

THE iNDiElPiENDiENT

MONDAY 17 DECEMBER 1990

. Published in London 40p

SUMMARY

Embassy. in

Kuwait

abandoned

The two British diplomats in

Kuwait abandoned their em-

bassy, where they had with-

stood a threemonth Iraqi

blockade, and tlew to Baghdad.

)The embassy, the last function-

ing diplomatic post in Kuwait,

remains nominally open.

1 MiddleEastcrisis;

I Inside File, page 8

Dalyicall to IRA

Dr Cahal Daly, 73, was in-

stalled as Archbishop of Ar-

magh and Primate of All he

land. He told the IRA to call

off its terror campaign, and

said the Birmingham Six

should itquickly be vindicated

and releasedil..... Page 6

Science ministry

A minister for science may be

appointed to the Cabinet un-

der plans for restructuring

Whitehall.....

Riot deaths .

At least 33 people died in two

days of weekend rioting in the

ancient Moroccan city of Fez,

medical sources said Page 8

Charges threat

Two former advisers to Zhao

Ziyang, the ousted Communist

Party leader in China, face

criminal charges in connection

with last years crushed student

movement Page 10

Lonrho merger talks

ttTinyit Rowlandis Lonrho is in

merger talks with Gencor,

South Africa's second largest

mining group Page 18

\$2m for Sampras

Pete Sampras won tennisis in-

augural Compaq Grand Slam

Cup and a prize of 32m

(131.03m) in Munich, beating

his fellow American Brad Gil-

bert 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 Page 25

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DUDLEY

MOORES

DIFFERENT

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 OVERSEAS SUBSCRIPTIONS
 Air mail, 13 weeks: Europe 289.19;
 Zone A (Middle East), Zone 8 (US,
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 East, Australasia) 2170.69
 Commitment
 to talks on
 i apartheid
 linked with
 war threat
 From John Carlin
 in Soweto
 The African National Congress,
 bowing to the will of Nelson
 Mandela, yesterday proclaimed it-
 self formally and with one distinct
 voice in favour of pursuing peace-
 ful negotiations with the govern-
 ment to end apartheid. ttWe re-
 main committed to exploring
 every possibility for a peaceful
 transition to a democratic South
 Africa? the movement declared.
 -But, in resolutions ratified by
 the 1,600 delegates attending the
 MOS first national conference
 inside South Africa in 30 years,
 President F W de Klerk was
 warned that if he did not meet de-
 mands to which he had agreed,
 and did not act to end the slaugh-
 ter in the townships, talks could be
 called off and war declared.
 The ANC, declaring that its pa-
 tience with tithe regime, was run-
 ning out, gave Mr de Klerk 30
 April 1991 as the cut-off date for
 the release of all political prison-
 ers, for allowing the return of all
 political exiles, repealing all re-
 pressive legislation, and terminat-
 ing all political trials. Failing that,
 the ANC would itconsider the sus-
 pension of the whole negotiation
 process".

In order to press the government to desist from what the final declaration of the conference described as the governments own agenda of retaining white domination in a new formii, the ANC declared 1991 tithe year of mass action for the transfer of power to the people).

As to the violence in the townships around Johannesburg, the AN C said that this was part of 9a deliberate attempt by the state and its alliesii - including Mangosuthu Butheleziis tfsurrogatei, Inkatha party - ttto destabilise the AN C and sow terror and chaos".

The ANC stated its resolve, ttas a matter of urgencyii, to build MORE SHOPS than ever decided to flout Sunday trading laws and open for business yesterday in an attempt to rescue Christmas sales levels, which are suffering under the recession.

Usdaw, the shopworkers, union, hoped to persuade a number of local authorities to take out injunctions against the BHS chain to prevent it trading again next Sunday. BHS opened about for the first time, paying volunteer staff double wages. Many Woolworths stores also opened. BHS said last night that the company had taken the action principally 9to provide an extra shopping day for many' people who missed out last weekend because of the snowtt. It added that dinary Christmas season day, but staff at the chains Oxford Street store, paid about 920 after deductions for working a half-day shift, said business had been slower. David Blackmore, of the pressure group Keep Sunday Special (KSS), called the chainis action, tfan expensive failed; adding: itShops stealing the market share will do nothing to end the recession. It is just spreading the same turnover? The campaign is supported by religious groups and retail chains including John Lewis, C & A and Sears.

