
- 16 January 1979: 18 chairmen of the Road Haulage Association's negotiating committee agree to submit the dispute on a regional basis ACAS. TGWU steps up efforts to end the strike. "there should be no shortages of food. For two months before the strike

warehouses had been stocking up to as much as three times the normal."

16 January 1979: <u>Glasgow Herald</u> reports "The Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed repayment and funding for a £16.5mil loan which Baring Brothers — acting for Barclays and Lloyds — has made available to Alimentaria San Luis, Argentina. This is the first supported buyer credit to the Argentine private sector and will help finance con-tracts by ASL to Baker Perkins, Simon-Vicars, and Simon Good Engineers for machinery and equipment for a new biscuit making factory in San Luis"

16 January 1979: <u>Glasgow Herald</u> reports confidence amongst the stock-buying classes: "Despite the gloomy news background the market has proved remarkably resilient this year. Investors appear to have decided at least for the time being to ride out the troubles in Iran and the continuing industrial disputes. There has not been any indication of the panic setting which sometimes accompanies such developments white the spate of takeover activity has helped to keep alive interest in the market."

Another article giving advice for stock-buyers reports: "Stock markets gave, another satisfactory performance in spite of the adverse factors of the unresolved road and rail disputes. Not even reports that the Government may toughen powers of the Price Commission in an attempt to find some form of agreement with the TUC could frighten investors and shares made further useful progress as selling remained minimal. ... At the close a £246m current trade surplus for December gave sentiment a further boost and shares closed at their best levels. Most of the activity-again occurred in second-line shares, helped by renewed speculative demand and press comment. Leading industrials didn't do badly either after a sluggish start, with it reflecting the general trend, up 4p to 364p. BP ended at 920p, a net rise of 10p."

17 January 1979: Callaghan calls on TGWU leadership to take a new positive role against 'difficulties': "We need-a response from the trade movement from the difficulties which face us. The unions must not expect all initiatives to come from the Government, but should meet the Government. There is an obligation upon the trade union movement to say clearly to Parliament and the people how they are going to regulate their affairs."

17 January 1979 pm: Callaghan holds talks with Len Murray and Moss Evans for close to 3 hours at 10 Downing Street to organise a new tougher code on picketing. Evans has promised to stop "secondary picketing" — picketing of firms not involved in the dispute.

17 January 1979: AUEW and GMB trade unionists on the advice of officials including by Gavin Laird (AUEW) and Ken Baker(GMB) vote to accept the cuts package at the Singer plant, Clydebank. A section of foundry workers, largely safe from cuts, carry placards urging acceptance of the deal, and they are loudly jeered by assembly line workers. It stipulates that 2000-2600 jobs will be deleted over the next 3 years, speed-ups and productivity changes are also accepted. The first 560 jobs are scheduled to disappear between the agreement and the end of March. The same deal had been rejected a month ago, but is accepted after an effective threat to close the entire plant. Ed Keehn, Singer's European president: "I am pleased that we can now proceed broadly along the lines we have prescribed for Clydebank."

17 January 1979: Lord Justice Clerk, second most senior judge in Scotland, Labour life peer, Attlee's Solicitor-General and father-inlaw of Labour Left Tam Dalyell, Lord Wheatley, gives an exemplary 'get tough' sentence to two 17-year-olds for damaging 3 parked cars and breaking windows of 2 houses by hurling stones at them on Bonfire Night. The court hears evidence that the two are functionally illiterate and are part of a teenage gang called 'Spur 78'. Lord Wheatley rejects weaker sentencing noting that they have been truant for a long time and states: "There are areas in the city of Glasgow, of which Barrowfield is one of the most notorious, where decent, ordinary citizens cannot live in peace because of the illegal activities of young people who roam the streets and terrorise; these decent citizens. Young people like you who may be inclined to indulge in terror tactics such as this have to learn that if they do so they must suffer the full consequences." The two are each sentenced to 5 years in prison.

17 January 1979: John Beattie, a regional head of the CBI Scotland, says: "The number of reports of threats of intimidation and victimisation by pickets has increased today. It does not appear that union officials are in control because there seems no compliance with the official directive to allow vehicles not party to the dispute to move normally". Alex Kitson, CPGB TGWU official co-ordinating the dispute says: "I have heard that intimidation on picket lines is continuing in many parts of the country, including Scotland. We deplore this action and think that pickets who flout union instructions are injuring the case of the men who are on strike. There are people, on picket lines who have nothing to do with the dispute and who we know are not members of this union - they are doing it for political purposes."

"The pickets spread not merely to lorry-haulage firms, but to ports, factories were supplies were normally delivered and even, in some cases, to entire towns, which were ringed by determined workers. ... At first the union bureaucrats ignored the strike, hoping it would soon peter out without strike pay, and left it to the shop stewards to

keep a tight reign on things... everywhere the pickets went there was a shop steward insisting that he should control the strike... the first thing that went by the board was the drivers' ability to control their strike, to ignore the divisions between 'private' drivers, state drivers, 'hire and reward' drivers, and between drivers and other sectors of the working class. The second thing that went out the window was the demand for less working hours. "Not realistic" said the stewards, reminding drivers to keep within the bounds of what the state considered permissible, to consider the state's needs... When it became clear to the bourgeoisie that merely limiting, containing and controlling the strike was not enough-that it had to be sabotaged and ended - the stewards called for the strike to be made official. That is, they demanded the help of the rest of the state to crush the strike, despite the fact that many drivers recognised they were better off 'on their own', and opposed this move. Transport and General Workers Union boss, Moss Evans, laid it on the line when he said the strike was being made official in order to control, and then end it, as quickly as possible. So that the state should function smoothly, so that the strike should be ineffective, the stewards and full-time officials worked hand-inglove. They devised and imposed 'rules' about who should picket and where... they said workers should only picket firms "directly involved" and thus helped invent the concept of 'secondary pickets' which were outside the law. Who ever heard about 'secondary pickets' before this strike?... Then the stewards and officials joined hands with the government directly, in the so-called Emergency Committees, to draw up a list of supplies and goods that could bypass the pickets...[with] the sole aim of rendering the strike useless and defending the national interest. To add insult to injury, lorry drivers were invited to participate in the 'enforcement' of these supply codes-the destruction of their own strike- in the name of workers' democracy and participation in the struggle... Again many drivers fought against these attacks, tearing-up union-signed 'dispensations', and refusing to let the goods go through. Finally, the stewards broke the unity of the strike by negotiating with each local region separately, setting drivers who had 'won' a settlement against those who hadn't, and sowing immense confusion about the aims and future of the strike." (World Revolution, Winter 1978 issue)

17 January 1979: Terence Spratt, Safeway chief executive contacts the government urging either greater police action to clear pickets from Safeway distribution centres or some other action to break the strike.

17 January 1979 pm: President of the British Food Manufacturers' Association, Derrick Hornby, states that 600,000 jobs in the food

sector are at risk if the lorry drivers' strike continues any longer, threatening a large scale retrenchment.

17 January 1979: Government announces that its passport reforms will still mean applicants must answer questions about former husbands and wives if children have been born outside Britain.

17 January 1979 pm: Thatcher uses a national television political broadcast on the eve of what is dubbed 'Black Monday' (22 Jan 1979 one-day public sector strike) to make a promise of Conservative support for a three-point plan to curb trade union "excess". She states: "Surely Labour can accept what I think the majority of union members accept — that there are some changes which have simply got to be made if we're to avoid not just disruption but anarchy." The plan features 1. change in the law to end secondary picketing and agreement with the unions on a strict code of practise for picketing. 2. government-financed secret postal ballot for unions, especially on the calling of strikes. 3. negotiation of no-strikes agreements with workers in "vital" services including firemen, hospital workers, gas, water and electricity workers.

17 January 1979 pm: Sir George Lewis Bolton, Lonrho deputy chairman, former Director of Bank of England, former senior figure in the IMF its head of international dealings, former Chair of the Bank of London and South America 1957-70, addresses the Institute of Bankers: "The Welfare State was born and is now foundering.... The symptoms are unemployment, rising prices, social unrest and demands for higher wages... I can think of only one European country that has real possibilities for growth and the name may surprise you. It is Great Britain, We are not a poor country but a very wealthy one, and in spite of being misgoverned for 30 years, still command authority in all the international service industries. We are he only European industrialised country with surplus coal and oil resources. If we could throw away the stranglehold of the economists' demand management, substitute stable money and extinguish the disease of Socialism we could become a proud people once more."

17 January 1979: US Under-Secretary of State, David Newson: "Constitutionally, the Shah remains the monarch of Iran, even though he has appointed a regency council upon his departure. And he will be received in that capacity" declaring the US will welcome the Shah as a head of state when he arrives.

18 January 1979: US newspapers report Walter Annenberg, former US Ambassador to Britain, host of Prince Charles, has given his whole 375 hectare estate — vast main house, 2 guest houses, mini palm forest, golf course, two swimming pools, helicopter pad and large servants' quarters, electrified 10m high fence under 24-hour

- armed guard available to the Shah. The Palm Springs' <u>Desert Sun</u> (17 Jan 1979) reports State Department security staff and local police can augment security guards for the Shah. <u>Washington Post</u> reports the Shah and his family have a fortune of around \$20,000mil.
- 18 January 1979: Government announces it will accept 1500 refugees over the next 15 months. It estimates over 1000 will be Vietnamese refugees currently in Hong Kong.
- 18 January 1979: Hong Kong colonial government warns that it will not continue indefinitely to feed the 2700 refugees on the Huey Fong. (It also will not land them on its territory either.)
- 18 January 1979: Radio Iran reports that Iran has sacked 7 ambassadors to Western nations for improper, corrupt activities. Many others have already resigned sensing the drifting tide.
- 18 January 1979: Another 24 hour ASLEF and NUR national rail strike.
- 18 January 1979: Moss Evans and Callaghan announce "as a result of our discussion, the TGWU has agreed to a voluntary code of practice in relation to picketing during this dispute and this has been issued by it today. The code explicitly provides that: "Picketing should be confined to the drivers and vehicles in the hire and reward section of the industry who are employed by firms in dispute with the union" —that is to say, it rules out secondary picketing."
- 18 January 1979: Government bases its attitude to a state of emergency on whether or not the strike can be broken more effectively with or without it. Callaghan: "The critical question is whether the proclamation of a state of emergency would increase the supply of essential goods and services. At the moment the Government's view is that essential supplies would be better maintained by the members of the TGWU observing the code of practice issued by their union and so putting an end to secondary picketing. But the Government will keep the matter under review day by day"
- 18 January 1979: <u>Evening Standard</u> editorial reuses the PIRA-irresponsible [ie inactive] trade unionist analogy: "Last night's explosions at Canvey Island oil storage depot and at a gasometer In East Greenwich, are the IRA's style of secondary picketing. Like the lorry drivers' roving interference squads, these political vandals roam in well-drilled cadres, bent on harming the livelihoods and lowering the spirits of innocent victims."
- 18 January 1979: SKF announces 600 workers at its Irvine plant will lose their jobs. Union convenor says: "We were due to have wage negotiations today These were cancelled and instead the SKF UK managing director, Mr Blomberg, came up and told us about the proposed transfer ... With the Massey Ferguson situation just down

- the road about 1000 workers are scheduled to lose their jobs between the middle of this year and next because work is being transferred to a French factory and the jobs loss at Glengarnock every job is vital in this area." William Aitken, West of Scotland AUEW organiser says "This part of Scotland is rapidly becoming an industrial desert."
- 18 January 1979: Robert Watson, a 38-year old picket, father of 4, is killed by an 8-ton lorry, opposed to strike action, knocking him over outside the Northern Operations Centre for Shell UK Exploration and Production Ltd. in Sinclair Road, Aberdeen. The site has been on a 24-hour picket since 5 Jan 1979.
- 18 January 1979: A seminar in Paisley, Scotland hears that 19 young people have been killed after sniffing solvents in the past 3 years and over 50 have been killed across Britain.
- 18 January 1979: Parliamentary answer reveals that increasing police pay with the rise in Jul 1978 has meant increased police numbers in Scotland. Whilst there were 154 resignations, and only 230 recruits in the 1st quarter of 1978, following the award, the number of resignations in drop to 97 and there are 248 recruits in the 3rd quarter, with 494 new recruits in the final quarter.
- 18 January 1979: TGWU representatives organise a strike-easing plan for the Isle of Arran, which merely attempts to avoid the use of one particular haulage firm: "He [owner of Arran Transport] has got to apologise to us for any misunderstanding his representatives had with us... The people of Arran have to be looked after. Supplies must get on to the island but it does not follow that Arran Transport is the vehicle for doing it."
- 18-21 January 1979: Central African Republic sees mass protests against Bokassa, that are suppressed with stabilised Western hero Mobutu's armed forces. Around 400 are killed, hundreds of teachers and students are then arrested.
- 19 January 1979: Attempting to show firmness after the killing of picket Robert Watson, for 24 hours Scotland committees of TGWU lorry drivers' strike grant no special dispensations to industry or local authorities at key picketing sites. Aberdeen TGWU officials, afraid of the consequences, reject the idea from pickets in Aberdeen for a motion sponsoring a call for a 24-hour national strike of all haulage drivers in the public and private sectors as a mark of respect.
- 19 January 1979 pm: Prices Secretary Roy Hattersley announces that a curb on road haulage charges, as recommended by the Price Commission will not be imposed. This allows road haulage firms to pass on the costs of the strike to other firms, opening the way for a considerable settlement.

- 19 January 1979: ILEA announces that many schools will be closed for the 22 Jan 1979 Day of Action. It states over 600 out of 1200 schools will be closed.
- 19 January 1979: Jim Mortimer, chairman of ACAS holds talsk with RHA and TGWU chiefs.
- 20 January 1979: President Sadat addresses a joint session of Egyptian and Sudanese parliaments in Aswan, accusing Moscow of assisting the overthrow of the Shah: "We are following what is happening around us. We are vigilant and ready to face all conspiracies." He says Moscow has organised "dark conspiracies... to undermine stability in the region." Referring to Ethiopia's assertion in favour of rights for Southern Sudanese he states "We will never delay in heeding the call of any Arab or African country if it is faced with aggression on its territory or destiny. I say to whom it may concern that the borders of Sudan are the borders of Egypt. Any attack on Sudan we will consider an attack on Egypt first and foremost". Vice-President Mubarak in Aswan, says: "The situation in Iran threatens the whole area." Both declare progress towards union with Nimieri's Sudan is proceeding.
- 20 January 1979: Tucked away in the back pages of the Guardian is a report: "Some 5,000 workers at body and press shops at Ford's plant at Halewood, near Liverpool, have been given a delayed pay rise plus back pay. But at a series of meetings, the men voted unanimously to hand over the back pay, totalling £190,000 in all, to the kidney unit at the Royal Liverpool Hospital."
- 20 January 1979: Alex Kitson, TGWU chief in charge of the road haulage strike claims individual employers are granting drivers various high pay rises, which means fewer are on strike, a move he welcomes. He states the strike can be settled quickly with the intervention of ACAS.
- 20 January 1979: Padre Octavio Ortiz Luna, minister to the parish of El Despertar, Mejicanos, San Salvador, and 4 young Salvadorans are shot dead in a raid on a retreat centre, by militarists at dawn, all others arrested.
- 21 January 1979: Anthony Sampson in <u>the Observer</u> reports General Hendrik Van Den Bergh, chief of South Africa's Bureau of State Security (BOSS), claims he has lunched with very senior CIA staff. Sampson concludes CIA and MI6 have exchanged information with BOSS. He notes Britain's "Pretoria station still depends on BOSS reports about revolutionaries" in the wider Southern African region: "When I suggested to Van Den Bergh on the telephone a few days ago that the CIA might have become less friendly, he replied: 'That's a lot of bull. On the contrary, only today I had lunch

with a friend of mine who is back here on holiday, who is very senior in the CIA"

- 21 January 1979: Close to 3,000 residents in Canvey Island hold a march to the Texaco oil plant, led by Conservative MP Sir Bernard Braine, handing a demand for increased security. Some carry banners calling for the closure of the plant and other industrial installations on the island.
- 21 January 1979: COHSE ambulance workers London Regional Chairman Bill Dunn announces that normal emergency cover will not be provided on 22 Jan 1979, and although he adds the proviso that any major event will see ambulance workers ease their strike, he states: "If it means lives lost, that is how it must be. This time we are determined that the capital will take notice of what we are saying".

COHSE's 2300 London ambulance workers urge others to participate in the strike action, so that in case of emergencies, non-ambulance vehicles can carry emergency cases to hospitals. Only the "lives lost" part of his comments are taken and caricatured into 'selfish monster' wanting kill off parts of London. Predictably this characterisation does not apply to those London NHS directors, who have imposed stringent hospital cuts over the past 3 years or London's civil servant chiefs who whilst expanding senior grades at the Civil Service have reduced the number of actual factory inspectors covering London, etc.

Allan McLean, Grampian area officer for NUPE, in response to assertions that their strike action is designed to kill has declared: "We have had this labelled against us in. the past. It is not the actions of our' members that make people die. Some of the people who died in the previous dispute would have died anyway. This dispute is not over anything small. People have to decide whether a wage of £42.50 is worth emergency services." (18 Jan 1979) However these comments are not significantly repeated.

- 21 January 1979: TGWU and Road Haulage Association reps meet at ACAS over the end of the strike.
- 21 January 1979: Carter Administration officials say development and production in the USA of a new NATO intermediate-range nuclear weapons missile has been considered by US, Britain, France, and West Germany.
- 21 January 1979: Pop group The Osmonds arrive in Heathrow Airport to begin a tour of Britain after a petition signed by 30,000 asking them to return.

- 21 January 1979 pm: Hong Kong finally begins accepting the Huey Fong that is carrying 3400 Vietnamese refugees. Police arrest the Taiwanese crew and master Captain Shu Wenshin, under the new laws that make it an offence to carry unscheduled passengers into Hong Kong waters (carrying a prison sentence of 4 years).
- 22 January 1979: Carter signs through a budget he proudly calls "lean and austere" successfully continuing the roll-back of social programmes.
- 22 January 1979 pm: Governor of the Bank of England Gordon Richardson attends the biennial dinner of the Institute of Bankers and, unsurprisingly, warns against high wage settlements: "Even though personal consumption has been depressed for the three preceding years or more, and though we could not expect to see output and activity start to revive except on the basis of some rise in consumer spending, we cannot in my view regard the pattern of demand in 1978 and only a marginal surplus on the current account of our balance of payments with much satisfaction... On the latest estimates, UK banks are probably now meeting about a third of the outstanding financing requirement in support of North Sea operations, and UK companies are now meeting about two-thirds of North Sea supply orders"

He urges firms to extend further oil and gas exploration and development across the world. "As a mature industrial nation, a key element in our future prosperity will be the extent to which we can develop and exploit our capability in new areas of activity where we have a competitive edge."

"The combination we had last year of-fast increases in earnings and a much lower rate of price inflation cannot persist. Without doubt the best outcome now would be a moderation in the growth of nominal earnings that would underpin rather than undermine the substantial progress that has been made in bringing down inflation, and would check the erosion of our competitive position. The sadness of this winter of discontents, however, is that it is taking us in precisely the opposite direction. Inflation is being refuelled and threatens the competitiveness that we so much need to maintain both in overseas markets and at home. The rise in costs is not moderating. Pressure on labour costs is now worsening and companies are in general in no position to absorb sharp further increases; and it has to be emphasised that, in this situation, the unavoidable consequence of action designed to prevent such excessive cost rises from being passed on in higher prices will be some forced curtailment of profits, production, and employment. Some current attitudes, expressed in absurdly high claims, in the frustration and even destruction of production, and in disregard for the position of those with less industrial or physical muscle, do nothing whatever to increase our standard of living."

22 January 1979: Labour Left Sidney Bidwell, welcomes the TGWU strangulation of the drivers' strike and its settlement on a divisive regional bases: "As a fellow member of the Transport and General Workers' Union, does [Silkin] agree that the directors of food manufacturing concerns, especially the one in my constituency—Quaker Oats—was greatly relieved after the issuing of the code of conduct? I was informed that there had been a considerable improvement in the situation and that in consequence the factory in my constituency would not now have to close. They were rather afraid of that. Does not he also agree that ever since they have taken the helm of events it has been the desire of the national leaders of the TGWU to contain this to a dispute within the road haulage industry?

Sam Silkin: I agree with everything that [Bidwell] has said.... When they look at this perfectly calmly and logically, as I believe they are, away from all the panic which has been created, the people of this country will agree, as they did in the past, that voluntary cooperation between Government and union rather than confrontation is the only way to solve industrial disputes."

22 January 1979: "the strategic importance of Turkey... is too great for Ankara's fate to be left to the Monetary Fund and commercial banks abroad. ... Turkey is now the only clearly pro-Western state between the Soviet Union and the Middle East; it guards the straits between the Soviet Black Sea fleet and the Mediterranean and offers the main remaining land site from which electronic intelligence bases can monitor Soviet missile-test launchings" (NYT 22 Jan 1979)

22 January 1979: One day protest strike by public sector unions against pay limits. NUPE has distributed over a million leaflets, 12,000 posters and 40,000 car stickers in support of the day. Probably the largest-by-headcount stoppage since 1926 at around 1.5million strikers. Mass demonstrations are held across the country. 140,000 take part in London. A joint TGWU-COHSE-NUPE rally is held in Central Hall: Alan Fisher, NUPE general secretary "spoke very effectively of the going rate of pay increases: Ford, 17 per cent; tanker drivers. 15 per cent; agricultural workers, 13-15 per cent; BBC, 12 per cent (with another 4 per cent to follow). "All we ask for is fair treatment," said Alan Fisher "we've never asked for the moon." His speech was, however, interrupted frequently by the loud voices several strategically placed hecklers in the hall ("What are you going to do about it" "All out strike now!"). For later speakers it got much worse. The audience, tired and hungry in an increasingly muggy, began to feel that they we hearing exactly the same speeches they had already heard in Hyde Park — and some of them not very good speeches at that. It became rapidly obvious that the hecklers were not just teenage members of the International Marxist Group. David Basnett, his past support for the Government's pay quidelines not forgotten, became a particular target, and Mick Martin of the TGWU had an equally unhappy time. Two tanker butane drivers, one from Kent, the other from London, demanded to be allowed on to the platform to say their piece. A sizeable minority of the audience was now standing up and shouting. The stewards gave up. The platform speakers filed off. The platform was invaded. The militants began to hold their own meeting but, with microphones disconnected, few people- could hear. The audience began to leave. Some went to lobby at the House of Commons, others, deterred by the thought of yet another long wait in the cold, set course for home. It was a disappointing ending to the demonstration that marked a strike which was, without a doubt, the biggest seen in Britain since the General Strike in 1926." (Tribune report)

"Every single bureaucrat's speech was drowned out by catcalls and chants of "All out to strike!" In the end the bureaucrats abandoned the platform, taking the microphone with them. Following the march, many of the more militant sectors, especially the ambulance drivers and other health workers, stayed off work for another few days..." (Workers' Vanguard report, 2 Feb 1979)

- 22 January 1979: Schools and airports are closed. Hospitals cancel all services except emergency admissions with both NUPE and for the first time ever branches of the RCN slowing normal hospital work and leaving only a fraction of members to cover emergency cases.
- 22 January 1979: Instead of agreeing to terms, army strikebreakers are used against striking ambulance drivers in London and Cardiff. Labour Left Councils act harshly against the strike action. Glasgow District Council bans staff-members from self-certification as unfit for work normally allowed for the first 3 days of an illness.
- 22 January 1979: Zaire state radio announces Mobutu's armed forces have participated in joint operations across the Central African Republic and Banjui to shoot down student protesters and their supporters.
- 23 January 1979: London ambulance workers continue the 22 Jan Day of Action with a work to rule, that sees them refuse to answer radios for routine requests.
- 23 January 1979: Labour Left Judith Hart explains "I am at present considering assistance to Angola for the Benguela railway, and a

- study by British consultants financed from the aid programme is currently being carried out." Inevitably the aid programme is designed with British engineering firms in mind, and to link Angolan products with Western destinations, away from its Soviet orbit.
- 23 January 1979: Several hospital managements begin to wreak retribution over the one-day stoppage. Some doctors also take part. The most florid example is orthopaedic surgeon, Patrick Chesterman, at Reading Hospital who refuses to see trade unionist patients on the basis of "Sorry, but I'm not serving trade unionists today" solely to create a provocation to ensure the NUPE claim is not met.
- 23 January 1979: 24-hour national ASLEF and NUR rail strike. Trains do not run across southern England. De-icing trains are also left undriven in protest at the sub-inflation pay offer.
- 24 January 1979: Another typical day at random at Heathrow sees its Immigration Office at Terminal 3 impose the signing of this form of statement upon immigrant Asian women: "This is to certify that I, Miss. ---, agree to a gynaecological examination which may be vaginal. This statement has been read to me in my own mother tongue."
- 24 January 1979: In a calculated provocation, management of Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham, sends home 65 cancer patients hospital leaving only 10 out of 75 cancer patients on wards. Director of radiotherapy William Bond, describes trade unionists as "absolutely appalling and totally heartless... It is no good appealing to them. There is only one way to describe the actions of these men and that is four letter words."
- NUPE maintenance and cleaners are picketing the hospital in support of the pay claim. They succeed in turning away some Barry Shuttleworth, chief shop steward asserts it is totally unnecessary to send the cancer patients home since negotiations had been held with management on the provision of emergency services. A skeleton emergency service is provided by striking NUPE members on the basis of the most severe cases being served.
- 24 January 1979: Malaysia's current Deputy, future Prime, Minister Mahathir Mohamed accuses the World Vision charity of contacting refugee boats in the South China Sea, giving them navigational aids to reach Malaysia, and teaching them how to sink their boats in order to win entry to Malaysia.
- 24 January 1979: Due to the previous day's rail strike failing to deice tracks only 5% of trains are driven in the morning period at the

start of services. Southern Region officially carries only 30,000 into London out of a customary 300,000.

