

PRESS DIGESTMain NewsGULF

James Baker tells Congress Iraq's invasion of Kuwait was "defining moment" of post Cold War era, determining whether world enters a recession or even "darkness of depression"

His ultimate goal is a regional peace settlement.

US costs of Gulf crisis could reach £50billion FT.

Guardian says the crisis has significantly increased the risk of recession according to new IMF forecasts.

Home Secy accuses Iraq of behaving like pirates as Branson brings home 45 Britons from Amman and desert convoy of 300 British women and children reaches Baghdad.

Guards turn away British diplomats who go to assist those in caravan on arrival in Baghdad.

William Waldegrave reveals populist touch in his handling of Gulf issues. Planning for reception of first plane load of hostages was handled by himself not officials Times.

Iraq says Westerners could starve unless West sends food supplies.

Iraq beginning work on \$30million water pipeline from Kuwait to Iraq FT.

Kinnock says all action in the Gulf has to be taken with the authority of the UN.

Mail says fears of a desert bloodbath have made President Bush decide against a first strike on Iraq.

US warship intercepts freighter loaded with Ceylon tea for Iraq.

Qatar expels dozens of Palestinians in retaliation for PLO support for Iraq.

Express writer identifies dilemma for West - either we go in and finish Saddam Hussein in which case he will become an Arab world martyr or you leave him to survive in which case he becomes an Arab world hero.

PRESS DIGEST

Jordan blames world neglect for plight of desert refugees Times.

Kremlin seeking an overall peace accord in Gulf region Times.

Bush may extend trip to brief NATO allies after summit with Gorbachev Times.

Today says as many as two-thirds of our MPs are expected to miss tomorrow's debate in the Commons - totally unacceptable neglect of duty.

Evening Standard survey of polls gives Labour a 12.4% lead - slight slip backwards for Conservatives.

Labour Party conference will be dominated by demands for substantial defence cuts.

GULF COMMENT

Express says Kinnock's support for tough action to counter Saddam Hussein sounds just right. But that's the trouble. There are weasel words in the verbiage. What if the UN declines to give authority for the necessary use of force?

Lord Lewin, in Mail, says sanctions are the best weapon and will take time. It is essential we provide it.

Mail leader on why we must keep Saddam guessing says while sanctions must be given a chance the military option must not be ruled out. Govt should resist siren calls from Opposition to pledge there will be no military strike without specific UN authorisation.

Guardian finds it hard to know whether this is a phoney war or a phoney peace, but it says it is a crisis on which much remains to be explored.

TUC

Kinnock attacks Scargill's extremist image - "heaps scorn on him" Mirror.

Scargill to go to Paris next week to try to recover £1million donated by Russian to British miners on strike. Mirror says the game's up.

Scargill fails to win a seat on TUC General Council for third year running.

PRESS DIGEST

Mail says he endured "stinging humiliation" from Kinnock, TUC and NUM.

Kinnock launches savage assault on Scargill as he rams home the message there will be no special favours for unions under Labour Govt Times.

Star describes Kinnock's speech as cool, quick and measured and praises him for standing up to the unions and supporting force against Hussein.

Telegraph says it was perhaps the most self-confident and assured speech of this kind he has ever made.

Guardian says this was in every sense an electoral speech.

Independent leader headed "Kinnock impresses" says it was an accomplished speech.

Rodney Bickerstaffe (NUPE) says Govt plans for NHS - "privatising it" the Mirror says - will mean a worse service for most.

ECONOMY

Karl Otto Poehl pours a bucket of cold water on EMU and a single currency.

Nat West experts say Britain will join the ERM in the next fortnight.

Guardian says that now that the economy has gone full circle and returned to the inflation rate the Govt started with it would be lethal to apply the same medicine for the next decade when there are already tested alternatives.

INDUSTRY

CBI says many British firms will face disastrous consequences if inflation is not cut to 0-3% by 1995. It accuses Govt of taking their eye off the ball. They want Britain to enter ERM immediately at nearer 3DM than 2.60DM.

British farm exports to France via Brittany blocked.

French farmers snatch £15,000 worth of British meat from supermarket and burn it in street at Perpignan - Welsh farmers picket French Embassy.

PRESS DIGEST

John Gummer demands urgent action by French Govt to stop French attacks on British produce.

Times leader says Britain should be pressing for winding down of whole farm subsidy regime. If CAP collapsed this would recognise farming always was an unnatural industry for a nation to surrender to supra national authority.

Today calls for a boycott of French produce. Mail says drivers are accusing French Customs officers of assisting in the lamb war - farmers always seem to know which lorry to stop.

Independent has had enough of French barbarity; it is time for Mitterrand to communicate some of his enthusiasm for Euro unification to his farmers.

HEALTH

Royal College of Radiologists calls for wide ranging measures to reduce radiation doses by cutting out unnecessary diagnostic X-rays.

Unnecessary X-rays blamed for 250 deaths a year Times.

ENVIRONMENT

Taxes to reinforce campaign against global warming on the agenda for World Climate Conference in Geneva on November 7.

World Wildlife Fund to rethink its investment policy after disclosures it has shares in firms producing nuclear and conventional weapons and in oil, pesticides and logging.

LAW & ORDER

Man, 34, charged with murder of two career girls found dead in car in North London street six weeks ago.

FOREIGN

40 blacks die in further fighting in South African townships.

Mirror claims white security forces led Zulu vigilantes in massacre of Nelson Mandela supporters.

Shortage of bread in Russia.

PRESS DIGEST

Prime Ministers of North and South Korea meet for first time.

MEDIA/BROADCASTING

David Mellor rejects as unworkable Lord Wyatt's attempts to impose a strict definition of impartiality on broadcasting.

Broadcasting licence bids to be RPI-linked FT.

PEOPLE

Keith Joesph remarries.