Hamleyis, the toy shop in Regent Street, central London, opened yesterday after being fined 9600 last week for opening on Sunday during 1989. Its Christmas season takings are down about 3 per cent on last year. Duncan Chadwick, the companyis chief executive, said he hoped Westminster Council, which is responsible for enforcing the Shops Act of 1950, would ignore the opening. 9After all, if they go after us they should go af-

100 of its 138 stores on a Sunday 'takings had been similar to an ordinary day. A dummy gun in the hands of marshals controlling the crowds at a homecoming, tight and disciplined defence committees in the townships to protect township residents. Umkhonto we Sizwe, the ANC's military wing, would play its part in these committees, although in a strictly defensive role. The conference resolved to persist unrelentingly with its campaign in favour of international sanctions against South Africa. This resolution was particularly Shops flout Sunday trading laws to Combat recession

By Alex Renton

ter the other 1,000 in the area who are opening?

Mr Chadwick said the shop would take up to 940,000 yesterday, one-sixth of an average Saturday's spending. Pointing to the fact that more people attend church in the United States and Scotland, where there are no Sunday trading restrictions, he accused KSS and Oxford Street rivals of pursuing a campaign uniquely against Hamleys for commercial reasons.

In Oxford Street, at the Bankrupt Clothes Store, the manager, Robert Elster, was happy with the result of his first day's Sunday trading. 'You can't stop people earning a living,' he said. 'Even if they put an injunction on us, we'll still trade next Sunday. They're not paying the rent? His company pays \$10,000 a week for the shop's 9,000 square feet.

Other shops in Oxford Street, including the electronics goods chain Dixons and the jewellers H Samuel and Ratners, have been opening on Sundays for some weeks. Most shops reported an average day's trading and none had received complaints from customers or the authorities.

Garfield Davies, general secretary of Usdaw, said the chain's action was 'totally irresponsible'. He added: 'They are trying to increase their profits at the expense of others, and showing no consideration for their workers?'

Most shoppers were happy to find the Oxford Street stores open, though Daphne James, a practising Roman Catholic from Bromley in Kent, said: 'I don't like it - I think Sunday is a family day? Asked what she was doing in Hamleys, she said: 'It's the kids. And my mother-in-law. I don't like it because it was announced

ced on Saturday, the very day the European Community decided in Rome immediately to abandon all restrictions on investing in South Africa.

Amidst so much fire and thunder, the crucial fact that negotiations with the South African government had been supported and endorsed, was almost drowned out.

to 72 within five years.

The concessions come after a poll last month showed that nearly half junior doctors would stop all but emergency work in pursuit of their claim. They follow eight months of negotiations and years AN EXTRA 250 consultant and senior medical posts, costing about 1315m, are to be created next year to avert industrial action by junior doctors over hours of work.

The deal, to be made public today by Virginia Bottomley, the health minister, is being heralded as a qualified victory by doctors' leaders. It is the first stage in cutting working hours from an average 90 per week

Mr Mandela, in the conference's closing address, made a point of redressing this imbalance.

The overwhelming majority of our people? he proclaimed, support negotiations between the ANC and the government?

. The most burning issue of contention during the three-day conference revolved around the perception of many delegates that the C leadership, the National Executive of Cam-

(
ecutive Committee, was being taken for a ride by the government in the negotiating process.

What rang through most resoundingly in the delegates' contributions was that there was a crisis of confidence in the leadership.

' Mr Mandela, in what many described as a masterly performance
By Jack O'Sullivan

Health Services Correspondent
paigning to highlight the dangers of some doctors being on call for up to 124 hours. Doctors have repeatedly warned that lack of sleep puts patients at risk.

Today's deal will bring in more flexible shift systems for emergency night and weekend cover in NHS hospitals. Doctors will work more in teams and cover more for colleagues in other specialities. Nurses and clerical workers will take over some work. Mrs Bottomley hopes to resolve a conflict described as his most brilliant speech since his release in February, masterfully bridged the gap.

The leadership has grasped doctors' win a 15m deal to years.

EC's conferences will take time shaping community
BRITAIN HAS won reassurances that the twin Inter-Governmental

Conferences which will determine the future shape of the European Community will not be rushed and could last for most of next year - . possibly beyond a British general election.

A drawn-out timetable for the conferences on monetary and political union, which were formally opened on Saturday at the end of the EC summit in Rome, will give the Government as much time as possible to mend fences in Europe and to heal wounds within 'the . Conservative Party.

It could also allow the Prime Minister, John Major, to call an election, perhaps in October, before the end of the conferences, when he is likely to be forced to decide on the crunch issue 'of whether or not to support the creation of a European single currency and central bank.

After a first working session on political union, the Foreign Secretary, Douglas Hurd, said that the "whole conference could be expected to run just about through 1991 and I think that is very reasonable". He added: There is no suggestion of anything other than a thorough workmanlike examination of the issues?