24 January 1979: RAC exaggeratedly declares supplies of road salt are "critical" suggesting many local authorities have less than a few days' supply, and urges not meeting drivers' claims but strikebreaking action. Some lorry drivers have picketed a Cheshire salt works and local authority and contract drivers for grit have respected the request.

25 January 1979: Another 24-hour rail strike.

25 January 1979: Attorney General Sam Silkin talks of "a very serious problem. The problem of pickets who do not comply with the instructions of their union":

"whether or not in the course of picketing, the criminal law is broken by violence, extortion, obstructing the highway, or obstructing the police in the reasonable execution of their duty ... Pickets may lawfully indicate to a driver their wish peacefully to communicate with him, but no law requires him to stop. If a picket obstructs the highway in order to cause him to stop, that is a breach of the criminal law and section 15 is no defence. A driver who wishes to drive past a picket line is in law entirely free to do so, so long as he drives in a lawful manner. If a driver or anyone else, including a picket, is unlawfully obstructed, intimidated or assaulted, he should report the matter to the police."

Attorney General fails to note that is the police, above all, who obstruct time and again basic trade union action.

"Extortion of money as the price for letting a vehicle through would, of course, be a most serious offence and indeed a quite intolerable act, and anybody who is the victim of it has a duty to report it."

"The protection from civil action therefore depends on whether the persuasion which is the object of the picketing is in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute. This cannot be determined by the very loose terms "primary" and "secondary" picketing. But under recent decisions of the courts the test applied seems to have been whether the industrial action complained of has been so remote from the original trade dispute as to be not reasonably likely to further it. One can lawfully seek to ensure that one's employer's supplier does not supply him. But if he continues to do so, and one then seeks to ensure that the supplier to that supplier does not supply him, the decisions of the court suggest that one is entering the area of potential remoteness, where the section 13 protection runs out. In both cases the term "secondary picketing" would be apt, but the legal consequences could be quite different."

"There is no reason to suppose that chief constables are neglecting their duty in these matters. The important thing is not the organisation at the top but that when offences of the kind to which I

have referred occur, those who are injured or see them happening should report them, and then the police can get on with their job." Responding to centre-right demands for an end to closed shop agreements and for trade unionists to be legally disciplined into following the instructions of full-timers: "I find a certain difficulty in the Opposition's attitude. If they are saying that the position should be that where employers, members and employees agree to have a closed shop, that should be done away with and people should be a great deal freer to opt out, that would inevitably have the effect that the strength of the union would be weakened. Yet it is the Opposition who are complaining that the union is not using its strength sufficiently in order to deal with pickets. The Opposition cannot have it both ways.... the courts are by no means slow to protect members of unions who lose their right to union membership as a result of action that is not in accordance with the union's rules... The remedy of injunction is one that may be obtained extremely rapidly—indeed, much more rapidly than criminal prosecution. When the courts feel that the rights of individuals have been infringed, they have not shown themselves to be slow to grant such remedies. ... Violence and threats of violence are equally criminal offences. Anyone who is forced to join a picket line by violence or threats of violence has the remedy of the criminal law, whether he be young or old."

25 January 1979: Alex Lyon explains the basic government approach: "we do better by getting an agreed code of picketing to be enforced by the unions" Callaghan agrees at PMQs: "There are plenty of statutory powers, but I do not know that any Government have sufficient power when the road haulage industry goes on strike to replace it. That is the simple truth of the matter. That is why the Government are using good sense."

He continues " it is not the leaders of the unions who are failing in their attempt to try to co-operate. It is groups of independent minded subjects of this country who are acting on their own."

- 25 January 1979: Callaghan states "the Government of this country will carry out their responsibilities irrespective of their affiliations to any particular group. I believe that would be true of the Conservative Party in relation to the many contributors to its party funds, just as it is true in relation to ours."
- 25 January 1979: Thatcher makes an important backlash speech: "It is important to identify some of the other root causes of our national decline. Too much concentration on the distribution of wealth, too little on its creation. Too much expenditure on the public sector, too little left for the private sector. Too much penalty for success, too little liability for failure. Now, at last we are seeing a

healthy reaction against years of accelerating encroachment by the state upon the earnings, the aspirations, the rights and the responsibilities of the private citizen."

25 January 1979: Pope John Paul meets Mexico's PRI President Lopez Portillo on his arrival at Mexico City Airport.

26 January 1979: Peter Kellner centrist at <u>New Statesman</u> concedes "had there been no cuts at all to "make room for growth" (Feb 1976) or appease the International Monetary Fund (Dec 1976), then the overall outcome would still have been almost exactly what the IMF wanted. The combination of cuts and underspending has clearly deepened the recession."

26 January 1979: Tribune reports on the slow wind-down of the lorry drivers strike: "The ending of the talks between the Transport and General Workers' Union representatives and the Road Haulage Association at the Advisory Conciliatory and Arbitration Service does not mean that there is little hope of a settlement of the road haulage dispute. Indeed it became guite clear to the TGWU in the early stages of the talks that the RHA was negotiating with the Government more than with the union. Even after Roy Hattersley, the Prices Secretary, announced that he was lifting any possible Price Commission block on RHA members handing on wage increases in price increases, the RHA was trying to get further concessions. Part of the reason for this is that a good deal of private industry has been less than enamoured with the attitude of the A. This can be seen by the numerous firms which have established their own fleets of lorries and avoid RHA lorries like the plague. The TGWU always believed that the major breakthrough in ements

would come regionally. As Tribune reported last week, there have been a number of settlements already. Those are being added to each day as the dispute continues - and some of the firms which have settled have been quite large. The RHA, in its central negotiations, has refused to budge from its 15 per cent offer. The nion points I out that this has been exceeded in a number of cases and-is one of the reasons that the TGWU was not keen on the dispute going to arbitration. Inevitably that would have meant an award based on what the RHA membership would offer rather than a settlement on the more flexible offers which have been made by individual firms. Clearly, in the vast majority of cases, the picketing by road haulage drivers has come into line with the code which the TGWU executive committee agreed last week. From all round the country, Transport House has received reports that essential supplies have been allowed to go through. The picture of what is happening which is being received at Transport House is - vastly different from the one portrayed by the media."

<u>Tribune</u> reports on the "selective industrial action" in the public sector. "Although the media have tried to present this as uncontrolled anarchy ... most of the disputes are, in fact, planned, coordinated, and official. A few examples of these disputes will give an idea of their scope. In the London Borough of Southwark, 3,000 council manual workers (members of the National Union of Public Employees) are on official strike. Thirty highway maintanence men on the M1 are on strike, resulting in a 100 miles of that motorway not being gritted in the recent snow. The A34 has been similarly blacked. In Lincolnshire, 30 road gritters are out.

In Doncaster 110 school caretakers have been out all week. The caretakers in Kirklees are taking similar action. The catering staff in Tameside Central Hospital are out, as are hospital laundry workers in Nottingham. In Leicestershire, 5,000 school-meals workers are disrupting 400 schools with such tactics as lightning strikes and a refusal to collect charges. Among the towns hit by strikes of refuse workers are Leeds, Northampton, Guildford, Southend, Broxtowe, and Winchester (where the strike will go on indefinitely). In Tameside, 15 grave diggers and crematorium workers are out. The water workers are obviously a key element in the public sector, whereby industrial action can be made to be felt swiftly by the public, and it is here that unofficial action has been most widespread. Last week the Government's 5 per cent norm was broken as some [local authority] employers offered the water workers first 9.7percent and then 11.5 percent. Then came the 14 percent offer, which, as we go to press, has been recommended for acceptance nationally by the unions. The offer is based on a comparability study of the wages of electricity, gas, and water workers. This must still be ratified by the individual unions involved. The General and Municipal Workers' Union and the Transport and General Workers' Union have recommended acceptance to their members."

26 January 1979: Peter Jenkins in <u>The Guardian</u> condemns the public sector action as dangerous "syndicalism" but nevertheless states "wages in Britain are low, living standards are becoming inadequate. When the Government last week raised its definition of low pay to a ceiling of £70 per week it turned out that a staggering seven million would qualify for the new minimum."

26 January 1979: <u>Daily Telegraph</u> reports sympathetically another 'squeezed middle' emigration story. Usually these centre on leaving for 'fairer' tax regimes in the United States or Australia. This time Rhodesia: "A young couple described yesterday our repeated strikes, high taxes and wintry weather have persuaded them that a better future awaits them in Rhodesia at war than in peacetime Britain. On the day it was announced that a record 18,000 whites last year joined what Rhodesians derisively call the 'chicken run' by leaving

the country, Jeffrey and Lynda Pitcock were busy in Yeovil Somerset, making arrangements to do the opposite."

27 January 1979: <u>Irish Times</u> editorialises on the strikes: "This is the first occasion for half a century that the plain people, non-U masses, the workers, call them what you will have shown themselves determined on a very broad front not to play the game as laid down by their superiors"

27 January 1979: One-year anniversary mass picket of Garner's Steak Houses. Strike pay remains £6 a week. Over 50 have been arrested on picket lines so far. Not a single case of violence against strikebreakers has been recorded.

27 January 1979: Pope 'John Paul II' tells a conference of Latin American priests in Mexico City: "You are not social or political figures or officials of a temporal power." He later warns a group of nuns there is "some confusion" about the very essence of religious life. Too often action is being substituted for prayer. When faith is weakened, "this is excused as a search for new horizons and experiences with the pretext of being closer to man".

28 January 1979: Police disperse a silent march through San Salvador to the Rosario Church under the banner 'Basta Ya!' to commerate

28 January 1979: Pope continues the assault on popular dissidence within the Catholic Church by stating after Sunday Mass in Puebla de los Angeles, Mexico: "today we find in many places a phenomenon that is not new. We find 're-readings' of the Gospel that are the product of theoretical speculations rather than of authentic meditation... they depart from the central criteria of the Church's faith, and people have the temerity to pass them on as catechesis to Christian communities... people are silent about Christ's divinity, or else they indulge in types of interpretation that are at variance with the Church's faith. Christ is alleged to be only a "prophet," a proclaimer of God's Kingdom and love, but not the true Son of God. Hence he allegedly is not the centre and object of the Gospel message itself. In other cases people purport to depict Jesus as a political activist, as a fighter against Roman domination and the authorities, and even as someone involved in the class struggle. This conception of Christ as a political figure, a revolutionary, as the subversive of Nazareth, does not tally with the Church's catechesis [teaching]... people claim that the cause of his death was the result of a political conflict... for Jesus anything that would alter his mission as the Servant of God was a temptation. He [Jesus] does not accept the position of those who mixed the things of God with merely political attitudes."

He states "evangelising is "the essential mission" of the Church to be achieved only by "respect of the sacred magisterium... the authentic word of God" He refers to the importance of "formulas enunciated a century ago by Vatican I" (the most significant is the concept of papal infallibility). He further presses that "mission is religious in character and not social or political" and refering to the Good Samaritan parable states "The Church therefore does not have need to recourse to ideological systems in order to love" human beings. The Church will achieve its love where "we will reach human beings; we will reach justice through evangelisation."

New York Times reports it as the Pope has "rejected political involvement, let alone action by the Church... and spoken out flatly against the concept of 'Liberation Theology'" (30 Jan 1979 NYT)

- 28 January 1979: Over 200 TGWU drivers in West and South-West England agree to return to work, submitting the claim to arbitration "in the interest of the nation." Road Haulage Association says it is a significant development towards settlement.
- 28 January 1979: Theatre Writers' Union at a London conference protest ongoing government-led censorship over the six counties: "The first time the BBC TV approached Father Denis Paul was six years after the troubles had started and then for a programme on abortion. He asked them where they were for the last six years. The same is true now on prison conditions. The British media still accept Mason's lie that the punishments in H Block are self-inflicted (as they accepted that torture was self-inflicted despite Strasbourg and the Amnesty Reports). So we resort to our own publications on the prisons Whitelaw's Tribunals, The Flames of Long Kesh, The Iniquity of Internment, H Block. In short only occasionally and at a late stage do the media take an interest in the serious problems of violations of human rights in the north of Ireland... Truth is a pillar of peace. The media have failed us utterly over ten years." Unsurprisingly the conference itself receives no media coverage.
- 28 January 1979: <u>Sunday Express</u> reports David Hunt's observation of Liverpool TGWU's activity: "Russian cargo ships are being exempted from the direct picketing which has prevented other ships being loaded with exports worth millions of pounds." It concludes some element of a CPGB-masterminded conspiracy at work.
- 28 January 1979: 2 papers, <u>The Times Challenger</u> and <u>The Sunday Times Reporter</u> which have grown out of the lockout at Times Newspapers somewhat extend their run and distribution. <u>The Sunday Times Reporter</u>, written by members of the <u>Sunday Times</u> NUJ chapel, deals with the dispute and with what is happening to staff members who are now losing their jobs as a result of the lock-

- out. The other <u>The Times Challenger</u> is produced and published by the London Print Branches' Liaison Committee, which represents a wide range of print workers in London including NGA, GMPU and SOGAT printers.
- 29 January 1979: Pope continues his efforts in Oaxaca, southern Mexico, where a Zapotecan andino Catholic peasant Esteban Fernandez greets the Pope on behalf of the native Indian congregations: "We welcome you and greet you with joy. We're suffering a lot. The cattle are better off than we are. We can't express ourselves and we have to keep our suffering locked up in our hearts. We don't have jobs, nobody helps us, But we're putting what little strength we have at your service. Holy Father ask the Holy Spirit for something for your poor children." The Pope responds calling for change from the PRI authorities those "responsible for the welfare of nations, powerful classes... those who are most able" whilst those crushed under their subjugation "must not harbour feelings of hate or violence, but rather gaze toward the Lord."
- 29 January 1979: Under 1,300 out of over 30,000 schools are closed due to the drivers' strike affecting fuel oil supplies to school boilers.
- 29 January 1979: Independent arbitration board in Bristol recommends £64 for a 40-hour week for South West lorry drivers. This award means no reduction in hours and results in continuing widespread dependence on overtime. It becomes the basis for other regional settlements.
- 29 January 1979: All 41 members of TUC General Council meet Callaghan at Downing Street privately.
- 29 January 1979: Transport Secretary Rodgers says the Government might introduce a statutory pay and price freeze if the TUC cannot curb wage claims "back to sanity". Callaghan later rejects this.
- 29 January 1979: Joe Wade, General Secretary of National Graphical Association appeals to Lord Thomson, Canadian multimillionaire oil and press baron to intervene in the Times Group lockout. He states "I am convinced that if we can get into negotiations, Times management can achieve at least 90% of what they want without any further disruption." 3000 workers remain under suspension. 1200 un-unionised or belonging to minor unions have already acceded to management terms.
- 29 January 1979: Home Secretary Rees believes his behaviour over Grunwick is the model to follow over the TGWU dispute: "The police

find it offensive when opposition members keep on talking about advising and instructing the police....Chief constables know their job. If Opposition Members think that something is wrong, they should bring it to the notice of chief constables. If chief constables think that there is a criminal charge to be brought, it is their job to do so. Last year during other disputes I was told to be a Minister of the Interior and to tell the Commissioner of the Police of the Metropolis how to act at Grunwick. I was not prepared to do so. I am not prepared to do that now. Chief constables make their decisions on these matters. In East Anglia, at the haven ports— Felixstowe, Ipswich, Colchester and Harwich—I understand that it is expected that there will be a return to normal operations. I understand that there is practically no picketing at Avonmouth. As for Humberside, I understand that movement is beginning at Hull. ... there is very little picketing of any sort taking place in Northern Ireland. ...

Regional officers of the Transport and General Workers' Union have met in London and officers from the union have gone to other parts of the country. The dispute became official about a fortnight ago. These officers are going round the country, trying to deal with the position and to unlock matters [end the strike]. When the history of the dispute is written I am sure that it will be agreed that this was a far better way to deal with it than by declaring a state of emergency. ... Both the union and the RHA want the negotiations to be on a regional basis, because the union is organised regionally, as is the RHA."

"Of course there are problems, particularly in regard to exports. Last week we bent our minds to dealing with the pharmaceutical supplies and other important aspects of the code. As from last Saturday we have been dealing with other matters.... there are now no pickets at Avonmouth, I hope that that will be seen as an improvement in export prospects. ... On the code of practice, if the supplies are carried in own-account vehicles—vehicles that are not carrying goods that would normally be provided by an RHA supplier or by the National Freight Corporation—there should be no problem. We are looking at this matter on the industrial side. We have taken it step by step, and this is being looked at this weekend."

His overall conclusion on the TGWU drivers' strike: "I am glad that it seems—it is not certain yet—that this dispute is ending, so that I can shut my unit down. But I shall be sad for pay policy."

On the local authority strikes: "There is no justification for this [cemetery workers taking industrial action]. I want to be informed of the full extent of it, and my right hon. Friend the Secretary of State for the Environment is looking into it. There have been meetings over the weekend. The figures from local authorities have varied, as have the views about what is wanted. We are prepared to

do something. We are not prepared to stand idly by. It would be easy enough, for example, to decide, in these circumstances, to bury someone in the middle of an old cemetery, when it is not clear how many people are buried there, and where problems of damage to nearby graves can arise. It is not a matter, either, of burying people in a new field, as might be the case with a war cemetery. We have to look very carefully at this question."

- 29 January 1979: In protest at the refusal of Westminster Hospital management to reinstate 6 cleaners sacked for taking part in the NUPE national dispute, NUPE begins a work-to-rule transferring its workforce from routine non-emergency to emergency facilities. Westminster Hospital immediately mounts a backlash press campaign, press and newspapers are given a stage-managed scene of patients washing up crockery before strikebreaker volunteers are introduced to cover services.
- 29 January 1979: A new round of NUPE selective nationwide-strikes strikes begin affecting hospitals, schools, rubbish collection and road clearing services.
- 29 January 1979: 4 pickets, including 3 sacked workers at Kitson's Insulations, are arrested. They are among 52 Kitson's workers sacked by the firm immediately after BP terminates their contract for insulation work at the complex. The firm is expelled from the contract in Dec 1978. They are picketing for reinstatement of their jobs.
- 29 January 1979: A 25-year-old Strathclyde University student commits suicide over unemployment.
- 29 January 1979: A US military delegation arrives in Cairo as USA looks to its allies to organise against consequences of developments in Iran.
- 29 January 1979: "is it any wonder that the shipbuilders are clamouring to sell their marine technology to China? But will this be the great panacea some worried shipyard workers expect? The answer is an emphatic No. The orders, even if they come Scotland and Britain's way, will not materialise in time. The trial is with us now and will not cease until the early to mid-1980. Firms such as Covin Shipbuilders, on the Clyde, and Ross Caledon, of Dundee and Lelth, are typical of the British shipyards desperately searching for new orders now. They will run out of work within the next nine months and serious labour surpluses will develop long before that. Britain and Scotland are planning ahead. Govan has already beep appointed the lead design yard for one particular design of ship British Shipbuilders hope will interest the Chinese. Scott Lithgow. Scotland's most successful merchant yard, can build the cargo ships

they want and, with half its present order book taken up in oil contracts, the firm could [supply ships for] South China Sea's oil."

29 January 1979: A MI6 Box 500 report describes CPGB as "enthusiastic about the effects of the public services dispute which it believes could be a significant factor in bringing about opportunities for its political advance". Other MI6 reports note: "Trotskyist groups are finding difficulty in keeping pace with events and in some places are being told by Party officials to concentrate their attention entirely on selling their newspapers. Deason, the industrial organiser of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP), believes that many of their members are daunted by the scale of the action and are not clear how to take advantage of it."

In general MI6 sees "relatively little subversive [leftist sect] influence at national level" in any major union taking industrial action. These intelligence reports built up from bugging at CPGB's HQ's and moles within notes TGWU 'Subversive influence' was strongest in the thirty-nine-member general executive council of the Transport and General Workers Union (TGWU), which contained nine Communists, two Communist sympathizers and two Trotskyist sympathizers. General and Municipal Workers Union (GMWU) was a single Trotskyist. Though the National Union of Public Employees (NUPE) executive council of 26 contains only 1 Communist sympathiser. COHSE has "no subversives at executive or full time national official level".

30 January 1979: Police block a morning march to Grangemouth's gas complex. They are held at a service road leading to the complex and cordoned off onto an embankment. 5 pickets, including Alec Morris of the shop stewards' committee are arrested.

30 January 1979: CBI comments upon its national survey of company intentions for the next 4 months showing industrial confidence severely dented by TGWU drivers' dispute. Allan Stewart, director of CBI (Scotland), speaks of 1979 as a year of slow growth, high unemployment, rising inflation and high interest rates even if pay rises are held to an average of 12%. Sir John Methven, director general of the CBI, warns: "The room for personal tax cuts has become less and less as the months have gone by and that is a grave disappointment to everybody". CBI considers the road haulage strike has caused more damage to the 'nation' and its prospects than the 3-day week. CBI warns that industry will be in a "hell of a mess" if pay rises are awarded that compensate for falling real incomes over the past 3 years. Allan Stewart says there is virtually no evidence of foreign intentions to invest in Britain, largely because of inability to deliver and industrial relations. He speaks of US TV and newspaper reports highlighting the strikes, resulting in US firms doubting investment in the 'nation'. "During a

visit to the Far East last week, the main question I was asked in Singapore and Hong Kong by industrialists was if Britain would survive the strikes."

- 30 January 1979: A liaison committee of Glasgow District Council and the Greater Glasgow Health Board discuss a report that shows Glasgow Asian children are at risk of rickets. Estimates put those suffering the disease at over 5% of all Asian children.
- 30 January 1979: Ron Nethercott, senior TGWU official, who has negotiated a regional deal for £64 a week in Bristol states: "it's the lads who deserve the praise. This was a case of really responsible trade unionism, with everyone working as a team. The lads weren't just thinking about themselves they were thinking about the nation."
- 30 January 1979: IDF conduct demolition explosions onto 4 homes, where detained suspected guerillas have lived, in Abu Dis and Nablus. Israel later in 1979 deports Bassam Shaka, the Arab Mayor of Nablus, for having allowed guerrillas within the town under British anti-terrorism legislation. The Defence (Emergency) Regulations introduced by Britain in 1945, as printed in Edition 1442 of the Palestine Gazette dated September 27, 1945, are used.
- 30 January 1979: Employers in the public sector workers' dispute again to stick to 5% in their negotiations with the 4 trade unions representing around 1,400,000 workers. A previous round of talks had ended since management refused to increase any pay offer.
- 31 January 1979: Brazil Fund Seminar with Raymond Johnstone, managing director of Murray Johnstone in attendance, sees Brazil's ambassador, Roberto Campos, explain: "In Brazil we have managed to develop ingenious mechanisms for cohabitation with inflation. Not the least is this monetarist device of indexation which in a moment of sin I conceived" Campos says "inflation declined from about 100% prior to 1964 to something like 160% by 1973 shortly before the oil price rise... since then inflation has accelerated and is now at the very uncomfortable level of about 40%. The degree of society's toleration to inflation varies a great deal with tradition and customs and economic ingenuity to develop anti-bodies and defence mechanisms. In Brazil we have managed to develop a rather ingenious mechanism for cohabitation, not the least of which is this devilish device of monetary correction or indexation which in a moment of sin I conceived or misconceived. But if for Brazil a level of 40% is guite exaggerated and the corrective effects of indexation operate rather unsatisfactorily, so it has become a very major priority item to curb inflation, even though our degree of adaptability to inflation is considerably higher than that of the US

and Western Europe. The cooling of the economy is a major priority and has been re-affirmed by the new Government which is going to take over by March 15. The average rate of exports since the oil crisis has been about 14.5%. This was coupled with a major effort at restraining imports... This was not achieved without paying a serious price. First an acceleration of inflation. The second price to pay has been an acceleration of foreign indebtedness. Brazil has probably excelled in skilful management of the debt, as the City of London is quite willing to recognise. The next thrust of policy would be in the direction of fostering agricultural and livestock production. The potentials are very great.