From David Osborne
in Brussels

During the summit, Mr Major repeatedly urged the other 11 leaders not to force the pace of integration. His case was evidently helped by his success in conveying a new tone of positive co-operation at the summit in contrast to the antagonism generated in the past by Margaret Thatcher.

Gianni de Michelis, the Italian Foreign Minister, said the summit marked the return of Britain to playing a positive role in Europe and no longer creating obstacles".

At the summit, the leaders unanimously agreed broad guidelines for the political union conference, which will consider treaty amendments to introduce common foreign policy, establish new EC powers, for instance in the social area, create more accountability, and give more influence to the European Parliament.

But the good atmosphere, where the 12 leaders were reported to have laughed in unison for the first time in years at jokes made during the meeting, was spoiled when the EC Commission President, Jacques Delors, reacted sharply to news that the British government intends next month to submit a draft treaty for monetary union based on its alternative

proposal for a parallel currency, the tthard ecu".

Mr Delors said that he could foresee Britain,s ideas being integrated into his own treaty proposals, presented last week, but only if they acknowledged the final aims of a single currency and central bank. Anything short of that would be unacceptable, he said, implying that he would press the other eleven to leave the UK behind. 9If we would need to provoke a political crisis, we would do it? he declared.

Mr Major virtually acknowledged- ' ed circulation of the hard ecu could work as a bridge to a single . currency, not an outright alternative. 9It is clear that you actually need some practical experience before a really significant change of that sort is made and I do not think that is a view upon which we are alone? he suggested.

The complete summit text revealed important reaffirmations of the Communityts commitment to giving social policy ttequal weight" to economic policy.

Delors losing grip on ecu, page 9

Leading article, page 16

Ecu plans, page 18

A SECOND man was arrested yesterday in the inquiry into Asil Nadirts Polly Peck company. Scotland Yard refused to confirm his identity last night.

Mr Nadir, chairman of the collapsed fresh fruit to electronics empire, was still being questioned by fraud squad officers more than 24 hours after he was arrested at as he arrived from Turkey.

Heathrow on Saturday afternoon ' By Simon Pincombe

He was last night at Holborn police station, London, where he has been interviewed by representatives from the Serious Fraud Office (SFO) and up to 10 fraud squad officers.

The arrest comes after a three month SFO investigation into alleged illegal dealings in Polly Peckis shares and alleged misuse of company funds. '

The investigation centres on (We ents leading to an attempt intAugust by Mr Nadir to buy his company back from shareholders. On 19 September the SFO raided South Audley Management, a company controlled by the Nadir family, and the price of Polly Peck shares fell from 243p to 108, before they were suspended by the Stock Exchange. A month later the group, valued at more than ian earlier this year, crashed with debts of 131.3bn and an esti-

mated shortfall of 1384m. The SFO then raided the Polly Peck headquarters in Berkeley Square, London.

The administrators said yesterday that Mr Nadiris arrest would hamper the task of unravelling Polly Peckts finances. But Christo-Second man arrested in Polly Peck inquiry pher Morris, one of the three administrators, said the arrest was ttnot unexpected?

Mr Nadir, who has until 7 January to persuade his own creditors, including two London stockbrokers, not to bankrupt him personally, has been in Turkey for the past few weeks helping court-appointed administrators to sort out his companyts affairs.

Vanished funds, page 18

that has run for 15 years. She has agreed that a '72-hour week should be the norm, although she has set no time-scale for establishing that regime, nor stated how many . more consultants she will appoint in later A maximum for hours on call, minimum rest periods and new overtime payments are still to be agreed as part of a new contract, enforceable from April.

New regional task forces will decide where 200 extra consultants and 50 staff grade doctors are to be appointed next year.

- Additionally, 100 junior posts, already scheduled, will be diverted to those areas

ing rally in Soweto yesterday for Oliver Tambo, the ANC president, who returned from exrl

e on Friday Photograph: Jon Jones

the principle that they are the servants of the people and accordingly they must take guidance from their members in policy decisions. We welcome the frank criticisms . . . There are certain issues in which we will have to make radical readjustments and even changes?

But then he proceeded to savage those activists within the movement who italsoi, made misform deadline takes. He railed against "factions and cliques", those itpeople who play to the gallery whose idea it is to prove how revolutionary they are and have no idea whatsoever of working in a mass movement and who are totally incapable of putting forward constructive ideasit - by which he indicated he meant those who remained opposed to negotiations.

South Africa Inc, page 10

where hours are longest. Royal colleges, which monitor specialist training, will be able to withdraw approval for posts With over-long hours.

Dr Stephen Hunter, chairman of the British Medical Association% hospital junior staff committee, said last night: tiThe extra jobs may not make a lot of difference in the first year. We will need appointments

On a similar or greater scale every year for
five years to sort out this problem. If the
Government fails to cut hours then I would
predict industrial action for legislation 9
establishing maximum hours that junior
doctors should workfi
T0 pick some of
Britainis top
marketing brains,
start by picking
up the phone.
The busier you become the lesstime
you have to think strategically. e
Take the Marketing Initiative From DTI
and you can get an outside expert to prepare
a strategy for your product or services ' '
If you are an independent manufac-
turing or service business with Fewer than 500 ' t
employccs, we could pay up to two-thirds of
the cost of between 5 and 15 days consultancy.
To learn more, send off the coupon. Or
as we said earlier, pick up the phone.
The number to dial is 0800 500 200. .maputmro.r.....,a.t
du
Name p
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Post to: Marketing initiative, FREEPOST BS3333, Bristol
BS1 GGZ. (59/? Or call free on 0800 500 200.
Name of Firm
Atltlrcss
Telephone
is your business primarily involved in:
Construction L_J Manufacturing E Service El
Irrative
Postcode
No. of Employees

2 HOME NEWS

THE INDEPENDENT

Monday 17 December 1990

pt-out policy for schools faces fresh legal challenge Police chairman quits discipline case

THE CHAIRMAN of the Liverpool Police Authority confirmed yesterday that he had withdrawn from the disciplinary committee which heard charges against Alison Halford, an assistant chief constable of A FRESH legal challenge to the Government's opting out policy on schools is being mounted today by the Labour-run borough of Newham in east London.

A successful application for a judicial review of the Secretary of State for Education's decision on Stratford School would be a setback for ministers, who want to increase the numbers of grant maintained schools.

Three schools are this week due to announce the results of par-
By Donald MacLeod

Education Correspondent

ents' ballots for grant maintained status, with at least 15 more ballots expected to be held next term. To date, 57 proposals have been approved (44 of them operating as grant maintained schools funded directly by the Department of Education and Science); 26 applications are in the pipeline.

Newham's legal action is the latest move in an increasingly bitter dispute over Stratford School that has split the staff, parents and governors. The authority will argue that the decision by John MacGregor, the previous Secretary of State, to allow Stratford School to opt out would effectively wreck reorganisation plans previously agreed with the department. Earlier this year, Avon County Council gained a legal victory, but Mr MacGregor reaffirmed his decision to allow Beechen Cliff School in Bath to opt out, despite the authority's reorganisation plans. Newham believes that if the Stratford decision had to be reconsidered now, the rapid decline in pupil and staff numbers before the school becomes grant maintained in April would reverse that decision.

Since grant maintained status for the comprehensive was announced in August, there has been a stampede of parents transferring their children to other schools next term, according to the education authority, which is seeking to eliminate 1,200 surplus places by closing the school, which has only 750 pupils.

A spokesman claimed that numbers would fall to 350, although the prospective governors of the grant maintained school

disputed this figure. Newham wants to use the building for a primary, while building a new secondary school in Docklands to cater for its rising population. The Rev Gerry Reilly, chairman of the prospective governors, accused the authority of pressuring parents into transfers and claimed that teachers at the school had tried to influence pupils. Pupils would come back once Stratford School was grant maintained, Fr Reilly said. He said that supporters of opting out had been denied access to the school and had had to campaign door to door. Despite this, they raised a 1,400-signature petition.

Tory claims
capital rules
act to deter
saving

A TORY MP yesterday called for capital rules which either deprive people of the right to four key benefits, or severely reduce the amount they receive, to be scrapped, writes Nicholas Timmins. .

Julian Brazier, MP for Canterbury, argued in a Bow Group pamphlet that rules which reduce or eliminate entitlement to housing benefit, poll tax benefit, family credit and income support for retired people are acting as a positive disincentive to saving. Abolishing all four sets of rules would cost a timodestii 8132m and encourage people to save, he says. At present, he says, if a young couple on family credit inherit part of a house or other legacy they would be better advised to spend the money on a car or foreign holiday than to save it.

If they do save, the income the state assumes they receive from the savings is large and their benefit is cut, while the real value of their saving is likely to fall. Under typical conditions, ttwe see a huge penalty for saying, he said.