Campos sees the years of careful military rule have meant: "The population is not prone to violence and is amenable to technological progress. There is a nucleus of dynamic entrepreneurship; there is an internal market that has already reached the critical size for sustained development; there is a capability for economic management and mobilisation of savings and project development; and there is an easily expandable resource base."

William Henry, chairman of Coats Patons, the longest established multi-national in Brazil, explains Brazil is the number one overseas country to invest in. "Brazil still adheres to the work ethic. The population wishes to succeed and knows what is involved in that. The attitude of the Government to foreign investment is equally sound.... My predecessors started trading in Brazil in the middle of the nineteenth century. Things were not always easy... I thought a great deal about the potential opportunities in that vast country without being over-optimistic that Brazil would realise tremendous potential. A radical change in government took place some 15 years ago which removed many uncertainties about the country's future for the foreign investor. I became convinced that Brazil would finally begin to realise its potential. Inflation has always been a problem. It still is, but it is currently at a level only half of what I have known. Together with the market opportunities that exist, this breeds the confidence to invest that the industrialist requires.."

Henry points out that in terms of physical unit output in Brazil was 1.75 times the UK level, and even allowing for higher fixed capital costs it is still 12% better. "Once established, the main problems are how to live under inflation and how, despite devaluation, to earn a reasonable return on capital. Already in the top 10 manufacturing countries I am convinced that continuity of good government will enable Brazil to move up the league in the not too distant future." John Clay, deputy chairman of Vickers da Costa, the London-based stockbrokers: "The Brazilians fluctuate wildly between the extremes of optimism on one band and on the other wild euphoria. In analysing what comes out of Brazil you do have to take this into account. I think Brazil is going to be a super power. I think there is

- good reason to hope it will get through to become by the end of this century the fourth largest economy in the world after Japan, the US, and Russia, and well ahead of most of the rest. I think there is good reason to suppose that by investing in Brazil you are going to participate in what I think will be the most exciting story of the last two decades of the century."
- 31 January 1979: TUC Economic Committee meets Chancellor Healey and others.
- 31 January 1979: The Clash play Commodore Ballroom, Vancouver, Canada. They are subjected to drinks can missiles on stage. In protest, they destroy their musical equipment.
- 31 January 1979: "the Front for the Liberation of Afghanistan, with a 60-member executive board headed by Shibatullah Mojadeddi, who is a member of an Afghan family of Moslem religious figures... groups linked loosely with Mojadeddi's organization include the Jamiat-ul-Islami. or Islamic Society. A separate opposition group called the Hezb-i-Islami, or Islamic Party, has been seeking the restoration of the monarchy. ... The dissidents said that the 32,000 Afghans who they said have fled to Pakistan represented a large power base ... informed Pakistanis said that the tempo of the resistance could change. A Peshawar journalist in close touch with Afghan affairs predicted fierce fighting when the snow melts to free the mountain passes for easier movement in the spring."
- 31 January 1979: Lorry drivers in North-East England accept their pay offer under TGWU pressure and return to work. Northern Ireland also does the same.
- 31 January 1979: Adopting the new picketing guidelines, persuaded by the appeals of car industry trade union reps who declare halted exports of cars are ruining their industry, TGWU pickets ease off the Southampton docks picket allowing exports and imports through.
- 31 January 1979: Jimmy Young offers a propaganda platform to Margaret Thatcher, where her assertions and lies are left unchallenged. She strikes a firm backlash theme:
- 31 January 1979: Scotland TGWU shop-stewards reach agreement to end the strike.
- 31 January 1979: Callaghan, former Prime Minister Wilson, Baroness Lee, Jack Jones, Ralf Steen and Lord Glenamara address a Labour Friends of Israel meeting to honour Golda Meir.
- 31 January 8 February 1979: George Harrison, his wife Olivia and friend Gary Wright take a holiday in Brazil. They attend the F1

Brazilian Grand Prix, flying from Heathrow to Rio de Janeiro. On his return Harrison begins searching for property to buy in Mustique. The island is owned by the Mustique Company formed for and by the property owners of the private villas. Since it is a private island, workers employed there are entirely disfranchised – a dictatorship of property owners. One property owner is Princess Margaret who owns the *Les Jolies Eaux*, a 10 acre complex with an open plan 5-bedroom plus drawing room main house and two smaller houses.

- 31 January 1979: Ian Coombs, chairman of the Information Committee of the Scotch Whisky Association says the haulage dispute has caused the Scotch whisky industry to miss 95% of its exports in January. He states: "We hope to make up most of the lost ground £50m is involved but there is a grave risk that consumers in some markets may turn to other spirits."
- 31 January 1979: Southampton GMB at the Vosper Thorocvcrolt Shipyard agree to continue lo work normally at the shipyard. But to black HMS Southampton, the new deslroyer.
- 31 January 1979: British Institute of Management report is released noting the strike and disruption image of British industry is not accurate. Halts in production in nearly all firms have been very rare with the onset of mass unemployment and recession (and no government job creation). It recommends new forms of management in nationalised industry to overcome strikes there.

February 1979: Sir Derek Ezra, chairman of the National Coal Board, says that coal must be competitive, on capitalist market terms, compared to oil, for the planned increases in production by volume (but reduction in workforce) to be realised. "It will be highly desirable to provide for an increase in the use of coal from the mid1980s onwards... provided that coal can be made available at prices competitive with international energy prices, particularly oil." (Commission on Energy & Environment)

February 1979: A Ministry of Defence mission team visits Barbados to give advice and technical assistance on military procedures against drug smuggling.

February 1979: Callaghan calls for more bureaucratisation inside trade unions at the height of public-sector strikes: "Too much responsibility has been devolved from the centre on to local shop stewards who do not follow the basic tenets of trade unionism. And the sooner more responsibility has been gathered back into the hands of officers who do have that understanding, the better it will be for the union, the better it will be for the rest of us"

February 1979: The month's <u>Penthouse</u> (British edition of the pornographic magazine) features an article by current <u>Daily Mail</u> leader-writer and council member of NAFF, Selsdon Group member,

former chairman of the Conservative Political Centre and Thatcher hagiographer, Russell Lewis, on Tony Benn. Lewis's affiliations are uncredited and the article lays heavy slanders on Benn.

February 1979: The month's Lloyd's Bank Economic Bulletin states unequivocally: "It is a myth that Britain is one of the world's most heavily taxed countries.... [it was] 37% in 1975, but has since declined very gradually to an estimated 36% in 1978, once again in the apposite direction to the world-wide trend... Economic research gives little support to the widespread view that tax cuts generally stimulate people to work harder. The effect may be in the other direction. If a taxpayer has a fixed objective for his after-tax income, some kinds of tax cut (or rises in benefit) may mean that he needs to work less - or even switch to being unemployed - in order to achieve it. Lower average tax rates may thus actually be a disincentive to some taxpayers. But lower marginal rates are more likely to be an incentive, because they increase the after-tax reward for each extra unit of work. They may also result in little or no loss to government revenue, because they reduce tax avoidance." It notes the fact that North Sea oil and gas provide only 1% of total tax revenue in 1978, although this level may rise to 7% by the mid-1980s and it concludes: "from the economic point of view, there would appear to be little scope for tax cuts in the budget, and tax increases may need to be made, as was argued in our January issue. Such calculations may be upset by the political temptation to cut taxes as the general election approaches. In either case, a budget objective for any Chancellor permanently to index the specific duties and the higher income tax bands, as well as the personal and married allowances, to the rate of inflation. This would help to preserve the balance between direct and indirect taxation, and mitigate some of the disincentives of an anomalous income tax. In the longer run, the aim should be an income tax system with a more gradual and evenly spaced progression of rate bands, and with a lower top marginal rate. It should also be made consistent with the complex structure of social security contributions and benefits. If increases in tax are required, they should be obtained by raising the mites of income tax, VAT, or other taxes, not by failing to offset the effects of inflation on the existing structure of taxes."

- 1 February 1979: TGWU lorry drivers in Northern Ireland, North-East England in meetings vote to accept pay deals and end their disputes.
- 1 February 1979: TUC Employment and Policy Committee meets with Employment Secretary Foot and other Ministers.

- 2 February 1979: Dr Zofia Cholewicka, an unknown PUWP member but loyal doctor, launches the Ferguson Bros.-built carrier for the Polish Steamship Company from Port Glasgow shipyard.
- 2 February 1979 early am: The night of his release from New York Riker's Island Prison on \$50,000 bail over the murder of former girlfriend Nancy, and also a methadone detoxification programme, Sid Vicious overdoses on heroin.
- 2 February 1979: In a written answer Shirley Summerskill explains the financial costs of prison: "During the financial year 1977–78 the average weekly cost of keeping a male in a prison or remand centre was £92, and in borstal £104. The average cost of keeping a female in custody was £127 a week."
- 2 4 February 1979: Owen holds talks with Secretary of State Vance in Washington to calibrate foreign policy on Iran, Namibia and South Africa. He declares of the 5-Western power effort in Namibia: "It may be that if we can get a settlement in Namibia we can then move on into Rhodesia, using the same techniques."
- 2 February 1979: Thatcher visits the Gestetner typewriting and ink equipment plant in Tottenham Hale, London. She urges tighter procedures for "she ruled out a ban on strikes as unworkable without legislation and said a wage freeze was "something to be used in very great emergency and not at the end of an incomes policy". (Daily Mail, 3 Feb 1979)
- 2 February 1979: TGWU and NUPE agree to modifications to the picketing at Ninewells Hospital, Dundee.
- 2 February 1979: Scottish Council of the British Medical Association adopting a position somewhat in favour of NUPE strikers as opposed to the Britain-wide BMA executive. It calls for Scottish Secretary Millan to take immediate action to rectify the grievances of health service workers and recognise the right of every health service worker to receive an actual living wage.
- 2 February 1979: <u>Tribune</u> reports on British press perceptions of Zambia guided through the British and European colonial expatriates: "Few Europeans…learn the African languages of Zambia, and [can] communicate in depth only with a somewhat unrepresentative minority of Zambians. The white community is frequently very ignorant of its country of residence. Myth and fear take over. A case in point is travel by the new railway connecting Zambia and Tanzania, built with Chinese help after several Western governments had rejected such a railway as impracticable. Whites in Lusaka advised me not to use the railway. Some refused to believe that it was functioning. No European I met had actually

been on the railway, yet those who advised me were absolutely certain of what they were talking about. "You'll be roughed up by the customs officials". "There is no food served". "There's a cholera epidemic in Tanzania, and unless your health documentation is in order, they'll turn you back." In fact, I was the only white person travelling between Zambia and Tanzania. My ticket, with sleeper for a 750-mile Journey, cost £15. Customs officials were helpful and friendly. An ample meal was provided. British press reports reflected the resident whites' siege mentality, rather than Zambian realities in perspective. ... the British press appeared preoccupied with the fears of the white residents, while many more Zambians were killed by Rhodesian air-raids. Zambians suffered, too, from disorderly elements among Zimbabwean guerrillas. Further, more African refugees have left Zimbabwe, a majority of them for Zambia, than all the boat people of Vietnam... independence has not brought in Zambia a bridging of the economic gap separating whites from Africans. The British press, overall, responds to white interpretations — ranging from condescending to overtly racist — of events and conditions in Africa."

3 February 1979: In the New York World Journal-Tribune, Jack O'Brian entertainment columnist and one-time supporter of Sen. Joe McCarthy's efforts to eradicate anti-Americanism from CBS's output, reflects on Lew Grade's successes: "Lord Lew's the biggest commercial TV tycoon, the biggest and most important theatrical producer with the most London theaters. In his capacious theatrical portfolio, his family "Lew Grade Organisation" runs every sort of show business — records, ballrooms, movie houses, the famed Palladium, London's "Talk of the Town" (England's greatest cabaret), produces movies on an individual and collective grand scale, distributes TV specials and countless series all over the world... now receives the highest honor the Catholic Church can bestow on a non-Catholic the Jewish-born and still proudly Jewish Lord Lew has been honored personally by Pope John Paul II with the rank of Commander of the Order of St Sylvester... Lord Lew once over dinner at London's showbiz-attended Caprice Restaurant said: "Jack, you and I have something in common." What, I asked "We both married Catholics."... In appreciation, Lord Lew presented the Pope with a boxed set of video cassettes of ITC's film 'Moses' whereupon the Pope most properly and deservedly praised Lord Lew's film 'Jesus of Nazareth' as a monumental contribution to world understanding. Lord Lew Grade is guite a noble piece of work I've followed his career since he was a talent agent, ultimately the biggest, best and most respected in Great Britain, now almost positively the World's Greatest Showman. The results of Lord Lew's shrewd sensitivity to the public's whims are reflected in every

country where television is seen-about the same number as belong to the United Nations His effect on world show business radiates everywhere, London its hub, an amazing escalation of Britain's emphasis on international entertainment."

- 3 February 1979: Sydney port workers finally agree their boycott of ships carrying cargo to and from PRC in protest at the PRC invasion of Vietnam.
- 3 February 1979: BBC's <u>On the Record</u> sees Michael Charlton accept Rhodesian prime minister Ian-Smith's assertion that racial discrimination has ended in the newly christened Zimbabwe-Rhodesia. 8 Bills, signed into law by acting President Jack Pithey on 1 Feb 1979 end segregation in housing, education, health services and public places.
- 3 February 1979: Anthony Burgess in the Saturday Review urges cultural production to "stop accepting the shameful knocking of Amerca": "Perhaps we're ready for a restoration of the bland. Throw that bottle of Tabasco away and be content, for a time, with a light sprinkle from the cruet. And stop accepting the shameful knocking of America that so much popular fiction represents. It pleases the Russians and makes them acquiesce in their government's real, not fictional, atrocities. "Look at what goes on in America," say the Russian literary pundits. "See, the Americans admit it—it's all in their books. Look at this new epic of bloodletting in Southern California. What we do to the Jews and intellectuals is nichevo, tovarishchi." He particularly attacks John Irving's "current bestselling novel, The World According to Garp. I can understand why it sells well in America (we have yet to see how it will fare in Europe). There are ancient properties like love and faith in it, which people undoubtedly want. But, lest the book be termed sentimental, it cashes in on modish preoccupations like women's liberation, or Fem Man-Hate." (The Road of Excess, Anthony Burgess, Saturday Review, pp38-40)
- 4 February 1979: US announces Iran has ordered the immediate withdrawal of 750 US troops from the country, leaving behind only 250 troops.
- 4 February 1979: Rome police arrest 27 in a mass raid on a pirate radio station, conducting broadcasts about housing struggles.
- 4 February 1979: Talks between David Ennals and NUPE leaders lead to reach agreement, announced 5 Feb 1979, of NUPE London's dispute being referred to arbitration.

5 February 1979: Appointed by Callaghan, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Peter John Hill-Norton is made a life peer in the House of Lords.

5 February 1979: TUC-Government meeting.

5 February 1979: Ford Foundation announces a \$50,000 grant to Peace People.

5 February 1979: AP reports on the government's propaganda struggle: "Britain has launched a propaganda campaign, largely aimed at the United States, to counter Northern Ireland's Irish Republican Army claims that convicted guerrillas are kept in "stinking hell-holes."... Visiting British legislators have described the Protesters' excrement-fouled cells as "revolting." The Northern Ireland Office is distributing a four-page document that says the Protesters' plight is self-inflicted... A NIO spokesman said Monday that 10,000 of the documents have been printed "and we're still printing." He said the sheets have been circulated to all British information service bureaus around the world and to newspapers and elected officials in Britain and the United States. The United States is the main target because the protest has aroused sympathy among 15 million Irish-Americans.... The Maze protest led at least three U.S. Congressmen to visit northern Ireland to investigate conditions at Maze. One of them, Rep. Mario Biaggi, D-NY, heads an ad hoc committee publicizing the protest in the United States. The British refused to allow the Congressmen into the Maze."

6 February 1979: Former head of the Price Commission, Lord Cockfield is quoted in Financial Times describing the reality of nearmonopolistic markets: "We suffer in this country from market domination, price leadership, parallel pricing, the lack of effective competition, unwillingness to compete on price, and a cost-plus mentality" (Financial Times, 6 February 1979). Many economic fields in Britain are dominated by a number of large firms, capable, of arranging things so that the response to a crisis is not to significantly cut prices but to separate out sections of that market (avoiding competition wherever possible) and raising prices so as to pay for increased overheads if production is reduced. The food and drink industry, newspaper industry, plastics industry, chemicals industry, oil rig industry, oil and gas extraction industry number amongst these. Furthermore the prevalence of conglomerate firms also means they are able to simply withdraw from an unprofitable field of operation when necessary without the board suffering any pain.

6 February 1979: House of Commons votes 209-207 to allow Conservative MP John Cope time to introduce a Bill to sharpen the law on picketing.

6 February 1979: 400 Aberdeen-based offshore oil workers' strike committee, in a detailed statement, explain that 70 Dutch workers are being to be flown to Chevron's Ninlan South platform, Norwegian strikebreakers are on the BNOC's Thistle A platform and Spaniards and Americans are rumoured to be on another platform. Ian Mackay TGWU steward adds: "As far as we are concerned any move to bring in foreigners amounts to all-out war. Can you imagine how the miners would react if they brought in workers to go down the pits? We are treating this so seriously that we now intend extending our action to take in all oil-related devlopments and that includes refineries and tanker drivers." However all 5 unions' officials act against the dispute.

6 February 1979: Straits Times reports in 'Big trouble for small experiment' on Hong Kong's Urban Council "a strange hybrid. Superficially, it is of little importance. It covers only the heavily populated areas of Hong Kong Island and Kowloon Peninsula, and its functions are limited to such items as abbatoirs and amenities, hawkers and health, cemeteries and sanitation [but] is the only government body with elected representatives... 12 elected and 12 appointed by the governor.... over the past few years the elected representatives have felt increasingly that they are wasting their time. The appointed members are mainly business leaders and professional men with common interests and who tend to vote together, even in electing the chairman from their own ranks. The elected members are fragmented: Some are independents, while others represent community associations. The fragile peace that has kept the Urban Council going since the elected representation was increased to 50 per cent of membership... shattered when the senior elected member led a walk-out at the annual meeting in December in protest at the "farcical ritual." Four others members, all elected, went with him. Before leading the walkout, Mr Brook Bernacchi said the council had become "silenced and stagnated." He added: "Since 1973 there has been an erosion not only in the jurisdiction of the council, which lost its major function, housing, but also in the everyday work and spirit of the council."

The council chairman, Mr A. Sales, described the protest as a "futile gesture". It is clear, however, that the population feels that the Urban Council is not worth the effort of registering to vote. No one knows how big the franchise is. Voters must be 21 years old and may qualify under a number of categories such as being tax or ratepayers or members of various specified professions. Only 37,174 people registered to vote for the last elections, and even this miserly total has dropped to 31,481 for the next poll on March 8. At the centre of the bitter and highly personal row that has been simmering for months stands Mr. Sales, regarded by his critics as a dictator... Mr Sales runs his own company, he puts in a considerable

amount of time on council business. He is, however, rewarded for his efforts by being paid HK\$18.000 a month, plus the use of a car on official business. The majority of elected members issued a statement accusing Mr Sales of showing utter contempt for voters and their representatives. They demanded, but never received, an apology. The latest row also revolves round the absence of public debate, this time within the council chamber. Mr Bernacchi said at the annual meeting that the council's public utterances are now made through its information office controlled by the chairman. He said the silencing process was achieved by an amendment to standing orders which gave the chairman the liberty to refer any matter for debate to the standing committee of the whole council, "which now has almost all the powers of the Urban Council, but meets behind closed doors." The next day Mr Bernacchi said he would lake the issue to Peking via the Kwantung [Guangdong] Revolutionary Council in the Chinese province that borders on Hongkong. Mr Bernacchi met the Kwantung chairman last year on a semi-official visit. The plea that "China would not like It" has long been used as an excuse for not introducing democratic reforms here, although Peking has not made any such objection publically."

6-22 February 1979: A 19-executive under the auspices of the Scottish Council (Development and Industry) led by its chairman, Peter Balfour, conducts a trade mission in Hong Kong and Japan Peter Balfour explains: "The potential is enormous. With a changing political climate in China it is important that we create a presence on its borders."

7 February 1979: Glasgow Herald NHS investigation concludes "Cash gifts from private donors are playing an increasingly important part in the running of the health service.... many of the functions now carried out in hospitals would not survive without it. Recently, the kidney transplant ward of Hammersmith Hospital, London, was closed because there was no money to run it. A campaign to raise money privately and have the ward reopened was successful. In Yorkshire a woman suffering from cancer organised a fund-raising effort which resulted in the provision of a unit for treating cancer patients, which would otherwise never have opened. In the Greater Glasgow Health Board area for the year ended March, 1977, the public gave £132,800 in legacies and donations. Last year that figure went up to £265,000. An official said: "In one sense it means a very tiny part of what is required, but it should always be remembered that these are very substantial sums of money. Without - this support the service would be that much poorer."

7 February 1979: Glasgow Herald 'More switching to private care': "Public loss of faith in the NHS has led to a rapid expansion of the private care industry in independent hospitals, clinics, and homes throughout Britain... depending on the NHS in Glasgow [can mean] a hospital waiting list for several years... BUPA who represent 75% of the British private care industry [supply] treatment in the Nuffield McAlpine Centre. The cost of a bed there is £308 a week and on top of that the specialists' fees could reach £250... [for a presumably otherwise healthy] married man aged between 30 and 49 with three children the premium would be £22 a month. Not surprisingly, Mr Douglas Geddie, BUPA's branch manager in Edinburgh, reports an "exceptionally good year" in 1978 and he is confident that 1979 will be every bit as good. During 1978 Mr Geddie's 53,000 premium holders in Scotland and the North of England (including cover for their families) paid £4.5mil for private care cover. And the number of new subscribers is expanding at the rate of 36% a year. Much the same applies to BUPA's competitors. ... the emphasis is on independent hospitals and other [non-NHS] care institutions. Mr Geddie has no great hopes of private care ever again being an integral part of the NHS "These changes which have taken place are a fact and to turn the policy upside down now would, I think, be a retrograde step. It might cause union trouble."

## 7 February 1979: TUC-Government meeting.

7 February 1979: "We shall continue to make available to Brunei, within the limits of our resources, loan service personnel, both in the defence and in the civil field. We shall also of course assist them to build up their Diplomatic Service.... it is better done this way so that there is no abrupt change... This new State, as I hinted, possibly within the Commonwealth, will be able to build itself up into independence on that basis... the way we have done this, and what we have achieved, has been given a very warm welcome throughout the Pacific, from New Zealand and Australia right across to the ASEAN countries and to the North.

the [British] Ghurkas will remain until independence is a realised fact, in 1983. I could not prophesy beyond that date. I think that the main thing to emphasise is the point made by the noble Lord, Lord Duncan Sandys, that we shall continue, on a basis of sovereign independence of possibly two equal—I repeat "possibly two equal"—members of the Commonwealth, a mutual exchange of assistance, including facilities for training on their part to us, and our making available civil as well as military loan service personnel to assist them to make a reality of independence."

- 7 February 1979: The Clash play their first US concert Berkeley Community Theater, Los Angeles as part of the "Pearl Harbor '79" tour. The title of the tour, it is stated, is not to be taken literally.
- 7 February 1979: Deng Xiaoping urges the West to action against Brezhnev since it "is allowing the Soviet Union to place a lot of pawns on the world's chessboard... things cannot be allowed to go on this way... The Russians already are in Iran. It is no good that the Americans allow Russia to continue to use Cuba in Africa" (AP)
- 7 February 1979: Government introduces a new MLR (minimum lending rate) of 14% that aids finance firms. It was high but not as high as the 15% M.L.R. of 1976 (after the IMF loan). Translated into High St banks, it turns into an interest rate of 13%. It is the result of severe pressure from institutional investors against government bonds and securities and a general investment strike on firms associated with the public sector and elements of government control.
- 8 February 1979: US government drops perjury and conspiracy charges against ITT (International Telephone and Telegraph) executive Robert Berrellez, public relations official in ITT Chile in 1974, conspiring with CIA officials to obstruct the Frank Church Senate investigation into US efforts to block and subvert the 1970 election of Undiad Popular. Judge Aubrey Robinson grants the Justice Department's motion to dismiss the case on grpunds of national security. Senator Frank Church, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and chairman of the Sub-Committee into the CIA accurately notes that any future witnesses will more confidently evade and lie about their actions, relying upon the government to invoke national security and not press charges.
- 8 February 1979: <u>Al Akhbar</u> reports 17,000 have been arrested in a large Egyptian military and security forces operation against criminality and anti-social behaviour.
- 8 February 1979: Elizabeth Khalid, German wife of a Pakistani journalist imprisoned in Pakistan attempts to self-immolate in front of the Pakistan High Commission. Others on the Pakistan opposition demonstration succeed in preventing her, nonetheless police arrest her and she appears in court the following day.
- 8 February 1979: <u>The Guardian</u> reports British immigration officials attached to the British High Commission in Dhaka, Bangladesh are requiring many adults and children to undergo X-ray tests, prior to the processing of any visa applications. Migrant welfare groups report virtually all cases of successful migrants as having undergone

the X-rays. The X-ray tests violate World Health Organisation condemnations against such tests since they are an unnecessary extra radiation risk. Against British Health Department regulations for the NHS several pregnant women have been X-rayed.