A pensioner couple with \$10,000 savings could see their income from housing and poll tax benefit fall by nearly .1320 a week to 252.55 against 871.75 a week for a couple in the same circumstances with 24,000 savings. On the extra 136,000 of savings, they, in effect, are losing two to three times the 10 per cent return they are likely to be getting on it, through tax, inflation and benefit withdrawal.

Such a lisavings trap⁷ is a big . disincentive to pensioners and others on modest incomes to save, Mr Brazier says. That in turn has serious implications for savings

levels and thus British investment funds. The pamphlet comes as John Major has said one of his aims is to encourage savings.

Activists keep up pressure against Heseltine backers

By Christian Wolmar

THE backlash by Tory grassroots supporters against MPs prominent in the downfall of Margaret Thatcher refuses to die down, despite repeated calls for party harmony from the Prime Minister and his Cabinet colleagues.

Over the weekend, Ivor

Stanbrook, MP for Orpington, became the sixth MP to have to face a meeting of angry local activists after 74 members of his 2,000-strong local Conservative Association signed a petition. The meeting will be held on 11 January. Mr Stanbrook, who in 1989 said he did not support Mrs Thatcher when she faced a challenge from Sir Anthony Meyer and this year openly supported Mr Heseltine, said yesterday: tilt saddens and distresses me that a good MP can be overthrown because he has trusted his own judgement rather than the party line. I don't want to see the Tory party go the way of Labour in this respect. These people don't understand how parliamentary democracy works?

Party activists around the country have been using a device contained in the rules of most Conservative associations which says that if 50 people sign a petition calling for a special meeting of the association, it must be held within a month. The motions all call for the selection process to be started, which means candidates other than the sitting MP will be asked to apply for the seat. Normally, Tory MPs are reselected automatically by the local party executive.

Today, Michael Mates, MP for Hampshire East and one of Mr Heseltine's chief lieutenants, faces a meeting of his 2,000-strong association and tomorrow it is the turn of Peter Temple-Morris

Tory MPs

Charles Wardle, Cyril Townsend and Julian Critchley: angered activists by backing Michael Helton

(Leominster) who has won the support of his local party executive. Mr Mates would not comment on the likely outcome but said yesterday: There have been getting expressions of support from throughout the party?)

The opposition to Mr Temple-Morris is being led by Peter Tebbit, brother of Norman, the former party chairman, who complains the MP failed to seek the

views of his local constituency:
I've always felt secure that in Mrs Thatcher there was somebody I could rely on. Over the years I have always said, put a blue rosette on a monkey and I'll always vote for him. But now I'm putting Temple-Morris on a lower plank than a monkey. I feel I couldn't vote for him ever again?

Others facing similar meetings are Julian Critchley (Aldershot) on Thursday, Qiril Townsend (Bexleyheath) on 4 January and Charles Wardle (Bexhill & Battle) the following day. All were prominent Heseltine supporters in the first round with the exception of Mr Wardle, who incurred the wrath of local activists by supporting Mr Heseltine in the second ballot. The petition against Mr Wardle, who also has the support of his local committee, has largely been drawn from one branch of his association and he says the petition signed by 50 members represents only 91 per cent of the association's membership? .

Several other backbench MPs who were prominent in the campaign against Mrs Thatcher, such as Emma Nicholson and Sir Peter Tapsell, may face similar meetings but they are hoping protests will fade after the Christmas break.

BBC World Service to launch television news

THE BBC is to start World Service Television News - to complement its radio-only service - at the beginning of 1992.

Since 1986 the Government, which pays for the BBC World Service, has repeatedly refused to give public funds to the corporation for this expansion.

Now the BBC says it will finance the new daily service by linking it with the current BBC TV Europe, which sends a selection of the best BBC programmes across Europe by satellite. The service, currently running 18 hours a day, is sold to 7 million European homes and hotels mainly by cable. Profits from it will be used to help pay for the new service which will begin with an half-hour bulletin per day.

The combined package will be renamed the BBC TV International Service. It will cost 26m to set up, but the funds are being borrowed rather than by inviting commercial shareholders to participate. This allows the corporation to keep 100 per cent control of the development. It will also add an English language service.

John Tusa, managing director
of the BBC World Service, who
campaigns for an expansion into

WEATHER FORECAST

N OON: 17 DECEMBER

High B will drift east. High C will change little.

WARM mourn cow FRONT .H.

ncctunan mom AA.

Low B will move north-east. Low C will move east.

WORLD WEATHER

YESTERDAY, MDDAY:c,cloud:t,lair;fg,log;r,rain;sn,snow;is,sunny

C F c F c C F

Aberdeen c 7 45 Cardin s 7 45 Kingston' " 1 29 84 Paris 0 4 39
Aberdevey c 6 43 Carhsle c 5 41 Kuala Lumpur r 3186 Peking a 5 41
A_ccra 1 32 90 Casablanca s 16 61 Las Palmas 1 21 70 Perth 3 27 81
Alaccio 1 11 52 Chieago r 7 45 Lerwick c 5 41 Plymouth c 6 43
Akroun , 1 19 66 Christchurch s 17 63 Lima 3 22 72 Port Stanley' 1 6 43
Alexandria s 19 66 Cologne - c 0 32 Lisbon c 13 55 Prague c -1 30
Algiers 1 16 61 Copenhagen 8 3 37 Liverpool 1 2 36 Reykjavik c 4 39
Amsterdam 5 1 34 Coriu r 9 4a Lizard c a 46 Rhodes 1 17 63
Anchorageit sn -5 23 Dhahran c 30 66 Locarno s -2 28 Rio de Janeiro r 27 61
Anglesey c 7 45 Darwin 1 31 68 London c 4 39 Riyadh s 22 72
Athens c 17 63 Dover c 2 36 Los Angeles 3 16 61 Rome 0 7 45
Auckland c 24 75 Dublln 19 7 45 Luxembourg c -2 28 Ronaldsway r 7 45
AW . r 6 43 Dubrovnik 1 8 46 Madrid. 5 11 52 Salzburg en -1 30
Bahrain 5 25 77 Edinburgh 1 5 41 Majorca s 11 52 San Francisco 3 11 52
Bangkok 3 34 93 Faro 12 54 Malaga 1 13 55 San Juan 8 29 84
Barbados 3 29 84 Florence f 7 45 Malta c 15 59 Santiago s 32 90
Barcelona 5 9 48 Franklurt c 4 39 Manchester 0 5 41 Seoul s 4 39
Beirut a 22 72 Funchal 1 17 63 Manila 'r 29 84 Singapore r 28 82
Belfast c 3 37 Geneva c 2 36 Mecca c 30 86 Southampton 1 4 39
Belgrade c 1 34 Gibraltar 1 14 57 Melbourne c 17 63 Southend c 3 37
Benin c 2 36 Glasgow lg 5 41 Mexico City 3 26 79 Stockholm e 1 34
Berm'uda c 20 66 Guernsey c 5 41 Miami c 24 76 Stornoway s 5 41
Berwlck c 7 45 Harare c 27 81 Milan 1 a a7 Strasbourg 1 0 32
Biarritz e 1 34 Havana c 26 76 Mombasa s 31 86 Sydney a 26 79
Blrmlngham c 4 as Helsinki c 2 as Montevideo s 27 al T'aipel 9 22 72
Blackpool r 6 43 Hong Kong 5 21 70 Montreal c -8 16 TeIAviv s 21 70
Bogota c 19 66 Honolulu 8 26 83 Moscow 6 -1 30 T609019 r 17 53
Bombay 3 29 84 lnvemess c 5 41 Munich sn -2 28 Tiree c 7 45
Bordeaux c 3 37 Ipswich c 2 36 Nairobi c 23 73 Tokyo 3 10 50
Beumemouth f 4 39 Islamabad r 10 50 Nassau s 26 73 Toronto 0 -3 27
Brighton c 2 36 Isles ofScilly c 7 45 Newcastle 5 8 46 Tunis 1 13 55
Brisbane 3 29 34 Istanbul r 14 57 New Delhi 3 26 79 Valencia a 12 54
Bristol 1 6 43 Jakarta r 32 90 Newquay c 6 43 Vancouver 7 6 43
Brussels 1: 6 43 Jeddah a 32 90 New York 0 9 49 Venice 1 4 39
Budapest. c 2 36 Jersey c 5 41 Nice 3 9 48 Vienna 3nl 34
Buenos Auras s 29 64 Jerusalem c 13 64 Nicosia s 21 70 Warsaw c 2 36
Cairo s 24 75 Johannesburg 3 26 79 Norwich 1 4 39 Washingtoni' f 11 52
Calgary 0 2 36 Karachi' 3 29 82 Nottingham r 4 39 Wellington 3 20 68
Cape Town r 18 64 Kathmandu s 15 59 Oslo c 2 36 York c 6 43
Caracas c 26 79 Kiev c 0 32 Oxford 3 4 39 Zurlch sn -2 28

'Latest avai able figure.