8 February 1979: Press reports based on government leaks reveal that the PRC has asked Britain to speed up the supply of 400 – 600 tanks for the PLA, in connection with the Sino-Vietnamese war. PRC has asked the executive-director of Vickers, Sir Peter Matthews, to submit as early as possible prototype plans for a suitable light tank to coordinate with other vehicles and equipment – a hodge-podge mixture of Western and Soviet. PRC desires are reported at between 400-600 Vickers tanks.

8 February 1979: Hospital workers in Callaghan's Cardiff South East electoral constituency urge Callaghan to spend a week as a hospital worker. NUPE union official Derek Gregory says: "If at the end of that week he still felt that 8.8% was a reasonable offer, we would review our position."

8 February 1979: Around 19,000 workers at the British Leyland Longbridge plant begin a strike in protest of management's refusal to pay parity with other British Leyland plants until 'increased productivity' justifies the award. British Leyland begins an expensive advertising campaign to outline its case to its workforces in other plants not to vote for strike action in support of the strike, effectively labelling the plant as stragglers and pigheaded. By 14 Feb 1979 only 9 out of 34 plants support strike action and TGWU officials consider it cannot proceed.

8 February 1979: BBC's <u>Nine o'clock News</u> broadcasts an interview with Callaghan. It is announced as "Mr Callaghan has been concentrating a lot this week on the government's stand against excessive pay claims." Under BBC analysis, trade union claims are by definition 'excessive' and hence the adjective is not prefaced 'by 'what he considers'.

Callaghan states: "You cannot get more out of the bank than is in it" and defends resistance to the NUPE claim, stating the government will still not authorise raises of more than 8.8% (This would mean an increase of £4 to a hospital ancillary worker on £48 a week bringing the wage to £52.20). He says strike action is not of control and nor is the country ungovernable: "We will do our best with the consent of the people. Even if we have made some mistakes, that doesn't prove Britain is ungovernable." He states trade unionists "are making life difficult... but there still are 20 million people going to work every day."

9 February 1979: <u>Financial Times</u> comments:"The one and a half point rise in minimum lending rate was just about the smallest that

the authorities could get away with. Since the last rise in MLR, three months ago, money rates have risen by two percentage points. But, whereas the previous move was very much a pre-emptive strike by the authorities in order to establish a new interest rate level, yesterday's action merely brought the official rate into line with the market. For investors, the key question now is whether yesterday's rise in MLR will prove sufficient to tempt the gilt-edged buyers back into the market on a large scale. Or are the bulls waiting for yet another 'package' before they pile back in?" The package referred to are give-aways from the government to business.

- 9 February 1979: Brian Clough's Nottingham Forest concludes the purchase of Trevor Francis for an enormous £1mil sum, the first British player breaking the million-barrier.
- 9 February 1979: 1100-strong workforce at US firm Marathon's Clydebank shipyard send a letter to Marathon, BNOC and the Scottish Economic Planning Department accepting a speed up. Marathon has again diverted an order elsewhere, citing productions as being too high. "We asked each to accept 33.3% responsibility for eliminating the price gap [£500,000] and that we as a labour force would ensure they recouped this piddling sum by guaranteeing an increase in productivity." (Glasgow Herald 16 Feb 1979) Over the past year Marathon has received orders for 17 jack-up rigs but not one has been sent to Clydebank, which has been slowly, secretly prepared for run-down and deletion.
- 9 February 1979: Peter Jenkins in the <u>The Guardian</u> reports the counter-attack by business interests against trade union members' attempted defence of living standards: "The economic consequences of the January uprising are beginning to be apparent. A ferocious credit squeeze began yesterday."
- 9 February 1979: TUC-Government meeting.
- 9 February 1979: Home Secretary Rees announces no disciplinary or punitive action against the Heathrow immigration officials who order vaginal probing 'virginity tests' for females entering on marriage visas.
- 9 February 1979: <u>The Guardian</u> reports the government agreeing to a £4.5mil aid agreement with Vietnam tied to ship orders with British shipyard firms rather than other competitors.
- 9 February 1979: Reuters reports a couple in Bodmin abandoning their baby at a Western Electricity Board office in protest at the decision to cut off their power over an apparently unpaid bill, declaring their home is dangerously cold for the baby.

9 February 1979: Kissinger says the future of Saudi Arabia and the Gulf monarchies will be determined by the outcome In Iran: "If they should conclude that at critical momenta we will deal similarly [as the US did with the Shah] with them they will seek reinsurance in Moscow" He urges the US to develop a political programme that Saudi Arabia and others can believe in allowing political stability but a steady release of pressure by creeping reform. He calls for a visible presence of US power in the Indian Ocean as a substitute for the loss of Iran.

9 February 1979: Shanghai's <u>Jie Fangjun</u> reports the surface manifestations of a mass revolt of the unemployed of Shanghai. It constitutes in the main part of the city's 300,000+ high school educated (including manual-technical, scientific and humanities education) countryside returnees, who have escaped from the unpaid conscripted labour, managed by bureaucrats and rural commune leaders to return to the city with their friends and families. About 1,000 gather in Shanghai city centre on 5 Feb 1979 halting traffic. Others occupy the Municipal Employment Bureau. Others block railway lines.

The paper in typical PRC (and Western and Soviet fashion) declares that although the right to demonstrate is accorded in the constitution, this "did not mean that people can block city traffic, create trouble, infringe on other people's liberty and upset normal work and public order." It adds "it has been absolutely forbidden to have this kind of thing happen, following the smashing, in 1976, of the Gang of Four." It confirms "the handful of bad elements who are dissatisfied with the communist party and the socialist system, who have bad intentions and who trouble social peace will have to be punished."

10 February 1979: General Zia ul Haq announces the introduction of shariah ordinances and hudud punishments. In the plans announced over 2 days, alcohol, fornication, minor thefts, adultery, slander are to carry new sterner punishments. Public stoning or shooting to death for Muslims, convicted of adultery or fornication. Muslims consuming alcohol can be sentenced to 80 lashes. Foreigners are to be allowed to consume alcohol in regulated areas but consumption in public will carry a sentence of up to 30 lashes and 3 years' prison.

10 February 1979: Vietnamese refugees in Hong Kong attack a US Consulate worker in protest at his persistent inappropriate sexual advances on female refugee teenagers on at least 3 separate occasions. He is eventually suspended after the incident.

10 February 1979: Mostly PPP exiles conduct a march and rally at Hyde Park, London, against the suspension of civil rights in Pakistan and the death sentence imposed upon Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. His son Mir Bhutto leads the march.

10 February 1979: Arthur Scargill speaks at the special conference about <u>The Times</u> organised by the London Print Branches Liaison Committee, CPGB-dominated Broad Left grouping from print unions, he says the TUC should take over The Times and run it as a trade union paper:"If the TUC were to take this initiative, I am sure it would get a very good response from the trade union movement. I can say that the Yorkshire miners would be willing to give financial support to such a venture." Owen O'Brien, general secretary of NATSOPA says: "Here we have two newspapers of international standing being closed down solely through the obstinancy of management." John Mitchell, secretary of the London Print Branches Liaison Committee bemoans the failure of legislation to protect workers sacked and locked out by the Times. "Where is the Employment Protection Act now?"

10 February 1979: Thatcher makes a backlash call for volunteer strikebreaking and an extension of the non-strike economy beyond the military, police and prisons. She uses Callaghan's own admissions for important effect: "What does it profit a worker in the motor manufacturing industry to get a large increase in wages by striking if in a week or so, he finds that his firm is crippled by a strike of lorry drivers, and then by a power strike, and then by a strike by water workers, so that he cannot get the production or the wages from his own factory? And what satisfaction does he get from his success in exacting higher wages if he finds that his wife or parents cannot have the operation they've been waiting for because of a strike by hospital workers; or if his children's school is shut because of strike action, and if they play in streets infested with rotting rubbish? ... the Prime Minister dislikes the picketing we have seen—he has said so; he isn't a closed shop man—he has said so; he would like secret ballots—he has said so; he recognises the need for no-strike agreements in some public services—he has said so. ... In a few, a very few, essential industries and services, it is now clear that the right to pursue industrial disputes by strike action is not consistent with public safety. In such cases, I believe that, like the police and the armed services, the workers concerned should be asked to forgo the right to strike. In return they should have special safeguards for their pay, assuming efficient manning levels. Overmanning is the greatest single source of low wages in our economy.... We have a great national tradition of voluntary service: There are enough people in this country resolved to keep it going, and determined not to yield to bullying; enough to stave off this

kind of national disaster, if it ever threatened. At such a time, it would be the duty of Government to harness this spirited reserve to the service of our people."

- 11 February 1979: Kenneth Fleet, city editor of <u>Sunday-Express</u> praises the success of the investment strike: "The 14 per cent minimum lending rate is first blood to institutions who, as I wrote here on January 21 were striking against buying Government securities." The "institutions" referred to are the large institutional investors, particularly of pension funds and conglomerates' savings, that can move the market within minutes of a decision to buy government securities.
- 11 February 1979: Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Donald Coggan, in a Sunday sermon attacks the NUPE, COHSE, GMB public sector strike action as "pitiless" urging it to be called off. He somehow contacts the afterworld to assure everyone Keir Hardie would be opposed: "He would have something caustic to say about that sheer pitilessness which injures the old and very young, who cannot retaliate even if they wanted to and which leaves the dead unburied and the dying uncared for."
- 11 February 1979: Around 50 strikebreaking volunteers of Winchester's National Federation of Self-Employed with privately-owned trucks clearing away refuse "from the commercial premises in the centre of town, where it was most expensive and offensive. They did a good job". The local centre-right MP Rear-Admiral Morgan Morgan-Giles joins them. He is former Chief of Intelligence Staff for the Far East during the Navy's assistance to land forces fighting the Malayan insurgency.
- 11 February 1979: In a BBC interview, editor of <u>The Times</u> William Rees Mogg declares Tony Benn's plans for the nationalisation via the BBC of the <u>The Times</u> to stop control passing to a foreign group as with <u>the Observer</u>, "absurd" and "irrelevant".
- 12 February 1979: Foreign Office Minister Goronwy Roberts defends the police assault in Hong Kong: "I think that the police acted well within the ordinance and acted with considerable restraint" he defends the colonial approach to public demonstration: "What is at issue is whether [a public] petition should be accompanied by an unauthorised demonstration or procession. This is for the Governor on the spot and his Government to decide, otherwise they would not have introduced the ordinance."
- 12 February 1979: Concorde flies Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip to Kuwait for a three-week Middle East official tour. Troops in jeeps

mounted with machine-guns monitor the airport as 1,000 people are brought in by Kuwaiti state to welcome them.

- 12 February 1979: NUPE officials conspire to smother anti-Callaghan protests by NUPE pickets in Glasgow. Bob Thomson, West of Scotland official of NUPE, says: "Many of our members are among the ticket-only audience inside the ball but we have told the Labour Party that there will be no demonstration during Mr Callaghan's speech as long as he sticks to the subject of devolution." However rank and file NUPE pickets gather outside the venue of his speech on devolution with banners and placards showing the £60 a week claim.
- 12 February 1979: A meeting between shop-stewards and full-time union officials, advising a return to work in the unofficial oil platform workers' strike involving 20 contractor employers, reaches agreement over recommending a return to work at workplace picket meetings on 20 Feb 1979. Tom Ganfit, chief of the Oil and Chemical Plants Construction Association, says in London: "I welcome this possibility of a return to work so that we can meet again within the agreed procedure. I know that the unions will put four points to us but if they are the usual ones on non-victimisation and the like in principle I don't see any problem."
- 12 February 1979: Deputy chairman of Lonrho, former Bank of England chief, Sir George Lewis Bolton, gives a press conference, announcing the likelihood of a massive reduction in Iranian oil supplies will lead to big price rises. He claims that in spite of losses, because of North Sea oil, Britain is the one major Western state to survive at a competitive advantage compared to its rivals. He advocates the Lonrho Africa approach to Iran, because Lonrho quickly understood 'white man' rule was finished, and it has been necessary to form close bonds with new rulers. He also states he is confident the Monopolies Commission investigation into its proposed acquisition of Scottish and Universal Investments, owners of the Glasgow Herald and Evening Times, and its close-to-takeover stake in House of Fraser, will find with his firm.
- 13 February 1979: Press reports that heavily state subisidised ICL (International Computers Ltd.) has signed a £1mil contract with Soviet Tass news agency.
- 13 February 1979: Labour defends its record of nationalisation in parliament: "Industrialists who know about these matters appreciate what we have done. For example, Mr. Kilpatrick, the chairman of the foundries sector working party, is a man of great distinction in the Sheffield steel industry and he has told us that

without that assistance our foundry industry would not be competitive in a few years' time.

"If the shipbuilding industry had not been nationalised... I would be coming to the Dispatch Box month after month asking whether the House wanted uncoordinated rescues. When we announced the decision about the ship repair yard at Falmouth, Tory after Tory asked us to save that yard, which is losing about £3½ million a year...We are trying to stimulate enterprise in the public and the private sectors.

"British Aerospace has saved Scottish Aviation and given a new lease of life to Jetstream. British Aerospace has made it possible for this country to launch the 146... British Aerospace has made it possible for Britain to re-enter the international big league in civil aircraft manufacture by rejoining Airbus Industries. Then there is the SD 3–30, the civil aircraft launched by Short Brothers and Harland in Northern Ireland...

- 13 February 1979: Labour praises ICL, which is too begin its endeavours for a deal to upgrade South African computer systems: "We have had successes as well in new mixed economy companies in which private and public enterprise are joined... International Computers Ltd, which is now growing into a world leader with profits of almost £40 million last year... increase of 24 per cent on the previous year. The company's exports total almost £100 million and the turnover is more than £500 million—more than half of that earned overseas. This record shows what can be done in partnership between private investors and the NEB."
- 14 February 1979: Queen & Prince Philip at a British embassy reception in Kuwait full of the royal family and business leaders. They leave on royal yacht Britannia for Bahrain, next stop on a tour of loyal pro-British West Asian states, the trip to Iran, having been cancelled.
- 14 February 1979: Nkomo attacks Carter, Callaghan and Thatcher to explain "exactly why it is that they are supporting genocide against our people... In Zimbabwe between 60 and 100 people are killed each day. But because those people are dark, there is no question of human lights" Nkomo reminds them of Smith's actions starving out pro-guerrilla villages. Nkomo defends the action of ZAPU guerrillas firing down a Rhodesian plane carrying civilians and military chiefs: "We do not bring down civilian aircraft. But when civilian aircraft are used for military purposes then we bring them down."
- 14 February 1979 am: Callaghan meets TUC General Council to finalise press strategy over the Concordat. Then TUC General Council, with the government, publishes "The Economy, the

Government and Trade Union Responsibility: A Joint Statement by the TUC and the Government". It attacks in 3000 words, "confrontation" stating "there is no answer in confrontation. Solutions to our problems have to be found in agreement. But agreement will only be possible if our people all recognise that we are part of a community of interest" This "imposes on the TUC, with its broad and undisputed representative capacity, the need to accept that its expanding role carries with it wider responsibilities." Its first paragraph stresses: "The TUC emphasises the viral necessity of maintaining supplies and services essential to the health and safety of the community, of maintaining plant and equipment, and sustaining livestock during disputes."

TUC promises further voluntary action against picketing under the concept of 'maintenance of essential supplies' and against industrial action to achieve closed shop. It provisionally agrees a joint annual assessment of national economic prospects and new negotiating procedures for public service workers. It is accompanied by a statement of many trade union leaders that endorses the government's economic policies.

CBI welcomes the agreement but says it is "too little, too late" and calls for legislative amendments to reflect the statement on "secondary picketing".

14 February 1979: US ambassador to Afghanistan, Adolph Dubs, is abducted by Shiite religious militants posing as police. As negotiations are proceeding, Afghan police storm the hallway of the hotel where he is being held, leading to a firefight where he is killed.

14 February 1979: Government chairs a tripartite meeting of Lucas Aerospace. It reaches a joint management-CSEU agreement to delay the closure of Lucas Aerospace Victor plant in Liverpool for 2 years but no longer and to allow the run-down of the Bradford plant but without compulsory redundancies. The government proposes NEB assistance of £6million for a new plant at Huyton, Liverpool. "Shop stewards at the Victor Works summarised this situation as follows: "If the company had gone to the Industry Minister and said,

follows: "If the company had gone to the Industry Minister and said, 'We wish to take 950 jobs away from Merseyside, please give us £6 million" the answer would have been swift, rude and to the point. They now seem to be achieving the same end by the simple ploy of first declaring a complete closure and the loss of 1,450 jobs, and then allowing themselves to be persuaded to relent by the offer of what is believed to be a £6million subsidy towards a new £10.5 million plant employing only 500 people." (Chris Mullin, Tribune, 16 Feb 1979)

- 14 February 1979 pm: Callaghan addresses a PLP meeting stating the Concordat will form the basis of Labour's claim at the general election. "This document win enable the party and the Government to regain the political initiative. We will be fighting the next election on this document and I believe that we can show the people the way forward."
- 14 February 1979 pm: ITN 10'clock news reports earnings figures as follows: "The authorities were happy to announce two bits of economic news today. First, Britain made a profit of a million pounds last month; they'd thought the balance of payments might be much worse because of the lorry drivers' strike but it wasn't. And second, the official figure for earnings is that in the five months until the end of December that's the first five months of Stage Four they rose by just 3.4 per cent. That included the Ford settlement, but the total of workers settling was only a million." (ITN, 22:00,14 February 1979) Fairly invariably, low earnings figures means 'good news' for Britain. Inevitably the reports of limited average earning growth come after the reporting on industrial chaos leading to inflation that dominate the first and main part of the bulletin.
- 15 February 1979: Foreign Office Minister Goronwy Roberts attacks a humanitarian intervention when it comes from the competitor's side: "It was an outright invasion by Vietnam of Cambodia, and as such in total contraversion of everything for which the United Nations' Charter stands.... Whatever our abhorrence—shared by much of the world—of the inhumanities of the Pol Pot régime, there is no excuse whatsoever for Vietnam's violation of the territorial integrity of another member of the United Nations.... the Soviet Government cannot escape a heavy responsibility also. It was they who took upon themselves to exercise a veto which prevented the Security Council from expressing universal condemnation of Vietnamese aggression."
- 15 February 1979: Foreign Office Minister: "The General and the Prime Minister of Thailand saw the Prime Minister and myself the other day... it was albeit far too short an exchange, a wide-ranging one and I think very satisfactory one" [about restoring parliamentary democracy, halted since the 1976 coup].
- 15 February 1979:Foreign Office Minister: "There can be no escaping the fact that events in Iran have had a serious effect on the world economy. The reduction in oil output must inevitably distort the world oil market. Our own losses of important defence contracts and the difficulties our commercial firms now face in exporting to a dislocated country are matters which affect us

directly; and for many firms and their workpeople this will mean a reassessment of their policies and a search for new markets. It is often tempting to regard Iran as only one part of what is now sometimes called the arc of instability in Western Asia. It is true that Turkey is at present facing problems of law and order and severe economic difficulties; and without effective solutions there could be a threat to political stability [but] Turkey's problems offer little scope for Soviet manoeuvres."

15 February 1979: Ambulance workers on strike for the "priority emergency" of imminent labour escort a premature mother to Norwich. Before they reach hospital, snowdrifts at Bunns Bank, block their route. The woman gives birth to the premature babies. Another ambulance with incubators, a doctor and a nurse set out from Norwich 18 miles away to reach the blocked ambulance but they are too late and the two premature babies, without access to a SCBU die. This becomes a symbol, apparently portraying strikers intent on killing Britain's young by selfishness.

Minister of Drought Howell jumps on the opportunity to declare: "In a situation of public safety we would expect local authority employees [to end their strike] to carry out their obligations. The gritting of roads is a local authority, and not a Government responsibility, and all regions have been told that it is not acceptable to the Government that the gritting of main and trunk roads — the main arteries of the country—should not be carried out."

- 15 February 1979: Hundreds of vehicles and over 30 lorries are abandoned on the M62 facing a huge snowstorm. Many are seriously injured, 1 killed.
- 15 February 1979: Cuba's Ambassador to Britain is summoned to Whitehall for Ted Rowlands to register British hostility to Cuba's diplomacy in the Non-Aligned Movement. Rowlands refers in particular to Cuba's Foreign Minister at the NAM Conference in Maputo, Mozambique that attack Britain and US investments in Africa. Rowlands says Cuba's activities in Africa mean Cuba cannot be described as nonaligned.
- 15 February 1979: New York Times reports on Labour questions over Callaghan's nerve during the public sector strikes "He gave the impression, a Cabinet colleague says, "of a man without any answers." A Labor strategist conceded that, within days, "95 percent of the country was on its feet cheering Mrs. T, who found her rhythm as Jim lost his.".... "We gave the unions too much power for too long," said a member of the House of Lords who is a Labor spokesman, "and this winter every conceivable chicken came home to roost."
- 15 February 1979: Britain announces RAF aircraft are ready on standby to fly away around 500 British people left in Tehran.

- 15 February 1979: Department of Health says just over 10,500 hospital admissions have been cancelled because of NUPE action amongst hospital ancillary workers. These are routine admissions for procedures or testing.
- 15 February 1979: BBC Enterprises showcase is held beginning with a Sunday evening dinner in the George Hotel, Edinburgh, hosted by Sir Michael Swann, chairman of the BBC. It promotes programmes on sale for worldwide markets, and sees executives from across the world placing orders. Plays of the Week, Play of the Month, Huntingtower, Running Blind, All Creatures Great and Small, The Mill on the Floss, Telford's Change, The Body in Question, World About Us, The Aphrodite Inheritance are all sold off.
- 16 February 1979: BBC's Nine o'clock News broadcasts a report on fears of a "wage explosion" and a report on prices: "inflation could be back in double figures by early summer". It fails to give any context to actual purchasing power. The cost of basic essentials such as food has risen faster than the headline RPI, as through the 'stagflation' recession, imposing a greater burden on those without disposable income. Direct comparisons of wage and price levels are entirely absent. These would have wage increases in 1979 are just under or just equal to most price increases, real income levels remain far below 1975's levels.
- 16 February 1979: ITN 10 o'clock News yokes together a report on retail price increases with the NUPE pay claim: "the government will be able to say that the increases in basic rates which the unions are resigned to, have been kept to a strict 9 per cent and that amounts to a significant morale booster in the battle against inflation."
- 16 February 1979: NUPE coordinates its strike action in Edinburgh. 21 nursery schools are be picketed but special schools serving disabled pupils are continue, as planned, service as normal.
- 16 February 1979: An offer of 8.8%, a comparability study between wages in the public and private sector and a formal inquiry into differing local authorities' pay rates is offered by LGA national negotiators with NUPE's national negotiators. It is broadly accepted by NUPE National negotiators.
- 16 February 1979: "An appeal by Joseph Thompson, the Yorkshire dye worker expelled from his union and consequently his job for blacklegging in a strike 15 years previously, has been upheld by the TUC independent review committee." (Tribune)
- 16 February 1979: Porters and catering staff at 6 Lothian hospitals hold a one-day strike as part of the NUPE campaign. Mid-Lothian and Strathclyde Hospitals are exempted from the action.