Sun rises 8.27am Sun sets 3.49pm

Moon rises 8.40am Moon sets 3.44pm

New Moon 17 December

LIGHTING UP TIMES

London 3.52pm to 8.023m

3113191 4.02pm to 8.11am

Birmingham 3.53pm to 8.14am

Manchester 3.50pm to 8.21am

Newcastle 3.38pm to 8.27am

,Glasgow 3.43pm to 8.43am

Belfast 3.58pm to 8.43am

(4

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HIGH TIDES

_____ -

TODAY AM HT PM HT

London Bridge 1.40 6.7 2.02 6.6

Liverpool 11.11 8.9 11.30 8.6

Avonmouth 7.12 12.4 7.30 12.2
Hull 6.19 6.6 6.28 6.9
Greenock 12.05 3.0 12.37 3.4
Dun Laoghaire 11.24 3.9 11.52 3.7
Height measured in metres

1

FORECAST:

Northern Ireland and the border counties of Scotland and England will be cloudy with some patchy drizzle or light rain. The rest of Scotland and Ireland will be mostly cloudy with a few sunny intervals in eastern districts. After early fog clears, Wales and most of England will be rather misty, but there will be some hazy sun-
' shine although with a good deal of cloud at times. Winds will be light and it will remain rather cold.

OUTLOOK:

Patchy rain over Scotland and Ireland, elsewhere dry with some sunny spells.
television, said yesterday that the Gulf crisis had shown even more clearly the need for world service television news. .

Chris Irwin, Controller of Resources and Administration at the BBC World Service, satellite television, will be the BBC International T V chief executive. The decision follows a BBC Board of Management conference 10 days ago which decided to draw up a policy Green Paper for publication next year outlining the future role of the BBC. A key portion of this role for the 1990s sees the BBC as the leading public service broadcaster in Europe.

I Staff at The Listener are to fight to save the 62-year-old weekly magazine from closing at the end of January by finding new investors to replace the BBC and ITV.

They believe that under a new editor the magazine, currently selling under 17,000 copies, could be revived if it became an up-market magazine about broadcasting, concentrating on the main programmes and issues of the week. The closure decision is a sign of toughness by the BBC's governors and management board. It coincides with a report on the corporation's efficiency record and finances, which was delivered to Kenneth Baker, the Home Secretary, last Friday, by the accountancy firm Price Waterhouse.

MPS, vote
for hanging

may cause

jails chao'si

By Nick Cohen

Home Affairs Reporter

THE GOVERNMENTS deci-

sion to allow another vote on the reintroduction of the death penalty risks throwing the prison system into chaos, probation officers and penal reform groups warned. On the eve of today's capital punishment debate in the Commons, the nineteenth since hanging was abolished in 1965, five leading criminal justice organisations said the Home Office had not considered the consequences of an unexpected victory for the supporters of the death penalty. Prison officers and governors would have to arrange the deaths of their charges and escort them to the gallows, the groups said. Some would leave the prison service rather than take part; others would remain, the constructive elements of their daily work made more difficult by the macabre and devastating effect of executions? Probation officers would have to comfort the families of the dead and there could be difficulty in recruiting prison staff.

A series of free votes will allow MPs to bring back hanging for specific types of murder, such as killing a police officer on duty and terrorist murders.

Meanwhile, a group of abolitionist Labour MPs is proposing the withdrawal of the death sentence for offences of treason and piracy in the Treason Act 1790, the Treason Act 1814, and the Piracy Act 1837.

John Major and Kenneth Baker, the Home Secretary, have both voted against the return of capital punishment in the past. Ian Lang, the Secretary of State for Scotland, is thought to be the only Cabinet member to favour the death penalty.

Representatives of probation officers, the Prison Reform Trust, the Howard League for Penal Reform and the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders, said there was no evidence that hanging was a deterrent. There had been no difference in murder rates in states in the US which have abolished the death penalty and those which have retained it.

Amnesty International, the human rights organisation, has told MPs that a return to capital punishment would run against a global trend. This year, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, the Irish Republic, Andorra, Mozambique, Namibia and Nepal have abolished it. When MPs last debated the restoration of the death penalty in June 1988, it was rejected by 341

votes to 218, a majority of 123.

Leading article, page 16

SOMETHING To MAKE

THE ROADS CLEARER

The new 1991 Philip's Road Atlas of Britain. 118 pages of superbly detailed large scale maps (3 miles to 1 inch), make every route clear and easy to follow.

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AND A CLEARWAY TO

SAVE LOTS OF MONEY

CLEARLY suhemon MAPS FOR moromsrs.

AVAILABLE THROUGH W. H. SMITH, JOHN MENZIES AND ALL GOOD BOOKSELLERS.

Merseyside, writes Nick Cohen.

doubt about his impartiality.

Nearly 80,000 people from around the world have applied to run in the London Marathon on 21 April. Only 34,000 will be allowed to take part in the charity event.

Initial negotiations have opened between health ministers and the Treasury over a possible cash boost for the National Health Service this winter following the closure of thousands of beds in the run-up to next April's NHS changes.

The move comes amid growing alarm among some Tory backbenchers over the impact of the closures which have seen some hospitals halt all non-emergency surgery.

More than 4,000 beds have

Sales boom

in fresh

turkeys

DEMAND for fresh turkeys this Christmas is outstripping supply, with up to three million people having to opt for a frozen bird instead, according to farmers. , Shoppers wanting a free-range fresh turkey or one of the black-feathered iibronzeii birds, which are making a comeback after 20 years, are even less likely to have their choice met.

Derek Kelly, chairman of the National Farmers, Union is 3,000-strong T urkey Association, said the unfulfilled demand was very embarrassing. 7We could double the fresh turkey market from three to six million. Easily. We are benefiting from the so-called green revolution

with the trend for fresh food?
Turkey farmers producing
HAEMOPHILIACS with HIV,
the Aids virus, are expected to
give their verdict this week on
the Government's 142m offer to
settle their claims for being in-
fected with HIV from, blood
products. Lawyers for the 1,217
people concerned hope they will
be able to convince a majority to
accept the deal.

However, strong opposition to
the offer is likely to be voiced

2.

George Bundred, a Labour councillor from Knowsley, refused to
say why he could not attend the committee meeting which suspended
Ms Halford, 50, last Wednesday following a Police Complaints Au-
thority investigation into allegations against her of neglect of duty,
discreditable conduct and falsehood.

But Ms Halford's lawyers have received an affidavit from a council-
lor in Leeds alleging that Mr Bundred had said in the presence of
other councillors that Ms Halford was a lesbian,¹ who should not be
a senior police officer. It is understood that Mr Bundred felt he
should not take part in the disciplinary hearings if there was any
Ms Halford is taking her case to an industrial tribunal, claiming
she was passed over for promotion because of sexual discrimination.

.When you're drunk in charge,

Talks on NHS cash plea

HIV victims consider deal

'that a decision will be made by

The Singer Rod Stewart, 45, marrying Rachel Hunter, 21, a model
from New Zealand, in a church in Los Angeles at the weekend .

SCILLY SEARCH: Donovan Wilkins, a Cornish water diviner, is be-
ing called in to try to end a drought on the Scilly Isles. He is to start
his quest in the new year. Two successive hot summers and. dry win-
ters have left the four underground reservoirs on the main island, St
Marys, at their lowest-ever levels. _ .

WORK ESCAPE: Two violent criminals were at large after failing to
return to Swansea prison after a day's community service work. Ste-
phen Cross, 28, and Wayne Tranter, 26, were allowed out of Swansea
prison to work at a centre for young),
spokesman said: itBoth could be Violent.

Police take

the rap for

drinkers

TRAFFIC police in Northamp-
tonshire have released a rap
record aimed at dissuading

young people from drinking and

driving With the words: iiWet're

the police, were the cops, we're

called the Bill / If you see us in

the mirror then you'll feel ill?

Headquarters operational of-

ficers wrote and recorded the 55-

second song and have asked

pubs, local radio stations and

nightclubs to play it.

The record continues: ttWe

only want to keep you alive / So

the message of this rap is don't

drink and drive/ . . . well take

your licence, it may seem mean/

you're a killing machine.

ttYou'll lose your licence,

you'll pay a fine/ You may end

up by doing time? '

Supt Ken Willis, head of the

traffic division, said: ttWe don't

mind if it makes people smile,

just so long as it gets the message home.H

shut in England as health authorities attempt to wipe out an underlying \$70m deficit before April and the start of the NHS market. Some ministers are worried over the damage that could be done to John Major's new administration by the prospect of what MPs have dubbed a 'John Moore winter' after the 1987 crisis when more than 4,000 bed closures led to the NHS review. The Treasury, however, remains to be convinced that more money is needed.

A prize-winning fresh turkey fresh birds expect to sell out this Christmas. ,

Up to 11 million turkeys will be bought. Three million will be fresh, the rest frozen. The fresh market has grown by one million in less than three years.

tomorrow at a large meeting of claimants. Some single men who are infected are angry that they will receive only 223,500, whereas a married man with children can expect 260,500. They may press for continued legal action. Lawyers for the victims hope Christmas, so that the mass court action for damages, due for trial in March, can be abandoned. . disabled people. A police