- 16 February 1979: Emir of Bahrain accompanies the Queen at a horse-racing event in Manama. She performs a walkabout amidst a large British crowd, associated with expatriate engineers and managers. Emir and Queen later have a private lunch together. Duke of Edinburgh visits an elite falcon centre, occupied by the Sunni aristocracy.
- 16 February 1979: A hockey tournament in Meadowell stadium Glasgow is cancelled as NUPE workers on strike have not made cleaning and preparations to the venue.
- 16 February 1979: Former Prime Minister Wilson's first fortnightly opinion column in the <u>Financial Weekly</u> is published. It suggests a legal restriction on picketing similar to the Trades Disputes Act as an ultimate way forward: "It is not a practicable proposition now but it might well be retained as something to which we should move when this nightmare ends."
- 16 February 1979: <u>Tribune</u>'s national analysis of events in Iran: "we have come a cropper in Iran. Overnight the demand for tanks and rubber bullets to use on the Iranian people has dried up and thousands of British workers will find themselves out of a job; millions of pounds of British assets may be destroyed or seized and the future of Western oil supplies is in jeopardy. Even within the amoral terms of reference which the clever men in the Foreign Office and Ministry, of Defence set themselves, our policy is a disaster. After Iran, the lessons should be clearer than ever — even to the numbskulls who run our ship of state. First, we must free ourselves from the humiliating position of an American satellite state (British recognition of the new Iranian Government followed just 24 hours after President Carter had said that America would recognise it). Secondly, we should find a way of making a living that does not involve selling guns and tanks to tyrants, if only on the grounds that tyrants tend to get overthrown — as we have learned to our cost."
- 16 February 1979: <u>Tribune</u> reports "The real "vandalism" taking place during the public workers' strikes seems mostly to occur in middle-class areas. A friend reports seeing a large Daimler draw up near Hampstead Heath and two well-heeled people throw out black sacks of rubbish."
- 17 February 1979: Queen and Prince Philip give a luxury banquet on the Britannia for Bahrain's royal elite and British business-diplomatic community before leaving for Saudi Arabia.
- 17–19 February 1979: Queen and Prince Philip take part in a 3 day official visit to Saudi Arabia. Instead of any hints about Saudi

assistance in the repression of democracy movements from Yemen to Lebanon, a member of the Royal Household reports the Queen's only frustration as being blocked from the sight of expatriates during a parade of Royal Marines 'beating retreat': "I have never seen the Queen so angry. She said quite clearly she was here to be seen, and that was not happening."

18 February 1979: A VC-10 and 5 C-130 Hercules aircraft complete an evacuation of 800 British people from the Embassy compound in Iran.

18 February 1979: President Zia-ur-Rahman conducts his second set of elections, conducted under martial law, to legitimise BNP-military rule. He wins 7 out of 10 seats with just over 41% of votes. A large boycott occurs, turnout is at 51%. He states he will "wait and see" how parliamentary government performs before deciding whether to resign as Commander in Chief of the armed forces, whilst maintaining his Presidency.

New York Times reports: "Since 1975, the country has been ruled under martial law by President Zia-ur Rahman, who took power in a coup d'etat shortly after Sheik Mujibur Rahman, the country's founder, was killed in another coup.... he is keeping real power to himself for now. He will remain as President and he will not decide about resigning as armed forces commander in chief until he sees how parliamentary government develops. One key barometer will be the extent of foreign investment; General Zia said that is what the democratization was all about." (25 Feb 1979) The 'democratisation' in Bangladesh is a top-down process to ensure that legal rights of foreign business are protected and respected.

19 February 1979: Mubarak loyalist new Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil, holds talks with Callaghan, and Foreign Secretary Owen. 19 February 1979: Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants and IWA Southall hold a lobby of parliament in opposition to virginity examinations.

20 February 1979: Kuwait. Bahrain, Qatar and Abu Dhabi.

20 February 1979: NEA report on Lew Grade: "Lord Lew is an anachronism... Hollywood's elite today are accountants and lawyers, smooth-talking Ivy Leaguers and corporation executives who base their motion picture and TV decisions on computer printouts and the latest Arbitron "share" and "reach" figures. So what's Lewis Winogradsky, born on Christmas Day in Tokmak, Southern Crimea 72 years ago, a former buttonhole sewer, doing selling American television \$150million worth of film a year including 'The Muppets' and assembling a dozen cinema projects for 1979? What's Lord Lew Grade doing deciding what the rest of the world will be viewing in

its living rooms and movie theaters? Doing what comes naturally, quite obviously. Pocketing £420,000 annually, the biggest salary in Britain Grade is now the biggest single film producer in the world, dwarfing the movie moguls at Fox. MUM, Warner Brothers and Disney. He climbs onto jets to make 20 trips to Hollywood and New York each year to clinch the deals he's started on the telephone. "The Boys from Brazil" and "Raise the Titanic" are two of the newest Grade productions. Lew's business is a people business. He calls stars from Hong Kong to Buenos Aires on a whim, keeping a global time zone chart always in his mind so that he knows when it's cocktail time in Tokyo and Sydney and when people are most liable to be home to take a call There are three phones in every room in his house.... He has just recently announced that he and Britain's Lord Delmont, who just happens to he his brother, have formed a new \$500million film company to make 22 major flicks for the United States and Canada, with 12 already scheduled for 1979, a rescue effort for a British motion picture industry which has long been in the doldrums... if Jim Henson making people laugh wiggling his Muppets makes the world happy, is that so bad? Lew Grade doesn't think so. He's betting millions of his hard-earned dollars this year that what has worked for him on the TV tube will work on the cinema screen as well. Anyone who bet against his success would have gone broke a long time ago."

- 22 February 1979: British group Dire Straits begin their first US tour in Boston.
- 23 February 1979: CPSA one-day strike. Whitehall pickets gather outside the front entrance to Downing Street. A majority of Cabinet ministers, including Employment Minister Foot, cross the picket lines to attend a Cabinet meeting. At Heathrow Airport, 16 managers are left to cover a 24-hour shift of customs checks. Peter Simpson, CPSA rep declares: "People are just flowing through customs control completely unhindered" HMRC computer operators take part as do civil servants at Social Security offices, some of which are entirely closed.
- 23 February 1979: In the fourth raid in 6 days, Rhodesian Air Force planes bomb simultaneously the ZAPU-ZIPRA guerrilla camp 'Victory' south of Lusaka and the Nampundwe refugee camp beside the Nampundwe iron ore copper/pyrite mine, west of Lusaka.
- 23 February 1979: Sir Harold Wilson gives a speech at Keele University supporting the government.
- 23 February 1979: Frank McElhone, Under Secretary of State for Education dismisses as "unrealistic" an appeal from the Strathclyde Parent Teacher Associations liaison committee for an increase in teacher staffing levels in Strathclyde Region by 10%.

- 23 February 1979: AGM of the Scottish Council of Independent Schools attacks proposals for the removal of the financial benefits of charitable status for independent schools.
- 24 February 1979: YAR again begins an invasion into PDRY along 3 points at its border.
- 25 February 1979: British soldier Edward Maggs 'goes postal' in Woodburn army base whilst sitting with fellow comrades in the evening, shooting dead one fellow soldier injuring others before being shot dead himself. His father explains: "All we've been told is that Eddie cracked up, ran amok with a rifle and was shot dead by another soldier to prevent further bloodshed. This wouldn't have happened if he hadn't been sent to Northern Ireland for a second time. He was a victim of Northern Ireland just as surely as if he'd been shot in the back by a sniper's bullet. My son loved the Army, but four months out there last year finished him. He was terrified of going back. He planned to get out before his 21st birthday this September, and he'd applied for a job as a fireman in London. He was a good soldier, and I only hope that some good will come out of this tragedy." Mother adds: "He was always crazy about being a soldier, but he was desperately scared of returning to Northern Ireland" (Daily Mirror, 26 Feb 1979, reported under the title 'Army shoots crazed soldier')
- 25 February 1979: Thatcher in a Kenneth Harris <u>Observer</u> interview explains she is a decisive leader, unlike Callaghan who is prey to indecision and the arguments of the left, so "As Prime Minister I couldn't waste time having arguments". Shadow Employment Prior later recalls "Because she didn't find it easy to get her own way round the shadow cabinet table, she would tend to make policy on television" (James Prior, 'Why I'm not the Prime Minister', New Statesman, 13 Dec 1985)
- 25 February 1979: In a major blow to 'British' exports, Iran Air announces it will never buy any Concorde and intends to cancel all contracts signed under the Shah's era.
- 25 February 1979: US Defence Secretary Harold Brow says the USA will take whatever action appropriate including military force to ensure the flow of oil from the Saudi Arabian oil fields and Middle East in general.
- 25 February 1979: Around 10 tanks, 3 jeeps with mounted machine-guns and other armoured troop carriers on top welcome the Queen as her plane arrives in Al Ain, United Arab Emirates. Sheikh Rashid gives the Queen 2 camels in solid gold, one 22cm, the other 15cm tall, standing under 2 solid gold palm trees about

40cm; a necklace of 11 pure sapphires and around 200 sparkling diamonds. They are placed in the basement floor of the Royal Yacht Britannia, which has amassed gifts worth millions.

28 February 1979: Commission-appointed Paul Lagorce's report for EEC's South Africa policy is accepted unanimously by European Commissioners (including Britain). It states that a plan for capital starvation or boycott is an "unrealistic solution which would produce contrary effects to those desired." It stresses "the 'one man, one vote' proposition, even though democratic, has not contributed to the solution of the conflict in South Africa. Such a policy would aggravate, on the contrary, the situation."

March 1979: NF's <u>Spearhead</u> in 'Sociobiology; the instincts of our genes' sees it promote sociobiology explaining that genetic factors are basically responsible for differences in racial groups' behaviour and hence it is a natural instinct to analyse on the basis of race.

- 1 March 1979: Devolution votes are held.
- 1 March 1979: PRC propaganda footage is shown on 3 separate instances in BBC reporting of the PRC invasion of Vietnam, whilst no Vietnam propaganda footage is used. It represents something of the tilt towards the PRC in a conflict described as 'Sino-Vietnamese war' and only very intermittently as an invasion. It is in marked contrast to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.
- 2 March 1979: Convener of the Scottish Universities Council on Entrance, Professor Gavin MacDonald, says there will be special consideration for strike-hit schools in university entrance criteria in 1979 as a result of industrial action in schools: "This is a very difficult matter, but if good students are so badly affected by disruption this may be taken into account, and they may still be given a place. But this has to be at the discretion of the universities. All we can say that is if headmasters give the information this will be taken into account."
- 4 March 1979: British sources confirm all Britons working on Iranian defence contracts have left the country on flights in the past week, effectively blocking off what was Britain's largest military export location. British Ministry of Defence's sales branch, International Military Services (IMS) that had had several hundred engineers leaves the country. On account of its apartheid policies, Iran ends diplomatic relations with South Africa, asking the South African Consul-General to leave. It also halts all oil exports to South Africa. BP, amongst other firms, fills in this void.

4 March 1979: Buckingham Palace spokesperson confirms that Duke of Windsor's private papers have been retrieved from his home in Paris, and are now in the royal archives in Windsor. They are not released to the public before being weeded to remove unfavourable comment particularly from the Depression era.

5 March 1979: BAT's chairman, Sir Peter Macadam writes to the CBI to suggest crucial lines of opposition to the Valentine's Day Concordat: "some things in the Joint Statement by the TUC and the Government make our corporate flesh creep. In paragraph 18, the final sentence reads "We also recognise the importance of workers' representatives in the various national subsidiaries transnational corporation being able jointly to meet the corporation at global level to discuss its plans, and collectively to advance their views and protect their interests" Equally hair-raising is paragraph 20. Here, developments in technology, pension funds and the industrial strategy are linked together. Reference is made to the distinction between the public and private sectors becoming increasingly blurred by the initiatives of the Industry Act and the National Enterprise Board. It concludes "We therefore need to find ways of relating the supply of funds for investment to the undoubted needs of British industry and the wider needs of the Community". We feel that this implies the use of pension funds to prop up State-owned enterprises."

5 March 1979: Industry Minister Eric Varley signs an agreement at the Great Hall of the People, Beijing, with PRC calling for bilateral trade of £7000m up to 1985. He states Britain will give £2500m credit guaranteed by the government for the import of capital goods. "Further credit can be made available if circumstances so require... we have expertise in trading and we're going to ask Intercontinental Fuels (a National Coal Board associate) to advise the Chinese Government on how to market coal." Preparations are made for British aircraft firms – civilian and military – to visit the PRC and PRC railway officials to visit British Rail.

<u>Daily Telegraph</u>'s Nigel Wade reports PRC's Deputy Coal Minister offering payment in coal for an NCB-Powell Duffryn design study: "He said negotiations with the National Coal Board, which is in a consortium with Powell-Duffryn, a British engineering company, would need time and patience. He could not say what the value of the contract might be. The project was discussed when the former British trade secretary visited Peking last autumn and the consortium since has submitted design proposals. The vice minister quoted consortium representatives as saying it would be difficult for Britain to import coal, but that they would like to promote the sale of Chinese coal on the international market. In other words. China could pay the consortium with coal from the new mines, which the

consortium could then sell to someone else for cash. The two mines are planned for Tatung in Inner Mongolia, and each would have an annual production capacity of S million tons. Chung said the coal board was only being asked to do feasibility studies at this stage, but it was possible that British firms would be invited to bid for equipment contracts Construction work would be done by the Chinese, taking at least 5 years.... we will need foreign help." Chung said. The British Industry Secretary, who is visiting Peking, had discussions at the Coal Ministry before making an overnight visit to Tatung."

5 March 1979: Prince Charles reviews a military parade and a jungle war exercise by the Second Gurkha Rifles in Hong Kong wearing his green uniform as Colonel-in-Chief of the regiment. He tells another village elder wearing a sports club badge "I thought it was a trade union badge. We have a lot of them."

5 March 1979: Around 100 untried prisoners at HMP Barlinnie begin a hunger strike with demands. 1. to know rights regarding visitors and food and drink being brought into the untried prisoners' wing. 2. Longer period of exercise since they are locked up 23 hours a day and there are no recreational facilities when they are outside of cells. 3. They declare sympathy with civil servants on strike and urge their claims be met.

5 March 1979: It is announced a few courts have dropped minor motoring offences as a result of strike action leading Scottish Police Federation Secretary Joe Black to declare: "It's a piece of nonsense that people can escape from the law because of action taken by courts staff."

6 March 1979: William Blyth, chairman of Argyll and Clyde Health Board, attacks a strike by 10 telephonists operating a switchboard for 3 main hospitals in Paisley, Royal Alexandra Infirmary, Royal Alexandra Annexe and Paisley Maternity Hospital. He claims that deaths will be caused as a result of the action. However emergency wards still have telephone connections. The hospital switchboard is being operated by strikebreakers from the Health Board staff.

6 March 1979: <u>Evening Times</u>' star letter for the day receiving its £2 award is from a Dumbarton woman pensioner: "Well? Who's kidding who? The strikers have never had it so good. One has to only look about. There never was so many cars on the roads, coloured televisions, fridges, freezers, tape recorders, central heating, double glazing and summer holidays abroad. In my days we never had any of these luxuries and were content just to have a job. I am a senior citizen and quite happy with what I have got - pension, concession card. I feel nowadays people are never content no matter how

much they get.... People should enjoy their good health, fresh air and sunshine and think of those less fortunate, who are blind, deaf, dumb, and mentally or physically handicapped instead of always wanting more money." This kind of letter is typical of the content produced since Jan 1979 in many newspapers. The generic appeal to an expansion in technology, the rise of luxury consumption (by investors, managers and a select group) the appeal to apparently worse crises in the past, the empty lionisation of the 'most vulnerable', the 'worst off', the 'unluckiest', usually the disabled, who are often said to be damaged by trade union action but not government action. all to prove that industrial action is wrong.

- 6 March 1979: Attempted arson occurs at the College of Building and Printing in Glasgow, a training site for YOP apprentices.
- 6 March 1979: Unilever announces another increase in profits from £550m to £608m. UAC International that is the parent of its Third World subsidiaries makes up a major part of the profits.
- 6 March 1979: Glasgow's 2000 rubbish collectors vote in the morning and return to work at noon. A deal is struck offering £60 per worker if the backlog of rubbish is cleared by Mar 31. Throughout the strike workers provide a very restricted service, collection from hospitals and old folk's homes, in an effort to minimise the effect of their dispute on the weaker sections of the community. A 9% nationally negotiated pay rise is accepted. Andrew Anderson, chief of Glasgow's cleansing department, states: "I'm confident we will have cleared the backlog a few days before the stipulated time. I am very happy that the dispute has been resolved. The city centre was beginning to look rather grubby."
- 6 March 1979: Paisley Sheriff Court sentences an 11-year-old who has twice broken into a home, once stealing £9.50, and later stealing 14 small articles and setting fire to a bed and a linen-box with a blowlamp, is sentenced to 3 years' detention. The site of his imprisonment is to be decided by the Secretary of State for Scotland.
- 7 March 1979: SADF launch a dual cross-border operation against SWAPO and MK camps in Novo Catengue, Angola and southern Zambia respectively.
- 7 March 1979: <u>The Guardian</u> in its editorial on Namibia states SWAPO as the main obstruction to peaceful settlement of conflict. It fails to accurately report South African plans to create reception holding centres to indefinitely process Namibian refugees who have

escaped SADF forces across the countryside. South Africa also insists that SWAPO guerrilla forces be policed by UN forces to stay out of Namibia whilst its own SADF be allowed to stay inside Namibia. It has made the withdrawal of its troops conditional upon assessing the nature of returnees, and using its own arbitrary definition to judge SWAPO's 'respect of the ceasefire'. South Africa continues to present its endorsed tribalist government as legitimate, urging its acceptance by the UN so as to involve a UN force to clamp down on guerrillas, and use its own armed forces back at home.

7 March 1979: International Day of Action in protest at the closure of Dunlop's Speke factory in Liverpool. It has been organised by the International Steering Committee of Rubberworkers, headed by Angelo Milucci, national secretary of the Italian chemical workers' union, and Michel Faye, convenor at Dunlop's Mont Lussanc plant. French and Italian workers come out on full strike for 24 hours.

8 March 1979: Stonefield Vehicles, the government-backed crosscountry vehicle firm based in Cumnock, Ayrshire announces 40 redundancies due to an end in orders from Iran as a result of the Iranian revolution. A company spokesman says: "After talks with the unions it was felt that it would be better to scrap the present one week on, one week off, work - sharing arrangement and put a guaranteed number of people on full time." Bill Aitken, West of Scotland divisional organiser of the AUEW says British Army approval could secure the plant's future: "It is a first-class vehicle. The Scottish Trades Union Congress economic committee have also been shown it, and are full of enthusiasm. What we need is a Ministry of Defence and nationalised substantial commitment." Scottish Development Agency, that has a £3m investment stake in the firm is cautiously optimistic about the company's long-term security.

9 March 1979: Bristow Helicopters Ltd, which has been operating in Iran for the royal family amongst others since 1957, completes its evacuation of assets from Iran in a rescue mission 'Operation Sandstorm' where 7 aircraft, worth \$15mil, are spirited away. None of its 23 helicopters have come to harm and no compensation is ever paid for its activities in Iran.

9 March 1979: <u>Financial Times</u> reports the destruction of food: "The Common Market may have to dump, bury or otherwise dispose of up to 500,000 tonnes of surplus apples left over from last year's crop. National Farmer's Union officials say 300,000 tonnes have already been taken off the market and with producers now clearing out their stores at the tail-end of the season, a further 200,000 tonnes may have to be cleared to prevent a prices slump. Most of

the disposals have taken place in France and Holland although between 600 and 2,000 tonnes of Cox's Orange Pippins have also been disposed of in the UK."

- 10 March 1979: More than 40 are attested in fights at a Hibernian vs Hearts football match.
- 10 March 1979: Letter to <u>The Economist</u> on the Dunlop Speke plant, due for closure: "Our factory may indeed be 'clapped out', but then the last investment made at Speke was a paltry £100,000 some 10 years ago. We have to work with machines built in 1906, 1924 and 1934. We even have to cannibalise some machines to make others work. Meanwhile, we are trying to compete with international tyre firms which are equipped with the latest machines and plant."
- 10 March 1979: Joe Loss Orchestra play in Dairen PRC, embarking from the QE2 cruise of the Far East, becoming the first Western group to play a second tour in the PRC.
- 11 March 1979: TGWU bus drivers in Cumbernauld vote not to implement the new fares, increased by over 9%, for passengers, in protest at only 6% pay oiler. Within a day, trade union officials enter the scene to urge an end to the collection boycott. A spokesman for the Scottish Bus Group explains on 12 Mar 1979: "It was drawn to the union's notice that to charge the old fares was illegal following the Traffic Commissioners' approval of the new fares."
- 11 March 1979: <u>Toronto Star</u> reports Queen Mother saying she is "dead set against" any move for Scottish or Welsh independence. "We are having such a time with Scotland and Wales wanting to break away. I'm dead set against it. It's so sad. It will never happen. Nobody really wants it. It's so much better if we all stay together don't you think?"
- 11 March 1979: Presented by Brian Walden, LWT programme Weekend World features details of RUC brutality in Castlereagh by Belfast police medic Dr Robert Irwin. He is a member of the council of the Association of Police Surgeons of Great Britain and a member of the Association of Forensic Medical Officers of Northern Ireland. From this establishment, loyal 'position', his observations are finally aired, whereas reports of torture and brutality have been ignored for years since they represent voices from what is considered an essentially 'disloyal' anti-national minority culturally Irish republicans from ordinary homes who are arrested by police. Irwin states he has seen over 150 non-self-inflicted injuries, including 5 ruptured eardrums, 2 severe injuries to forearms, and injuries to wrist and finger joints "caused by squeezing the hand or by twisting the fingers" which it is impossible to perform with only one hand in

the solitary cells at RUC's Castlereagh station. A Government spokesman later attacks the programme as "another thinly disguised attack on the RUC and the Army" after the government blanks calls to appear on the programme. In response, presumably British intelligence or RUC operatives organise the smear that Dr. Irwin is personally prejudiced against the RUC because they have failed to bring anyone to justice over the rape of his wife, Elizabeth Irwin, in 1977.

- 11 March 1979: A spokesman for West Australian Aborigines, Ken Colbung, urges Prince Charles on an official visit to do something to help resolve Western Australia's aboriginal land and mining rights dispute. In spite of this no pressure is brought on the state's Premier, Sir Charles Court.
- 11 March 1979: A Strathclyde doctor, condemns the external appearance of a health centre in a run-down part of Glasgow in the medical newspaper journal <u>Pulse</u>. He notes that it has become a target for vandalism from "the unemployed" and comments: "War provides an obvious outlet for those sorts of talents it's a tragedy they are wasted in peace time"
- 12 March 1979: Rhodesian aircraft attack refugee and guerrilla targets deep inside Southern Mozambique. It is the fifth major assault onto neighbouring territory in 3 weeks.
- 12 March 1979: Scottish Federation of Conservative Students accuse NUS of needlessly provoking confrontation with the government by requesting an "unrealistic" 26% grants increase. It states it supports the St Andrews University student union claim at a 10% increase.
- 12 March 1979: Don Concannon attacks the LWT's Weekend World on the one occasion it gives voice to police brutality: "It was obvious from the programme that it had been hastily brought forward. That is why it lacked basic content and fair judgement." He reiterates: "the same standards of justice are applied to those suspected of crime, whether within the security forces or outside."
- 12 March 1979: Airey Neave states "The Weekend World programme yesterday will be seen as a calculated attack on the administration of justice and the security forces in Northern Ireland?... Whatever the outcome of the report, we all owe an enormous debt of gratitude to the security forces for their courageous achievements in Northern Ireland." He has opposed the broadcast of the programme since it will "undermine the achievements of the security forces and will delight their enemies all over the world".

- 12 March 1979: Afghanistan's National Islamic Liberation Front, a united front of hard-right religious forces issues a call for jihad against the Taraki government and its collaborators. Ismail Khan, an Afghan army captain, leads a mutiny in Heart killing 30 Soviet advisers displaying the bodies on pikes. To recapture Herat after a ground assault is unsuccessful, the Afghan army unleashes a wave of air strikes from its Soviet supplied planes, killing 20,000 residents. A militarist hells follows for the next 15 years. Washington Post later (11 May, 1979) records that from at least Mar-May 1979 mujaheddin groups "torture victims by first cutting off their noses, ears, and genitals, then removing one slice of skin after another"
- 13 March 1979: Callaghan and Foreign Secretary Owen attend the EEC Paris Summit of leaders and discuss operating a common Western front in response to Iran's revolution.
- 13 March 1979: BBC broadcasts another 'stitch-up' backlash programme against the provision of legal aid for the poor. 'Tuesday Tonight' features interviews an with Scottish Police Federation Secretary Sergeant Joe Black and Law Society of Scotland's James Dandie. However the 2 have been interviewed separately in different places, with different questions and the false impression is given to viewers that they are face to face. Black states legal aid is little more than a ruse for lawyers to encourage the guilty to plead non-guilty and rake in fees. He also asserts, without rebuttal, that solicitors are taking unnecessary statements from prosecution Desmond Oueen, vice-president of Glasgow Association states: "The programme gave the feeling that Mr Black's allegations could not be answered and left the clear impression the programme had been edited to project a view against our profession. "He also answers Black's charges: "How does one 'overprepare' a case? How does one have 'too many consultations' with persons indicted before a High Court facing the prospects of heavy sentences? Our members bitterly deny that they are fraudsters, tricksters, or any other of the categories highlighted on the programme." There is zero reference to hundreds, who by having access to legal aid, are defended from a lifetime in prisons under tainted evidence and police corruption.
- 14 March 1979: Cooper Rolls Inc, jointly owned by Rolls Royce and USA's Cooper Industries, announces it has won orders for £12mil for 9 gas turbine powered systems in the North Sea and Arabian Sea for offshore use and for pipeline services in Kuwait and Abu Dhabi.

- 15 March 1979: In an effort to retain a western perspective on world history, Scottish Certificate of Education Examination Board announces that a new examination entitled Classical Civilisation will be introduced in 1981, to cover only ancient Rome and ancient Greece, with texts, in English translation, of a choice from Homer, Virgil, Sophocles and Plautus. Unsurprisingly ancient or classical Chinese, Persian or Timbuktu Kingdom literature is ignored.
- 15 March 1979: Following a 9-month investigation, government endorses the Monopolies Commission's unanimous conclusion that Lonrho can proceed with its takeover of Scottish and Universal Investments, publishers of the <u>Glasgow Herald</u> and <u>Evening Times</u> and owners of Whyte & Mackay whisky firm and partial owners in House of Fraser. Lonrho's case has stressed "its management structure of separate autonomous regions and profit centres retaining a great deal of independence and regional identity as well as its willingness to invest In developing areas".
- 15 March 1979: 2 Arab youths including one teenage girl are shot dead as IDF and Jewish settlers open fire on demonstrators in Halhul in occupied West Bank.
- 15 March 1979: Cahora-Bassa, the largest hydroelectric scheme in southern Africa, becomes fully operational (having been working since Mar 1977) for South Africa and Mozambique. Its equipment construction is performed by ZAMCO, a consortium of Federal German firms and Anglo-Swiss firm Brown-Boveri plc. The HVDC scheme sees power transferred across Transvaal, Mozambique and beyond. It becomes the central target for South African-funded RENAMO operatives who are given precise points in the system to attack and sabotage as much power distribution as possible.
- 15 March 1979: Health Minister Ennals announces "volunteer" strikebreakers will be asked for assistance in some hospitals, to fight the NUPE ancillary workers' strike. It is the signal for hospital managements across the country to step up strikebreaking, giving the opportunity for victimisation and retrenchment. Bolton General Hospital's NUPE secretary Jim Kelly is sacked for "gross indiscipline." Dozens of other NUPE activists are suspended. In Gloucestershire, ambulance operators who refuse to work overtime are locked out, dropped from rotas and effectively replaced with untrained strikebreaker drivers.
- 15 March 1979: Harry Ewing, Scotland Under-Secretary, announces that a register of landownership to cover the whole of Scotland will take at least 30 years to uncover all of the details over who owns Scotland's land.

16 March 1979: Justice Harry Bennett publishes his 160 page report on detention in Castlereagh. It notes "at least since 1974, no disciplinary proceedings have been brought in respect of the interrogation of persons in custody", yet accuses only ground level officers of over-zeal in anti-terrorism efforts. It recommends CCTV to placed in the centre, but to remain operated by the RUC.

It deals only with detention and so does not examine a report from the law faculty at Queen's University of Belfast, 94% of all trials at Belfast City Commission (Special 'Diplock' Courts) end with a guilty verdict, and more than 80% of convictions are based solely or nearly wholly on confessions during police interviews, from which lawyers are banned. It nonetheless records countless cases of ruptured eardrums, fractured limbs, severe bruisings and internal bleeding and complications after interrogations. It notes that very early in 1977 forensic medical officers, examining prisoners have became aware "of a large increase of significant bruising, contusions and abrasions of the body and of evidence of hyper-tension of joints (especially of the wrist), of tenderness associated with hair pulling and persistent jabbing, of rupture of the eardrums and or increased mental agitation and excessive anxiety states". From then on the Association of Forensic Medical Officers has then "made repeated representations to the Police Authority, to senior police officers and to other persons of authority". These have then been ignored and "when denials of ill-treatment were made by the police, some of the medical officers who had examined prisoners, and found injuries, had reason to fear for their reputation [as doctors]."

- 17 March 1979: <u>The Economist</u> notes the high reliance on confession-only in Diplock 'anti-terrorist' courts of the six counties: "An astonishing 80% of court convictions for terrorist offences stem from 'confessions'... Individual judges are bound to become hardened to pleas that the accused's confession was beaten out of him."
- 18 March 1979: Black Reports editor, Rhodes Boyson, in the <u>News of the World</u> focuses on negative findings of the Sir Michael Rutter study in article 'Secret shame of Britain's schools' so as to make the case for 'traditional', fully hierarchical education.
- 19 March 1979: In response to victimisations, NUPE strike action in hospitals continues. RCN makes no particular comment, continuing its strikebreaking role. Around 500 hospitals are affected on this start of the week, the highest total since the start of the dispute.

- 19 March 1979: Israel Cabinet approves 15-2 the Sadat-Begin Peace Treaty.
- 19 March 1979: HMP Walton inmates set fire to their cells in a protest against being kept detained for over 23 hours a day as an unofficial POA strike proceeds, placing 420 prison officers out of action. A state of emergency at the site is declared. The 130-year-old prison is one of the most overcrowded in Britain and kept on riot watch as a result.
- 19 March 1979: President of Goodyear's international divisions, Ib Thomsen, attacks Scottish workforces' 'productivity': "The decision is final... this Scottish plant is rated at the bottom of the totem pole in just about every respect. Mr Hansen has told me in our weekly talks that he could not. see that his last-minute attempt to save the plant earned an awful lot of credibility alongside the years and years of frustrated negotiations there" to explains the decision to close its Drumchapel plant with the loss of over 680 jobs. Westi Hansen, chairman and managing director of Goodyear Great Britain, accuses the workforce of committing industrial suicide.

Even as the plant is to be closed Eddie Duffy union convenor says the trade union could have imposed conditions upon the workforce that management was unable to extract: "Hansen admitted last Friday to our national officer that the six conditions he laid down would make the plant viable and profitable. If he had waited a few days we would have got through the sixth condition about 15-shift working, but he wouldn't wait."

20 March 1979: Defence Secretary Mulley states: "The Government have made it clear on numerous occasions that the Polaris submarines will continue to form an effective contribution to NATO's deterrent strategy into the 1990s... If in due course it should be decided to proceed with a successor to the Polaris force, the time scale would depend upon the option chosen... The question of whether there should be a successor is, as I have said, one for the future". Almost wholly the opposite of the 1974 Labour election pledge: "we will seek the removal of American Polaris bases from Britain. We have renounced any intention of moving towards a new generation of strategic nuclear weapons " (Labour Party Manifesto, Oct 1974)

20 March 1979: Rina Nealon, chairman of the Lothian Health Board, attacks the NUPE ancillary workers' strike by declaring "Our consultants are saying quite clearly that some patients may never be treated. The point of major concern to the board, and one repeatedly stressed, is this hidden effect of the action." The certain failure to clear non-emergency cases should indicate the insufficient nature of social health provision.

- 20 March 1979: Shop stewards representing 5000 COHSE patient transport drivers announce they will recommend acceptance of the 9% pay offer and promise of an inquiry.
- 20 March 1979: Nationalised British Airways's chairman Sir Frank McFadzean, calls for the unions lo be "brought within the law" suggesting the end of immunities to secondary picketing.
- 20 March 1979: <u>Dayclean</u>, the WPA news-sheet has a lead story entitled "De Shah Gone! Gairy Gone! Who Next?" ends with the slogan 'De Shah Gone! Gairy Gone! Dese Next!' ie the Burnham government.
- 21 March 1979: Merlyn Rees, moving the renewal of the PTA states: "We cannot ignore the part played by this legislation, and by the hard work of the police in general, in preventing the Provisional IRA from resuming its bombing campaign"
- 21 March 1979: Ludovic Kennedy reviews <u>The Police in Society</u> by Ben Whitaker, a work in favour of community policing on the Japanese model: "Whitaker puts forward many useful suggestions, which can certainly be implemented if we have the will to do so. First, we should immediately bring all police forces up to strength... It is probably in public relations that the police can do most to help themselves. In London Sir Robert Mark did much to articulate the policeman's hopes and frustrations. His successor, Sir David McNee, though an officer of great integrity and drive has been less successful in this. I once had an acrimonious correspondence with him in which I addressed him as "Dear Mr McNee" and he addressed me as "Dear Sir," as though I was a public institution. Yet to break down the old barriers of "them" and "us" is surely the primary task of both police and public today. I believe the police want to abandon their defensive attitudes to society as much as we want them to"
- 21 March 1979: A delegation of ISTC full timers, alongside ITV Granada's World in Action film crew fly from Birmingham to head to Longwy. They attend the support demonstration in central Paris, which is charged the following day. In a reflection of how the 6 counties (ignoring the RUC) and international struggle is seen by the Labour Left, ISTC Executive John Cowling explains in <a href="Tribune">Tribune</a>: "we dashed to a train. We made it to the outskirts of Paris, and there got off, caught a bus to the airport, and flew back to England. Summing up, it was an interesting visit something I would never have wanted to miss. Let us hope that we never get the equivalent of the CRS paramilitary police in this country. I hope the brave steelworker win their struggle, and I hope we win ours." (Tribune 6 Apr 1979)

- 22 March 1979: Israel Knesset vote 95-18 to approve the Begin-Sadat 'peace treaty'.
- 22 March 1979: <u>Daily Express</u> 'Your good school guide' reviews the 15,000 hours study to conclude almost the opposite of the careful conclusions reached, arguing for extending the grammar school system.
- 23 March 1979: RAF Minister: "we enjoy close relations with Oman and RAF aircraft regularly make use of Omani airfields for staging purposes"
- 24 March 1979: The Guardian interviews Sir Frederick Bennett, chairman of FARI (Foreign Affairs Research Institute), initially set up by the South African BOSS & Dept of Information in 1976 and given £85,000 a year by South African state, (its purpose is "the propagation of warnings about the Soviet danger"), member of Bilderberg grouping's steering committee, host of its 1974 meeting and member of the Rhodesian bar since the 1940s. He says that Dr. Dennis Rhoodie, brother of corrupt fugitive ex-secretary of the South African Department of Information Eschel Rhoodie, has "many times in the past" asked him for help in finding MPs that might be offered state-funded luxury trips to South Africa.
- 24 March 1979: TGWU and Garners' Steak House Strike Committee Day of Support marks 13 months of the strike to achieve unionisation. Garners still refuses any ACAS access for mediation. The defeat at Grunwick's leaves its mark all over the unionised sections of the economy.
- 26 March 1979: Sadat-Begin full Peace Treaty is signed, enabling Israeli warships to pass through the Suez canal on 29 May 1979. 26 March 1979: Government finally establishes its proposed solution to low-pay in public sector. It appoints Standing Commission on Pay Comparability 1979-1980 under the chairmanship of Professor Hugh Clegg of Warwick University. It only begins work in Jun 1979, producing its first report in Aug 1979. The various pay recommendations once again leave many below the NUPE £60 a week demand.
- 26 March 1979: Government announces adjustments in its military priorities following the annual Defence Estimates:
- "we are planning to acquire 385 Tornado aircraft; we are providing 11 Nimrod early warning aircraft and two squadrons of Chinook medium-lift helicopters. We have acquired a squadron of VCIO aircraft for conversion as air-to-air refuelling tankers. The new Skyflash medium-range air-to-air missile is now entering service. The fuselages of the Hercules transport aircraft are to be stretched

to provide additional airlift capability. We are forming a sixth Rapier surface-to-air missile squadron to protect RAF Lossiemouth.

On the maritime side, the new warship construction programme is going ahead rapidly. Last year, we announced orders for a new nuclear-powered submarine, the third anti-submarine cruiser, one Type-42 destroyer, and three Hunt class mine countermeasures vessels. We have also placed an order for 15 Sea King helicopters for the Royal Marines and for a further 10 Sea Harriers. This year, we plan to procure a new class of 12 extra deep armed team sweep vessels for mine countermeasures.

Last September, we announced the decision to proceed with the project definition of a new main battle tank to replace the Chieftain in the late 1980s. Meanwhile, we are developing an improved armour-piercing round for the Chieftain. The Milan anti-tank guided weapon entered 48 service six months ahead of schedule in November 1977 and we have delivered the weapons to infantry battalions in Germany at twice the rate originally planned.

The planned size of the Army has also been increased by 6,000 men and we have formed a new infantry unit to provide a demonstration battalion at the School of Infantry, replacing a cap-badge battalion to augment the numbers available for service elsewhere. We have kept the Gurkhas at five battalions instead of four... the commitment of our forces and our defence budget is now almost entirely to the Alliance, there still remain other areas in which our forces play their part... We are at present contributing about 800 personnel to the UN force in Cyprus, together with logistic support for that force and for the UN force in the Lebanon. We have also expressed our willingness to make a military contribution to the proposed UN transitional assistance group in Namibia...

There are ways in which we can help developing countries to secure their own defence by providing places in training establishments in Britain and by offering technical advice on the spot. ... It is also right that we should be willing to supply friendly countries with the equipment ... We expect that sales abroad of military equipment in the coming year will amount to about £1,100 million, even after allowing for the cancellation of the orders from Iran. ... Iran was, indeed, an important market, and the collapse of the Shah's regime has brought serious economic, political and industrial consequences for us. We are regrettably faced with an immediate need to reduce employment in the Royal ordnance factory, Leeds, and we are urgently studying how we can maintain the capacity at Leeds and retain the skills there which we shall need when production of the next generation of tank for the British Army, MBT80, begins. We are pressing ahead with development of this tank as fast as we can, but it will not be until the mid-1980s that production of this tank can get under way at Leeds."

- 27 March 1979: Sadat and Begin appear separately at Congressional Foreign Policy Committee pleading the case for respective military assistance to their nations.
- 27 March 1979: General secretary of the NACODS (National Association of Colliery Overmen, Deputies, and Shotflirers) James O'Connor, wins the backing of Scotland delegates to take a call for a 4-day week to the national conference in Jun 1979. "I now believe that a four-day week is negotiable when we examine the prolonged period of absenteeism in all pits and accept the fact that the worst days for non-attenders are Mondays and Fridays. This gives us the opportunity for a constructive investigation into the claim. Machinerunning time need not be reduced. It could be maintained by good organisation. "To give the best cover to the collieries and stall benefit from the reduction in the working week would require more officials. Until more men are available we could operate a four days from any five Monday to Friday system."
- 27 March 1979: Results of NUM ballot on accepting NCB pay offer show 67.4% in favour. Kent 50.6% in favour, Yorkshire 58.5% in favour. Only Scotland Region NUM votes against acceptance 33.4%-66.6%
- 27 March 1979: British Leyland introduces another round of luxury vehicles into the market the Jaguar Series III. Over half of the 30,000 new cars in the range planned for production in 1979 are intended for export. Around £7mil has been spent in design and retooling thus far to make the physical capital necessary for the Series III.
- 27 March 1979: RAF Minister: "The Air Force Department has therefore given careful consideration to the possibility of increasing the number of air defence fighters available to the United Kingdom. A decision has been taken on the general principle and detailed studies are under way....

[Conservative]: That is the first time we have had any such indication from the Government. We are certainly glad"

28 March 1979: <u>Liverpool Daily Post</u> carries a huge front page story headed "720 face axe as liquidator called in — KME Dream: It's All Over." Government has refused to nationalise or protect the jobs even though PA Consultants had recommended support and offered management assistance, and KME's management had offered to carry out conditions attached to any assistance before state assistance is forwarded. Jack Spriggs claims Industry Minister Eric Varley is a prisoner of civil servants, conspiring against government decisions. Sir Campbell Fraser on the Industrial Development Advisory Board is also chair of Dunlop. The IDAB has frequently advised against state aid to KME. Former anti-Benn permanent

secretary at the Department of Industry Sir Anthony Part, is now a director of Lucas Aerospace. Both have argued against assistance to KME and both gain by its collapse with increase profits for the main monopoly

A recently leaked document between Sir Douglas Wass and Sir Peter Carey, Permanent Secretaries of Treasury and Industry Department respectively, attacks government decisions for Keynesian support for projects such as the HS146 feeder aircraft. It is not circulated to Ministers, but plans ongoing cross-department civil servant action against ministers - civil servant sabotage of even timid government proposals. According to testimony from junior civil servants, an 'inner cabinet' consisting of the Permanent Secretaries of each Department, in secret from ministers, meet weekly and twice annually at the Sunningdale Civil Service College to smooth cooperation in anti-government strategy so that one civil servant is not played off against another.

- 28 March 1979: A USAF Phantom jet with a crew of 2 explodes in mid-air above Newton-Stewart, Scotland.
- 28 March 1979: <u>Glasgow Herald</u> main editorial: "The miners' decision [to accept under 9%] should be seen in its economic as well as its political context, and in that respect it means nothing but good news for the country."
- 28 March 1979: Britain abstains along with USA and France against a UN resolution condemning South African aggression into Angola. It passes 12-0.
- 29 March 1979: 4th fire in the space of 12 months at the Barrhead, Glasgow, works of Scottish Fishmongers Ltd. The building is left behind with abusive graffiti and gang marker slogans 'Max Kats have struck again'.
- 29 March 1979: Edge Hill By-Election. Liberal victory. Liberal <u>Focus</u> newsletter lies repeatedly during the campaign. A few weeks before the by-election, the Liberal Council has proposed to charge pensioners £4 for concessionary bus passes. This was dropped only after old age Pensioners' associations, Birmingham Trades council and others launch a campaign against it, <u>Focus</u> leaflets credit the decision to reverse the charges to its bye-election candidate: "David Alton Kicks £4 Pass Into Touch."
- 29 March 1979: Scotland's chief of police, David Gray, Chief Inspector of Constabulary, says over the past 9 years, there has been an increase of over 2,000 police and 2,000 civilian workers in the police service in Scotland. Recruits are also high. "It is wastage and not lack of recruits that has kept many forces short of authorised establishments for a long time. During the three years to the end of 1978, 900 police officers who had completed their

probationary period but were not eligible for pension, had left the police service. In addition, 587 probationers had also left."

- 28 30 March 1979: At talks in Kuwait, Presidents of PDRY and YAR agree the eventual unification of the 2 republics. During the talks PDRY President Abdullah Ismail presents his resignation allowing YAR President Ali Abdullah Saleh to become the head of a unified (non-ideological ie capitalist) Yemen. Ismail proclaims President Saleh "President of unified Yemen" declaring PDRY wants to "eliminate all obstacles and fears".
- 29 March 1979: Lord Wolfenden, appointee chairman of committee on voluntary agencies, at the Association of Directors of Social Works' annual conference says voluntary organisations should reconcile themselves to paying expenses to volunteers, as a suitable mechanism to mobilise the labour.
- 29 March 1979: Press report a leaked confidential EEC report describing Japan as an incurable nation of "work maniacs", forecasting further import restrictions from Japan into EEC will be needed by autumn 1979.
- 29 March 1979: At the Court of Criminal Appeal a drugs courier, carrying 16 kilos of cannabis and trace amounts of cocaine, fails in his appeal against a 10-year jail sentence. Lord Cameron states: "Whatever may be thought of the use of certain drugs the law, as it stands, is quite clear. Those who deliberately engage in this traffic must expect to receive severe sentences as a deterrent to others and as punishment for their own deliberate criminal act."
- 29 March 1979: Richard O'Brien, chairman of the Manpower Services Commission announces over 16,000 have been trained in new technology associated with the offshore oil industry in the past 5 years. In 1978 2,500 technicians have been trained in onshore skills required for oil production. MSC's TOPS scheme and direct services to industry in Scotland has trained 800 of them in metal fabrication work needed to build oil platforms and module yards.
- 29 March 1979: Old Bailey sentences a 23 year old, Grunwick picket, to 2 full years in prison for tossing a bottle which has struck SPG police officer Robert Wilson. The image of an apparently 'ordinary bobby' bleeding on the pavement becomes a clarion signal for backlash constantly removed from context and explanation in press and TV re-runs, featuring prominently also in Police Federation advertising campaigns. A jury has convicted him 10-2, but Leonard Woodley, defence lawyer, says the verdict is a gross miscarriage of justice.

- 29 March 1979: <u>Hibernia</u> reports on the effects of continuing military presence and Ulsterisation: "The revelations last year that the 5th Battalion of the UDR, based in mid-Derry, had been involved in a bizarre series of murders, bombings, shootings and armed robberies between 1975 and 1976 confirmed the UDR in Catholic eyes, at least, as the old 'B' Specials in a different uniform. While events like these are dramatic enough to capture the headlines, it is the almost continuous procession of UDR men through the courts on a variety of less serious but equally sectarian offences that is as damning... Three former members of the regiment admitted that while on patrol they had broken into a Catholic church and defecated on the altar. The suspended sentence they received did nothing to assure Catholics"
- 30 March 1979: Andrew Boyd in <u>Tribune</u> reports on the first time political detainee has managed to bring a case of assault against the RUC: "Recently five members of the RUC Special Branch did appear before a magistrate's court in Newtownards, County Down, on a charge of having assaulted Patrick Fullerton, a political detainee who had been brought into Castlereagh for questioning. Fullerton was able positively to identify the five men as having been those who assaulted him. Yet the magistrate discharged them all on the grounds that, while he was convinced by the evidence that Mr Fullerton had been assaulted, he was not sure which of the accused had actually committed the offence."
- 30 March 1979: New Statesman reports on the effect of Labour on wage-earners. Wage restraint between 1974-77 ensures real earnings fall by 7%. The Royal Commission on Wealth reports the richest 1% sees its share of national wealth rise from 22.5% to 24.9% in 1974 1976. Over the same period the richest 10% sees its share of the wealth increase from 57% to 60%. These figures are not surprising, given that the effect of the British tax system means that the richest 2-10% who get 20.7% of income before tax, manage to retain 19.3% after tax (New Statesman, 30 Mar 1979)
- 30 March 1979: British Embassy spokesperson in Lisbon announces Britain has made a gift of £2mil worth of military equipment to the Portuguese armed forces.
- 31 March 1979: BBC's 'Grand National Grandstand' gives another gratuitous sympathetic broadcast screening to a royal. Capt. Mark Phillips, rides the Aintree course on the horse Columbus, owned by the Queen. He is accompanied by ex-jockey and BBC commentator Richard Pitman.

- 31 March 1979: Royal Navy and RAF withdraw from their Malta base as agreed in an earlier compromise deal.
- 1 April 1979: 819th RAF Squadron receives an advance party of 40 expert US servicemen, as planned in Dec 1978. It follows an earlier 1978 decision by British and US governments to establish a Rapid Emergency Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineering (RED HORSE) unit in England.
- 1 April 1979: <u>Sunday Mirror</u> and <u>News of the World</u> print full page advertisements: "This space was reserved for an Advertisement for the Conservative Party. In view of the death of Airey Neave this Advertisement has been cancelled. The Conservative Party published by The Conservative Central Office, 32 Smith Square. Westminster, London SW1P 3HH."
- <u>Sunday Express</u> features a long article 'Neave murder makes hanging poll issue' full of backlash distortion about demands for the death penalty and its democratic origins. It also hosts a pro-capital punishment piece by George Gardiner, Conservative MP for Reigate headlined 'There is only one thing to be done about these IRA thugs I'D PUT THEM UP AGAINST A WALL AND SHOOT THEM'
- 1 April 1979: John Lennon and Yoko Ono hire a yacht for a cruise around Palm Beach, Florida. Accompanying him are Yoko's nieces and John's sons, Fred's wife Helen Seaman and the 12-year-old daughter of their Palm Beach real estate agent. At the end of the month, Julian returns home to England.
- 2 April 1979: Stranraer Sea Cadets, commanded by Lieut. Norman MacKay, receive HMS Pagham, constructed at Rosyth, berthing it at the Railway Pier. It is the first Sea Cadets in the country to be given a sea-going naval vessel. ✓
- 2 April 1979: Italian Health Ministry report finds that more than half of all gynaecological doctors in Italy's state hospitals refuse to carry out abortions, in spite of a legalisation law of abortion enacted in Jun 1978 for the first 12 term weeks.
- 3 April 1979: 13<sup>th</sup> Budget. Healey "the purpose of this is to give the next chancellor time to decide what he wishes to propose to the House before any pay packets are affected." He reports "1978 was a good year for the economy and the outlook is quite encouraging" because more than US\$5bil of foreign debts is being serviced in 1979. It brings into immediate effect increases in income tax exemptions.
- 3 April 1979: Reuters reports "Bombay Municipal Corporation has taken a policy decision to treat the statues of former British rulers

of India with more respect. The Bombay move is in line with efforts in other north Indian cities — including Delhi and Calcutta — to rescue the statues of British India, some of them excellent works, a ad erect them in a central place as a tourist attraction."

- 3 April 1979: Representatives of 5 law centres funded by the Lord Chancellor meet a senior Chancellory civil servant who refuses to restore funding, even though it turns out Lord Chancellor has underspent by over £23,000 of its budget. It means the law centres remain unfunded on the edge of a cliff. Adamstown law centre, Cardiff, has subsidence in its office, the floor collapsing beneath one's feet Newham law centre has no fire precautions. North Kensington law centre has typewriters so worn out that during the week of the visit only one typewriter is functional for its 6 workers, all of whom are denied a pension scheme, even though one worker will retire within the decade.
- 3 April 1979: British Leyland confirms it is in talks with anti-union Japanese firm Honda. David Andrews, executive vice-chairman says in a statement to workers: "Over the past year BL has said that some form of co-operative venture with another manufacturer was desirable because BL has far fewer international links than must major vehicle companies... BL believes that the size, range of products, and technical resources of the two companies offer possibilities for developing combined programmes which would be of benefit to both."
- 4 April 1979: A state of emergency is declared in 5 more prisons as a POA overtime ban severely limits staffing. Scottish POA announces an overtime ban in support of fellow prison officers in England: "We have decided to ban the supervision of workshops, which will mean the authorities will be forced to lock up -prisoners ail day or give them extended exercise periods. This will affect all 12 prisons in Scotland as well as the three borstals and three young offenders' institutions which, we service."
- 4 April 1979: U.S. State Department welcomes Cyprus imposing death sentences on 2 Palestinian guerrillas who have assassinated Egyptian editor of state-controlled Al-Ahram, in. State Department spokesman states: "I would like to reiterate our view that anything which serves to curb or penalize terrorism, we welcome. Clearly this is such a step, and therefore we welcome it". Sadat's commandos who engage Cypriot soldiers in Larnaca leading to a gun battle with 15 deaths are never examined or accused of 'terrorism'.
- 4-6 April 1979: Bhutto is hanged by Pakistan's militarists, resulting in large-scale protests that see arrestees by the thousands.

- 5 April 1979: Prince Charles visits Toronto to inspect soldiers of the Royal Regiment of Canada, of which he is Colonel in-Chief. He dresses in their uniform shaking hands.
- 6 April 1979: British troops arrest US <u>In These Times</u> correspondent, American-accented Dennis O'Hearn for possession of a photograph of an apparent IRA operative at a public rally. He kept locked in Springfield Road army barracks. Under the Northern Irish Emergency Provisions Act he was held without access to a lawyer or a phone call. "It is like suddenly dropping off the face of the earth. No one knows where you are except the army and police, so you are completely at their mercy. Because I am American I received no physical mistreatment, apart from a boot in the backside to help me into the army pig. But I did receive a lot of verbal abuse"
- 6 April 1979: Student protests in Nepal begin with a large rally at the Pakistan embassy, Kathmandu.
- 7 April 1979: The Economist: "It won't be shouted from the hustings but Britain needs a swing from wages to profits to help regenerate industry. Britain's underlying growth rate is now so low that getting higher profits may need a cut—not just slower growth—in real wages" ramming the point "without a revival in profitability, why should the average British company invest more? In 1976, it was making 16.8% on capital measured at historic costs, compared with the 15% it could have got simply by depositing cash risk-free with local authorities." Firms, of course, have the right in profit terms to guaranteed 15% increases without any fuss.
- 10 April 1979: Liberals launch their election manifesto. They pledge raising the standard rate of VAT to 10%, cutting the standard rate of income tax to 20% with a top rate of 50%.
- 10 April 1979: Egypt National Assembly votes 329-13 to approve the Begin-Sadat 'peace treaty'.
- 10 April 1979: Bob Astles, the British right-hand man to Idi Amin, flees Uganda for Kenya.
- 10 April 1979: Israeli intelligence operatives explode a bomb in Marseilles' shipping port seriously damaging a vessel with a reactor intended for Iraq on board.
- 11 April 1979: Arthur Scargill, supporting NUM's <u>The Miner</u> in its photography of exposed female models, takes part in the debate organised by the trade union journalists' section of NUJ on 'Pin-ups debase women and men and should not be used in newspapers, magazines or trade union journals'. Proposing the motion is <u>New</u>

<u>Statesman</u> journalist, NUJ Equality Working Party member Anna Coote.

- 13 April 1979: <u>Corriere della Sera</u> gives large space to Pope John Paul's fulminations on 'terrorism': "Myself, I, the Pope, whenever I have to amble through the streets of Rome to visit the parish church of some neighbourhood, must be guarded and defended by many policemen... My God! All this is inconceivable. It is necessary to find new methods, new patterns of behaviour to guarantee the safety of every person, and not only of the Pope. Lately, the Italian reality, full of calamities of that kind, has been particularly close to my attention... These tragedies impress me deeply, because their protagonists are faceless individuals, unknown persons prompted by obscure forces."
- 14 April 1979: ABS (Association of Broadcasting Staffs) calls off a strike threat that could have blacked out election coverage including keynote speeches by leaders. They do so on the promise of a hearing at ACAS. A BBC spokesman says: "We have agreed terms of reference for arbitration over the date from which regarding payments should be made."
- 14 16 April 1979: Protests attack buildings in Monrovia, Liberia in protest at IMF-endorsed withdrawal of rice subsidies. Troops from neighbouring Guinea help in the crackdown.
- 16 20 April 1979: Rhodesia conducts its 'internal settlement' elections under martial law. Well over 100,000 armed Rhodesian personnel round up rural Africans to vote. Armed 'auxiliaries' of Bishop Muzorewa, tribalists chief Jeremiah Chirau and Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole also assist. In urban areas employers threaten to retrench any workers who refuse to vote. Hundreds of ZAPU supporters are arrested for attempting to organise an election boycott. Over 500 black students at the University of Rhodesia are imprisoned after starting a protest march against the fraud.

Rhodesian Security Forces' (an all-white officer corps rapidly training blacks) trucks are used to round up and herd rural population to the polls. A woman at a polling station: "We were told by the police that we had to come here and we didn't argue. We just came" (Time 30 Apr 1979). and several elite black regiments 'International observers' consisting of members of the House of Lords and US figures from the CIA-connected 'Freedom House' (led by pro-Vietnam war civil rights sellout Bayard Rustin) hold several receptions in Salisbury blessing the elections. Earl of Onslow happily notes "There are more earls in Rhodesia right now than were present at the coronation of William the Conqueror" (Newsweek, 30 Apr 1979).

Turnout is declared 63.9% Muzorewa's UANC receive 51 of the 72 parliament seats reserved for blacks. Smith's Rhodesian Front wins the remaining 28 seats allotted to whites. Any legislation to alter Rhodesia's white-owned economy or attempt to change the structure of the Constitution-stipulated majority white officer corps, judiciary and state bureaucracy requires a 75% majority in Parliament. It means Smith retains a veto power over any significant measure and a loyalist RSF ensuring continued white rule under a new 'Zimbabwe-Rhodesia' name. Smith renounces his promise to retire from politics and nominates himself as Minister of Interior or Minister of Defence in Muzorewa's cabinet.

18 April 1979: 200 police are deployed to a police a minor local ANL protest in Battersea.

18 April 1979: Merlyn Rees, Home Secretary, visits Southall as part of the Labour election campaign. Representatives from the coordinating committee meet him. He insists he has no powers to ban election meetings.

A meeting is held between Chief Superintendent of Southall Police and 'community leaders' including some protest organisers: "When I came in, they were sat there with their hands clasped; it looked like they were praying. The Superintendent made a speech warning that left-wingers wanted to destroy the town: "Next week evil is coming." (Balwinder Rana, Southall Youth Movement)

Tensions emerge between the SYM, on one side and the IWA & ANL on the other. Southall IWA is tied to the Broad Left Communist-Labour Left approach. Piara Khabra, Labour Left councillor and deputy of the IWA, has argued for a stay-away strike only, not a protest outside the Town Hall.

"Even now I don't know what left and right in Southall means. Every time we tried to protest and give our own identity the left [parties such as the SWP, IMG and CPGB] tried to take it over... they gave us their own slogans and placards." (Balwinder Rana, Southall Youth Movement)

19 April 1979: Thatcher backlash speech in Birmingham: "In their muddled but different ways the vandals on the picket lines and the muggers in our streets have got the same confused message "we want our demands met or else" and "get out of our way, give us your handbag or else"

20 April 1979: Concorde 216, which is the last one ever produced, makes its first flight at Filton.

20 April 1979: Ford UK, the British subsidiary reports profits of £242mil for 1978, less than £4mil below Ford's 1977 record profits in spite of a 9-week nationwide strike. Sales receipts reach £2363

— an increase of £110m on the 1977 figure. Ford chairman and managing director, Sir Terence Beckett says: "We are not in the business of standing still. To stay ahead and, most importantly, to maintain our investment programme we should have been making profits almost double.— around £400m last year... We set our sights on a 30% share of the best car market since 1973 and I believe we could have achieved it. But the year opened and closed with major disputes. We started with a six-week strike at the Halewood press-shop and finished the year with a national shutdown which lasted nine disastrous weeks." He states the restructuring and investment programme will continue.

20 April 1979: BSG International has increased profits from £7.74m to a record £8.35m in 1978, this incorporates a £1m profit fall in the second half, because of lost production in the motor industry as a result of the Ford UK strike. Chairman Harry Cressman notes that demand is extremely buoyant and supplies are flowing freely, with no lorry strike meaning the position for the remainder of the year is encouraging.

21 April 1979: 5,000 police defend a Leicester NF march and meeting drawing 1,000 NFers. 2,000 antifascists attempt to stop the march but are held back by the police. Police are drafted in from all over the country. Police helicopters direct a contingent including trained dogs, horses, riot shields, batons and face masks.

The police re-route the shaken NF march out of Leicester and attack the remaining anti-fascists. Police dogs chase anti-fascists through Leicester University campus. 82 are arrested, including Balwinder Rana on his way home, who is stopped by 4 plain-clothes officers and bundled into an unmarked car. "The police were completely out of control and I remember discussing that someone was going to be killed soon." (David, SWP member, Renton, When we touched the sky)

"Indiscriminate kicking and punching from the word go. By the time of the Front meeting in a local school a whole main street was full of ANL demonstrators and local people. The police vehicles were accelerating up the road at breakneck speed and people were literally jumping for their lives. Luckily no-one was hit. Police tactics were notable for the first use of dogs against demonstrators in living memory in Britain. Coming at the end of a week that included Sir Robert Mark's comments on the unions and the Police Federations barely disguised pro-Tory law and order adverts in the national dailies, it's easy to see the way the police handled Leicester as a boost to their campaign for wider powers." (Big Flame, May, 1979)

22 April 1979: Rolling Stones perform a concerts in Oshawa, Ontario as a benefit the Canadian National Institute for the Blind.

They agree to this only as a result of plea bargaining over Keith Richards' 1978 sentence for heroin possession.

- 22 April 1979: 5,000 people march to Ealing Town Hall with petition of 10,000 more in opposition to the local council's decision not to rescind the invitation for the NF on St. George's Day.
- 22 April 1979: A worker is killed laying under-motorway pipes in Tarbert. His trench collapses over him, workmates dig him out to find him dead. A larger workforce to have dug a wider platform without overhangs would have prevented the death.
- 22 April 1979: Sotheby's holds an auction in Donington Park, Derbyshire for luxury cars. A 1930 Bentley tourer is sold to a private individual for £34,000.
- 23 April 1979: 3,000 Police invade Southall in the morning setting up in position to protect the NF. Dog units, helicopters, horse units and riot vans of SPG are dotted around the district. One policemen: "Move along... exercise does you good. Stops you being constipated after all those curries you eat."

Some policemen in coaches have Union Flags displayed to taunt protesters. One apparently has written "NF" on steamed up window. Clarence Baker, band organiser for Misty in Roots, is told earlier by police standing together: "You black bastard, we are going to get you." He is later battered by a group of policemen "About six were hitting me with their truncheons. I felt one blow. I did not really feel anything after that."

Southall holds a half-day strike in protest at Ealing Town Hall being offered to the NF. Shops and factories close at 1p.m. The council flies the Union Jack in the morning and throughout the day, apparently to celebrate St George's Day, although its flag is the red and white cross. Southall Youth Movement form a protest block outside the Town Hall and are cleared away by police. They attempt to march back but police begin arresting them. Many arrests are made and antifascists are cleared from the Town Hall area.

Police attack a London Transport bus carrying protesters. "At one stage the police observed that several dozen antifascists had boarded a number 207 bus... police then boarded the bus and removed the demonstrators by force. Several windows were smashed." Bus services are stopped throughout Southall and a police cordon is established, where people are unable to move in or out.

Pete Alexander: "After the Southall Youth Movement's abortive march, the cops took control of the crossroads and the whole area between it and eastwards beyond the police station. When I say took control I mean armoured cars, cavalry, the ordinary riot cops in large numbers and helicopters."

Four separate protest blocks are dotted at the police points. Police attack the home of anti-racist collective Peoples Unite, used as a first aid and legal point for the demonstration. People are beaten and dragged out of the house with SPG officers on the stairs blocking anyone trying to help.

Police officers burst up the stairs and beat people as they tried to escape. Tarig Ali is inside and is struck on his head so severely blood covers his face. Clarence Baker, manger of Misty in Roots, is struck on the skull so severely he enters a coma and does not reemerge for several days in a hospital. Balwinder Rana immediately escapes jumping through a window over a garage and hides from a street full of police horses. John Witzenfeld, a solicitor inside when police attack describes:"They kicked in the panel on the door to the medical unit and waving their truncheons told us to get out. I was pushed into the hall with the others behind me. Suddenly I felt a blow to the back of my head and I managed to half-turn and saw a hand holding a truncheon disappearing downwards... Whilst we were waiting for the ambulance, two police stood in the doorway with their backs to us whilst people were brought down from upstairs and I saw truncheons rise and fall and I heard shouts and screams from the women."

Police smash medical equipment, sound system, printing press, furniture, stationery etc with batons. Peoples Unite's squatted building is damaged by the brutal thrusting and flailing of police so it is destroyed. Jack Dromey, senior TGWU full-timer, later describes: "I have never seen such unrestrained violence against demonstrators... Special Patrol Group were just running wild." Dialo Sandu, watching from her garden: "They treated us like animals." Caroline [an ANL Ealing member], a driver trying to gather those released after arrest: 'Many of the Asians kids that the police arrested, they beat them up for a bit, and then they took them out of London. They dropped them in the middle of nowhere, on the side of motorways" (Renton, When we touched the sky)

Police on horses charge and policemen use their batons at people still in the street. "Suddenly the cordon parted and police on horseback came through and starting hitting people with long batons. They attacked men, women and children."

An <u>Ealing Gazette</u> reporter says "I had seen no trouble at all. Why were the SPG running around with their batons drawn? I was astonished by their brutality."

<u>Daily Telegraph</u> reporters describe: "Within three minutes, mounted police had cornered about 50 demonstrators against the walls and,

moving through the churchyard, rounded up stragglers. As we watched, several dozen crying, screaming, coloured demonstrators bodily to the police station. were dragged Nearly demonstrator we saw had blood flowing from some sort of injury." Police chase protesters into Southall Park where they are hit, some have escaped into a churchyard, through the church is closed. Jo Lang friend of Blair Peach: "Police forced us down Beechcroft Avenue. At least two SPG vans came up. The officers got out and charged us. You took one look at them and thought, 'These guys really mean business.' We ran, but Blair wasn't with us, so we went back to look for him. An Asian family had taken him into their living room. You couldn't see how badly injured he was. There was no blood. It was later said that he had been struck by a lead filled cosh. While he was in the ambulance he started having fits." 20 SPG police officers charge on Blair Peach. An eyewitness of the assault: "Police rushed past him, one of them hit him on the head with the stick. I was in my garden and I saw this guite clearly. He was left sitting against the wall. He tried to get up, but he was shivering and looked very strange. He couldn't stand. Then the police came back and told him like this, 'Move! Come on, Move!' They were very rough with him and I was shocked because it was clear he was seriously hurt. His tongue seemed stuck in the top of his mouth and his eyes were rolled up to the top of his head. But they started pushing him and told him to move, and he managed to get to his feet. He staggered across the road and came to where I was in the garden. I tried to sit him down. He was in a very bad state and he couldn't speak. Then he just dropped down. I got a glass of water for him, but he couldn't hold it and it dropped out of his hand." (Parminder Atwal as recorded in London Evening News 24 Apr 1979)

Several houses' doors are disrupted by police raids, chasing after protesters. 3 protesters' skulls are fractured. Several others suffer internal bleeding. A number of people end up in intensive care. 30 have serious or genital injuries. Over 750 are arrested, over 450 are later charged. Many, particularly young Asians, are taken in and detained by police but are not recorded as arrested at all, perhaps as a result of the administrative burden of so many arrests.

"Around ten, many of us gathered to watch the news at a restaurant where Rock Against Racism and Indian music had been blaring out all evening, drowning out the National Front speakers inside the town hall. Their words still bleeding, people saw the Commissioner of Police, the Home Secretary, and other "experts" on the black community condemning the people of Southall for their unprovoked attack on the police! As usual, only pictures of injured policemen were shown - nothing of the pregnant women being

attacked and the countless other police assaults." (Perminder Dhillon, Spare Rib)

Several reports and inquiries and investigations take place: an internal Met Police by Commander Cass report into Peach's death, a report by Sir David McNee to the Home Secretary, customary after mass disobedience, and a report by Met Police Deputy Commissioner Pat Kavanagh on the SPG. Later in June 1979 Police Commissioner, Sir David McNee, responding to the charge of SPG brutality at Southall, says to the black journalist questioner at a press conference introducing the Met annual report: "If you('d) keep off the streets in London and behave yourself, you won't have the SPG to worry about."

24 April 1979: Justice begins for Southall, with hasty police witness statements produced for the arrested as auickly as possible so as to make 'charges stick'. As reported in the later trial: "A 14-year-old Sikh boy... charged with 'threatening behaviour' and being in possession of 'offensive weapons' at 6.20 p.m. on 23 April 1979. The sum total of the prosecution case was the evidence of one policeman who stated that he had seen the accused with an offensive weapon... The defence produced several witnesses. These included a white doctor, a white solicitor and a white ambulance man. They all testified that the boy, at the time, was being treated for a hand wound and had suffered a severe loss of blood. They knew because they were all in the legal aid room at 6 Park View. I was with them, when the police raided this address and arrested the boy in question and numerous others. But defence witnesses, even respectable ones, are not permitted to obstruct 'the due process of law'. The boy was found guilty and fined £100. The defence argued that he had no job and no source of income. The Magistrate replied, 'Let him find a job.' The defence retorted that it was a criminal act for a 14-year-old to gain employment. But the Magistrate had meant a 'paper round' or something like that." (The Guardian, 24 Sep 1979)

24 April 1979: At 11am Police Commander Cass interviews Amanda Leon, who is close by to Peach at the time he is struck. She states: "I saw a police officer strike Blair Peach with an overarm blow with a truncheon... I only saw one blow struck. The truncheon made contact on Blair Peach's head. I don't know what part of the head the blow fell on. My impression was that it was the back of his head because he was running away." She describes Peach's killing as the result of an assault, she states she was hit on the head by a police officer and that she saw a man lying on the ground with a policeman bending over him and hitting him in the testicles. Leon

asks Cass to pursue a complaint against the police officers responsible for assault in that part of Southall. Cass refuses. The Met police attempt to keep the contents of the interview secret. It is released following a High Court injunction.

24 April 1979: Hereford Evening News opposes action that touches the police: "However understandable the resentment of the large Asian community... there can be neither excuse nor forgiveness of their violent attacks on the police" Oxford Mail defends freedom: "this is a free country, where even detestable organisations have to be allowed to hold election meetings to support their candidates, a big force of police was present. The organisers of the demonstration caricatured this" and calls anti-fascists "enemies of freedom". Swindon Advertiser blames Labour signatories to the ANL: "Anti-Nazi League, which was once sponsored, in part, by a number of respectable people who did not stop to think twice, has now degenerated into an umbrella for extreme left malcontents" Oldham Evening Chronicle urges even tougher action against anti-fascists: "the real consensus in Britain is to get the rabble of both Right and Left off the streets". Bradford Telegraph & Argus declares the ANL guilty of Nazi methods: "What price the Anti-Nazi League when the people it persuades to demonstrate use Nazi methods." Lancashire Evening Post declares the ANL the more dangerous anti-democrats: "In the short term they are more dangerous than the National Front because they hide their revolutionary and totalitarian aims behind a noble cause."

24 April 1979: In Plymouth, anti-fascists reach a school where an NF election rally is planned, and, in advance, sit in seats planned for the NF. About 150 anti-fascists occupy the room with capacity for only 60. NF supporters are physically blocked from their meeting. Police nonetheless arrest several anti-fascists, whilst NF leader Tyndall is being ferreted away.

24 April 1979: Enoch Powell responding to Southall states: "I have made no secret of my belief that unless there is a dramatic and far-reaching change in policy, which will reduce the otherwise inevitable proportion of the population of New Commonwealth origin immigrants in the coming years, something which I have described as civil war is inevitable."

Powell states that blaming the NF or his own hard-right Unionism for racial conflict in the future is "like giving the Archduke Ferdinand a bullet-proof vest to wear and expecting that to prevent the start of the First World War.... The important fact is the scale and proportion of the New Commonwealth population in England and, in particular, in certain cities and areas." He confirms his support for using armed forces in immigrant areas since "it would not be the

first lime in English history that the army had been used to aid civil power."

24 April 1979: At an ACAS meeting, Co-operative Wholesale Society executives and senior figures of TGWU agree a plan for 270 drivers on strike for over a month to return to work, if terms can be accepted.

25 April 1979: 7,000 police including Special Branch, horse unit and the SPG numbering those who killed Blair Peach, protect an NF meeting in Newham Town Hall. 500 antifascists attend a demonstration under the banner of East London ANL. Police arrest 16 antifascists and none of the NF participants who are escorted in and out of the premises in the rain.

26 April 1979: <u>Daily Mail</u> with an entire front page headed 'Labour's Dirty Dozen - 12 big lies they hope will save them' asserting that Thatcher is a reasonable patriot against hypocritical 'socialist' intrusions into 'British' liberties and pride.

28 April 1979: Over 1,000 police defend an NF meeting in West Bromwich.

28 April 1979: A 15,000 march and rally in London in memory of Blair Peach and pride of place is given to Ken Gill, leader of the Broad Left on the TUC General Council, allied to the CPGB, who gives the main speech. Ken Gill is later to retire in 1993 with a retirement package worth £200,000. When this is revealed it is reduced to £140,000.

28 April 1979: <u>Billboard</u> reports "CBS UK has kicked off its policy of making unlimited editions of 12-inch singles with the Earth. Wind & Fire release of 'Boogie Wonderland'.... Maurice Oberstein still proclaims serious doubts about the long-term effects of a regular, "no limit" 12-inch program. He warned dealers at a Gramophone Record Retailers' Committee meeting that the giant singles took around three limes as long to press as conventional 7-inch disks.... John Mair, CBS sales director, states: ""The reason 12-inch singles were limited in number came from the fuel that the price has to be the same as a 7-incher and, therefore, is uneconomical lo avoid certain royally payments.... our job is to operate in the market the way it is. So we hope to avoid antagonism by putting the price of 12-inch releases up (to roughly \$4) making them freely available"

28 April 1979: 2 'illegal immigrants' from the PRC are killed in suspicious circumstances, as 10 attempt to escape from a Hong Kong police lorry repatriating them to the border. No real investigation is ever conducted.

- 29 April 1979: Callaghan states Labour are on the verge of victory and retain policy victories: "Our task is to convert these policy victories into an equally stunning victory at the polling booths." Many key solidly 'organised' sections of Labour's base, Dunlop Tyre workers in Speke and various regions of NUPE urge TUC members to boycott the election.
- 30 April 1979: 1,000 police defend an NF meeting in Bradford from anti-fascist protesters.
- 30 April 1979: Marketing Manager of NIOC, national Iranian oil company, Mohammad Azimi, announces Iran has signed 35 contracts for oil export since the traditional previous marketing arrangements Shah through a Western consortium have been ended. The 8 major international oil firms sharing nearly half of Iran's output in the future will include British firms British Petroleum and Shell, alongside Compagnie Francaise des Petroles, Gulf Oil, Exxon, Caltex and Texaco.
- 30 April 1979: US Ambassador to the United Nations, Andrew Young in Newsweek states the position over the continuing internal settlement in Rhodesia: "The President's position is to remain neutral and that's my position. Our endorsement will not make a bit of difference. It will only alienate black Africa and make it much more likely that the Soviets and Cubans will step up their involvement in Africa with African assent." He says US hopes for "an election supervised by the United Nations and the presence of a UN peacekeeping force is the only option that makes sense. We have to hold out for that. The guerrillas will accept elections run by the British."
- 30 April 1979: Britain joins France and USA in abstaining on a U.N. Security Council resolution condemning the Rhodesian segregated elections of 16 21 Apr 1979.
- 1 May 1979: Alec Douglas-Hume, treated with respect by the press as a grandee, warns the House of Lords is vital to keep a check on the Commons.
- 1 May 1979: 5,000 police block the surrounding area to Caxton Hall, where NF hold an election meeting, all day long.
- 1 May 1979: The government assisted workers' co-operative, Doon Valley, in Patna, Ayrshire, closes down after failing to secure orders.
- 1 May 1979: Prince Charles opens the first stage of London's new underground line. The line has been named the Jubilee line in honour of the Queen's silver Jubilee in 1977.
- 1 May 1979: Canada announces the sale of 4 nuclear reactors to Romania.

- 2 May 1979: Israeli forces open fire on students at Bir Zeit University, one is severely injured. The following day to prevent demonstrations against the brutality both Bethlehem and Bir Zeit Universities are raided by IDF forces with tear gas, and mass arrests including 70 from Bir Zeit.
- 2 May 1979: Opinion poll declaring more support for Labour leads to a drop in sterling rates and the FTSE. Over the day FTSE falls 14.3 points, the sharpest fall in 20 months. It forces the Bank of England to enter trading at the end of the day to keep sterling high.
- 2 May 1979: David Steel declares Thatcher out of touch with growing support for electoral reform. He states it includes the CBI, since it seeks a new form of coalition-heavy stability. He states Liberals will demand P.R. electoral reform as the price for their support should the Conservatives win with an overall minority of seats.
- 3 May 1979: Australia's <u>The Age</u>: "In mid-campaign the Speaker of the US House of Representatives, Mr. Tip O'Neill, visited Ireland and criticised British policy harshly. The sole effect was to draw the parties together in declaring that there was no question of withdrawing the troops or weakening the union with the British mainland. Similarly, the killing of a man in a riot at an election rally held by the neo-Nazi National Front in West London had no deep effect on the spasmodic campaign debate on law and order." (The Age, May 3, 1979)
- 4 May 1979: Headlined "Shares vote for Maggie" <u>Evening Standard</u> reports a "buying bonanza" on account of opinion polling suggesting a centre-right victory. At its close FTSE at 553.5 is at an all-time high.
- 5 May 1979: FTSE index rises again with news of Thatcher majority. Conservative targets during the campaign: skilled working class (C2) stressing tax cuts; women, stressing an end to price rises in foodstuffs, clothing etc. with greater "competition" and less subsidy for "lame ducks" to support housewives; first time voters not set into voting patterns, with images of "Labour" unemployment queues. Saatchi and Saatchi organise Conservative Party broadcasts and have coached Thatcher in special sessions of humming in order to get her hectoring, strident voice to a more sonorous timbre.

The campaign has received support from centre-right forces worldwide. Republican Party National Chairman Bill Brock assist campaigning, and is also given a temporary press pass. He states: "If we had a candidate like that we could absolutely destroy the Democrats next year."

The Sun places a front page cartoon of Callaghan dressed as Moses and headlines boldly: "Would you follow him into the wilderness? (2 May 1979)

Then full page front page headline: 'A message to Labour supporters: VOTE TORY THIS TIME. It's the only way to stop the rot'. Editorial written by Larry Lamb and leader-writer Ronnie Spark: "The Sun is not a Tory newspaper ... The Sun is above all a RADICAL newspaper. And we believe that this time the only radical proposals being put to you are being put by Maggie Thatcher and her Tory team" (3 May 1979)

<u>The Economist</u> whilst praising Callaghan's "platform of middle-ground conservatism" and worrying over Thatcher's possible misjudgement in excessively confrontational tactics if in office, nevertheless urges a Conservative vote.

Peregrine Worsthorne, deputy editor of the <u>Sunday Telegraph</u>, urges Labour voters to "take a chance on Mrs T" since "her proposals amount in effect to very little: a controlled experiment in using market methods to improve the workings of social democracy" (30 Apr 1979)

<u>Financial Times</u> urges a vote for change, arguing that Labour has meant "everyday lives are over-regulated", it supports efforts "to reduce direct taxation, to deal with... the closed shop ... to cut government spending" (2 May 1979)

<u>Daily Express</u> headline: "YOU can help Margaret Thatcher make Britain really GREAT again. Give the girl a chance." Front page editorial proclaims Thatcher able to lead a renaissance. The centre pages give further pro-Thatcher editorial commentary featuring articles, cartoons, a message from Abraham Lincoln and a picture of a shifty Tony Benn with "Would you like this man to run Britain?". It states the election is the most crucial in Britain for decades: "as a nation, we no longer rate... this could be the last chance for us to restore our national dignity. We urge Britain to cast a vote for freedom — by supporting Mrs Thatcher and the Conservatives." (Daily Express 3 May, 1979).

<u>Daily Mail</u>'s first 2 pages are full of editorial with headline "The woman who can save Britain" under a photo of Thatcher. "We have never disguised our support for Mrs. Thatcher." (3 May, 1979).

<u>Sydney Morning Herald</u> editorialises: "Imprecise about details and specifics she has seen that 20 per cent lead slip sway in less time than a month. It will be a sad day for the cause of women in

government if she loses and it may be a sad day for Britain, too. Mr Callaghan's Government, despite some successes, has seen uninspiring leadership in these years of British decline. New ideas, a new approach are needed. Only the Conservatives appear to offer them." (1 May, 1979)

The <u>Daily Telegraph:</u> "the truth is that the British economy is going from bad to worse. It had actually regressed since the dark days of the three-day week."\_Thatcher shows "her courage in both hands" while Callaghan is happy to "reap easy political popularity by telling people reassuringly that ... things are going well." (3 May, 1979)

Kenneth Williams concludes, in his diary, that Thatcher's victory is "the first time since Macmillan that we've had a leader with style and dignity" - the soft era is over.

Postscript: The blame for Labour's loss is largely recorded in history as 'the trade unions', 'the winter of discontent'.

David Marquand, future adviser to Smith and Blair, in 1979: "there are moral limits to the growth of the public sector as well as economic and political limits. Whether those limits have yet been reached is a matter for debate: the Conservative claim that they have been, though apparently accepted by the electorate, is far from self-evident. But even if they have not been reached already, it is clear that they must be reached sooner or later— and sooner rather than later... New privileges were given to an over-mighty, undemocratic and illiberal Trade-Union Establishment... the chief operational function of the old cries of working-class solidarity is to enable the "haves" to defend their differentials against the "havenots." ... The private sector of the British economy is now so weak that a few more steps in a socialist direction might take it over the frontier.... the kind of revisionism which is needed now would cut much deeper than Gaitskell's did. He was merely trying to persuade the party to abandon socialism in favour of social democracy. What is needed now is to abandon both socialism and the kind of social democracy we have known since the war, and to do so in a way" (Marquand, Jul 1979, Encounter)

David Marquand, future adviser to Smith and Blair, in 2008: "In the cold 'winter of discontent' of 1978-9, a wave of mainly unofficial strikes, mostly in the public sector and often accompanied by violence on the picket lines, paralysed the country and demolished Labour's claim to have discovered the secret to industrial peace... As a serious contender for power the Labour Party was no more. A decade and a half would pass before Labour people were willing to admit that it died by its own hand." (Britain Since 1918: The Strange Career Of British Democracy, pp273-4) Unsurprisingly he

gives no examples of violence on the picket lines, since to do so would actually be to reveal the direction and purposes of that violence.

Prof. Kenneth Morgan, fellow of Queen's College Oxford and editor of the Welsh History Review at the time, later editor of and author of cut-price publisher-promoted bestseller *Oxford Illustrated History* of Britain and a Labour life peer attacks "the failings of the leaders of the unions themselves, especially following the retirement of Jack Jones in 1977. The 'winter of discontent' of 1978-79, while often exaggerated in the right-wing media, did highlight major problems in the calling and conduct of strikes, and in the powers of central government. A Labour government, headed by the only trade unionist ever to become Prime Minister, was helpless, and the machinery of government ground to a halt. Foot's legislation should have laid the foundations of long-term industrial consensus, not of class war. Thirty years on, moderate union leaders like David Lea, John Monks and Brendan Barber recalled the Foot years as a golden age which redressed the social balance" (Kenneth Morgan, Michael Foot: A life, 2007)

Chancellor Healey: "Each night the television screens carried film of bearded men in duffel coats huddled around braziers. Nervous viewers thought the revolution had begun... This shambles was of course a triumph for Mrs Thatcher. The cowardice and irresponsibility of some union leaders in abdicating responsibility... guaranteed her election; it left them with no grounds for complaining about her subsequent action against them." (Denis Healey, The Time of My Life, p59-60)

Joel Barnett, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Healey loyalist explains: "The only give and take in the [Social] Contract was what the government gave and the unions took." (Inside the Treasury, Andre Deutsch, 1982, p49)

Transport Secretary under Wilson Bill Rodgers explains: "The trade unions had defeated the Labour Government and opened wide the doors to Mrs Thatcher. They had also defeated themselves. A Conservative Government would ensure that they were never the same again." (The Guardian, The Winter's Tale of Discontent', January 7 1984 p11)

Harry Conroy, future General Secretary of NUJ: "The 'Winter of Discontent' slowly petered out, and industrial peace was restored but not before a great deal of damage had been done to the economy, trade unions and the Labour government. The actions carried out in the name of trade unionism did untold damage to the

standing of the trade unions which were seen to act in an selfish manner with no regard to what suffering their actions caused." (Callaghan, Harry Conroy, p124)

Callaghan: "The contagion spread to other industries and services, and during January 1979 unofficial strikes erupted every week, with workers in one industry inflicting hardship on their fellows in other industries. Even with the passage of time I find it painful to write about some of the excesses that took place. One of the most notorious was the refusal of Liverpool grave diggers to bury the dead, accounts of which appalled the country when they saw pictures of mourners being turned away from the cemetery." (Callaghan, Time and Tide 1987 p537)

BBC chief editor currently History GCSE-approved Andrew Marr: "For the next few years, supercilious patronizing remarks from Wilson and then the new Prime Minister, James Callaghan, would be her lot. And then she [Thatcher] would show them. ... At sixty-five he was one of the most experienced politicians to become Prime Minister. After Wilson and Heath he was the third and last of the centrist seekers after consensus, the wartime avoiders of national confrontation. ... Only after the wasteland of his time in office can the bold remaking of Britain under Margaret Thatcher begin. And Callaghan himself had been part of the problem. His sentimental failure to understand the aggression of the union challenge to elected power, and his earlier lack of interest in radical economic ideas, came home to haunt him in Downing Street. But the story of the Callaghan and Healey years, for the two must be taken together, is more intriguing than its body-strewn, gore-splattered final act. It is also a story of comparative success, of wrenching inflation down again, doing the best deals with international bankers that could be done, and facing up to challenges that had been dodged for decades...

The [Labour] left thought planning had failed because it was too weak, and should therefore be dramatically extended. Any strongly held political view which is excluded from the centre of power tends to develop a conspiracy theory. The Powellites believed Heath had lied to the British people. The Labour left believed Wilson, Callaghan and Healey had been captured by international capitalism, as had many MPs. The answer was to make them accountable to 'ordinary people', as the obsessive meeting-attenders of Labour politics innocently believed themselves to be. So the siege economy or 'Alternative Economic Strategy' and mandatory reselection of MPs became the two main planks of the left.

Actions by individual union branches and shop stewards were reckless and heartless. Left-wing union leaders and activists whipped up the disputes for their own purposes.... much of the fault

for this was Callaghan's. It was not just that he had opposed the legal restrictions on union power pleaded for by Wilson and Castle, and then fought for vainly by Heath. It was not even that he and Healey, acting in good faith, had imposed a more drastic squeeze on public spending and thus on the poorest families, than was economically necessary... though none of that helped. It was also that by trying to impose an unreasonably tough new pay limit on the country, and then dithering about the date of the election, he destroyed the fragile calm he had so greatly enjoyed....

Strikes by car workers were one thing. But now the public was being hit directly, and the most vulnerable were being hit the hardest. Children's hospitals, old people's homes and schools were all plunged into trouble. The single most notorious action was by the Liverpool Parks and Cemeteries Branch of the General & Municipal Workers' Union, who refused to bury dead bodies, leaving more than 300 to pile up in a cold storage depot and a disused factory, and Liverpool council to discuss emergency plans for disposing of some corpses at sea. Funeral cortèges were met at the cemeteries by pickets and forced to turn back. Strikers were confronted in local pubs and thumped. In the centre of London and other major cities, huge piles of rotting rubbish piled up, overrun with rats and a serious health hazard. Inside government, ordinary work almost ground to a halt.... This was chaos, and a direct challenge to the authority of the government. It was not a revolution, or an attempt to overthrow a government. Yet that is the effect it had. The revolution would bring in Thatcherism not socialism, and Labour would be overthrown" (A History Of Modern Britain, Andrew Marr)

In fact the serious health hazard is normal working, thousands of deadly accidents and health conditions caused every year. Strike action can not be said to cause serious health hazards, only the failure from above to properly sustain the workforce providing necessary services does. Where strike action is organised, it the opposite of *chaos*, very disciplined local committees with considerable influence from above control supplies in and out of sites.

The leitmotif of 'unburied bodies' is a meaningless one. Cemetery workers did not discard or damage any bodies, they were merely kept waiting, as an inevitable result of local authority managements' sub-inflation pay awards for more than half a decade. Cemetery workers, hospital workers, college workers and the like were all public service users as were their spouses, families, relatives and neighbours.

History professor Norman Lowe: "Neither side would compromise and after the Ford car workers had won a big wage increase by going on strike, there was a surge of strikes, especially among

public sector workers whose wages had been tightly controlled the previous three years. This was extremely embarrassing for the government, especially when NHS workers, dustmen and even Liverpool grave-diggers went on strike. Strike action dragged on through the winter, the 'winter of discontent' as it became known, and ruined Labour's claim that they could control the unions. In addition there were 1.4million people out of work, and the government seemed to have run out of ideas and reforming zeal [straightforward account of votes of confidence and Parliamentary arithmetic] The Conservatives were full of new purpose; the unfortunate Heath had been dropped after suffering two election defeats, and their new leader Margaret Thatcher, was aggressive and self-confident, making the most of Labour's failure to cope with the winter of discontent. The results were: Conservatives 339, Labour 229, Liberals 11, others 16, giving a Conservative overall majority of 43." (Final two paragraphs of '30.7 Labour in Power Again 1974-9', Mastering Modern British History, Norman Lowe, Macmillan, p506)

Strike action *drags on,* Labour's main weakness is considered the failing to cope with [ie end] strike action. Only secondarily *in addition* is the figure of 1.4million unemployment mentioned. Taking this headline figure (assuming a full-time five-day week) 364,000,000 days of economic activity were lost due to unemployment. By comparison an official total of only 29,474,000 days were lost to strike action in 1979 [the highest total since 1926]. For economic production in Britain, luxuries and necessities alike, the size of the capital strike/generalised economic lock-out is *at least* twelve times greater than the labour strikes. This does include the millions of women forced to act as domestic labourers shut out from the official productive sphere. If child-rearing was socialised millions of productive people would be released. It is the ongoing lock-out from above that has determined living in family and individual units without childcare provision.

Robert Taylor, former employment editor of the <u>Financial Times</u> and the Observer, current policy adviser at the European Trade Union Confederation. Outright exaggeration: "the biggest post-war swing in working-class support to the mainstream party of the political right took place [in 1979]. What was particularly significant was that working-class voters were found to be much more in sympathy with Conservative values and policies than with those of Labour. It was not only the appeal of no more incomes policy and the promise of cuts in direct taxation that won support from lower income groups; many also liked the Conservative promise to sell off the nation's council house stock to sitting tenants at discount prices. They also failed to sympathize with trade union militancy. Working-class anger at the behaviour of the public service unions was often

more belligerent than among the middle class. After all, the real sufferers of what took place through the industrial disruption of the so-called 'winter of discontent' in 1978-9 at hospitals, in refuse collection and in public transport were themselves members of the working class." He celebrates the Callaghan view as "fitting" without recognising for even half a sentence in the whole work that the government failed to deliver its end of the 'social contract': "At a mournful farewell lunch in 10 Downing Street after his decisive defeat a few days later Callaghan added: "the trade unions did i(. People could not forget and would not forgive what they had to suffer from them last winter." It was a fitting epitaph for the burial of the Social Contract." (Robert Taylor in New Labour, Old Labour) He offers praise for Euro-Communist CPGB analysis "The primacy of the wages struggle through an aggressive strategy of trade union advance failed to convince more thoughtful communists. Professor Eric Hobsbawm expressed a prophetic disquiet at what was happening in his seminal Marx Memorial Lecture that was delivered in the spring of 1978. Entitled 'The forward march of Labour halted?' it drew attention to what Hobsbawm saw as a critical moment in the evolution of the Labour movement. 'We now see a growing division of workers into sections and groups, each pursuing its own economic interest irrespective of the rest', he explained. What was novel, he contended, was the ability of each group or section to mobilise its bargaining strength not so much by placing pressure on their employer but on the general public: 'in the nature of things such sectional forms of struggle not only create potential friction between groups of workers but risk weakening the hold of the labour movement as a whole'. The resulting 'economist militancy' brought a corresponding decline in social solidarity among workers. Hobsbawm provided an ideological explanation for what was a widely recognised phenomenon. The anomie of workplace life, however, had failed to stimulate a heightened awareness of the need to channel worker discontent beyond demands for high wages.... Events were soon to vindicate Hobsbawm's perceptive analysis."

Philip Gould: "from 1970 onwards, the left began their slow, inexorable assault. Labour's long death march had been begun." (The Unfinished Revolution, Abacus, 1998, p35)

Outright falsification from Liberal Democrats. From 2003 "The 1974-79 Labour administration was probably Britain's worst post-war government... It marked Labour's final failure to tackle the dominant political question of the time - the appalling state of Britain's industrial relations. The proliferation of industrial disputes and the large number of days lost due to strikes was a national embarrassment - the 'British disease . Restrictive practices in the

workplace were rife, with the result that British industry failed to modernise or adapt to new technology at the same pace as its economic rivals....

[Labour] found itself the unexpected beneficiary of Edward Heath's battle with the miners. Scarred by the experience of 1969, Wilson was in no mood to take on the unions again, passing legislation that gave them further legal immunities, including the closed shop, as well as granting unsustainable inflationary pay-increases in the public sector. Callaghan reaped the dividends of his manoeuvring by succeeding Wilson as prime minister, but the unions were no kinder to him, eventually destroying what little credibility Labour had left during the 1978-79 winter of discontent. Labour having shown itself all but unfit to govern, the country turned to Mrs Thatcher... both parties in the [SDP-Liberal] Alliance were tainted with responsibility for the mess Labour had left behind in 1979." (lain Sharpe, Well out of it, The Liberator, August 2003, 16-17) and 2011 "for most of the last 35 years trade unions have been either reviled or ignored. This began during the unions period of collective madness in the late 1970s when - with a Labour government tottering and Margaret Thatcher standing in the wings for all with eyes to see - the dead went unburied and strike committees decided which goods lorries were allowed onto the roads. It was regrettable that this chaos paved the way for the Tory victory in 1979 but scarcely surprising that for an exasperated public, it was the final blow to the Callaghan government." (Mark Smulian, Hackney Liberal Democrat, review of Why Join A Trade Union? by Jo Phillips and David Seymour, The Liberator, January 2011)

David Reynolds, Professor of International History, Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge University, Fellow of the British Academy on its history panel, describes "the collapse of the 'social contract' with the unions – restraints on wage claims in return for government maintenance of real living standards – which was Labour's key weapon in the struggle against inflation. The unions' refusal to accept government pay targets in 1978 led to a rash of disputes in the winter of discontent early in 1979. TV pictures of rubbish uncollected hospitals picketed and the dead unburied contributed to the Tory victory in May 1979" (David Reynolds, Britannia Overruled: British Policy and World Power in the Twentieth Century, Longman Pearson, 2000, p253) again using media symbols with zero context to drive home a subtle anti-trade union position.

Jeremy Black, Professor of History at Exeter University, Fellow of the RSA, senior fellow at the Foreign Policy Research Institute, advisor to the University of North Texas military history department, serial council member of the British Records Association and the Royal Historical Society, sums up the era as: "Industrial disputes discouraged investment and given the downward pressure on public expenditure, caused a particular crisis in the public sector. The crisis culminated in the 'winter of discontent' of 1978-9. Callaghan lacked a message and policy to keep Labour united. The TUC and Labour Party Conference both rejected the norm of 5% in wage increases."

He goes on to describe "the selfishness of union of union leaders was summed up by Moss Evans, General Secretary of the TGWU who declared in January 1979 'I'm not bothered by percentages. It is not my responsibility to manage the economy. We are concerned about getting the rate for the job'... Hospitals were picketed, the dead unburied, troops called in to shoot rats, swarming around accumulated rubbish... Labour clearly could not handle the unions. A sense that Britain was out of control made both Labour and the unions seem harmful and led to surge in support for the Conservatives." (Macmillan Foundations, Modern British History: since 1900, Palgrave Macmillan 2000, p217) There is not a single mention of any "selfishness" caused by disinvestment or weapons investment or the maintenance of luxury production 'on the market' etc only "the selfishness of union leaders". In fact 1978-9 represents one point where union leaders do not determine initial bargaining bids, the pressure is wholly from below within the unions.

His updated, later version sees "The economic crisis culminated in the "Winter of Discontent' of 1978-9, when TUCland seemed all too real. Callaghan lacked a message and policy to keep Labour united. The TUC and the Labour Party Conference both rejected the norm of 5 per cent in wage increases proposed by the government, and, unlike under Thatcher, there was no legislation to restrain the unions. Instead, Callaghan, who had played a major role in blocking the union reforms advocated by Barbara Castle in 1969, thought it best to rely on agreement with union leaders. However, their attitude was summed up by Moss Evans, General Secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, who declared, in January 1979, 'I'm not bothered by percentages. It is not my responsibility to manage the economy. We are concerned about getting the rate for the job.'

Strikes by petrol-tanker and lorry drivers were followed by attempts by public-sector unions to 'catch up'. Hospital ancillary staff, ambulance men and dustmen went on strike. Hospitals were picketed and, in Liverpool, the dead were left unburied, and troops were called in to shoot rats swarming round accumulated rubbish. The large number of simultaneous strikes, the violence and meanmindedness of the picketing (which included the turning away of ambulances and widespread secondary picketing), and the lack of

interest by the strikers in the public, greatly disrupted the life of most of the population, discredited the rhetoric and practice of trade unionism for much of the public, and clearly showed that Labour could not handle the unions. This was more specifically a failure for Callaghan's search for the pragmatic ideal." (Britain since the Seventies: Politics and Society in the Consumer Age, Jeremy Black, Reaktion 2004, p123)

Callaghan's pragmatic ideal involves his imposition of real income declines, year on year since 1975, by inference "legislation to restrain the unions" is the correct approach. To suggest "the turning away of ambulances" is a fault is to declare that ambulance workers be forced to accept any wage reductions imposed from above, with as much practical right to strike as any ambulance workers in Soviet Union – theoretically there, in practical terms extinguished. Public sector workers are part of the public, and fairly uniformly reliant on public services, hence, broadly, even with ambulance drivers strikes, emergency calls are accepted but routine patient transport was boycotted.

Prices Minister Roy Hattersley, future Deputy Leader of the Labour Party 1983-92, attacks defensive collective trade union action by sewer workers, porters healthcare assistants in the struggle to end 4 years of real income declines, as 'individual and private initiative': "And the disruption of that bitter winter changed more than the public perception of trade unions. It undermined the country's faith in public provision. The great claim of the NHS – universal and free at the point of use - could not be sustained if pickets were closing hospital outpatients departments. Faith in state education was hard to sustain when schools were closed because the heating had not been switched on... And a country which had lost patience with the public service unions and confidence in the public services, grew increasingly reluctant to finance either the irresponsible employees or the inadequate provision out of its taxes. Six months [of strikes in 1978-9] did simultaneous and irreversible damage to the reputation of trade unions, public services and government spending. Even the low-paid public sector workers, and the extremists who encouraged the disruption which they caused, contributed to the spirit of the age - the belief that individual and private initiative always provided a better result than collective action. Middle-class ideas, if not the middle classes themselves were taking over." (Roy Hattersley, Fifty Years On, pp261)

He concludes in a general sense "the impression left by what came to be called the 'Winter of Discontent' was the collapse of both the public services and the spirit which would have sustained them. The images of the time, which have yet to be obliterated from the national memory, are of patients being turned away from hospital

out-patients' departments, rat-infested garbage accumulating in the streets, and most desperate of all, funerals postponed because the grave-diggers were on strike. In a bitterly cold winter, snow was not cleared from the streets and frost-damaged water pipes were left cracked and leaking. The case against collective provision – the ethos of democratic socialism – could not have been argued more eloquently.... The trade unions had become the symbol of any old and discredited view of society" (Roy Hattersley, Fifty Years On, pp262-3)