

The morning Lobby was repeated. We pointed out that the answer to Written Question No 66 was not now expected until tomorrow.

FALKLAND ISLANDS

We could not go into details of any options that were being considered or whatever back-up forces might be available to HMS Endurance. The review of security would involve Defence and FCO Ministers. In answer to a question we said that if a ship which was committed to NATO was to be withdrawn from the NATO area then presumably NATO would be informed. However we stressed that we were not prepared to comment or give any guidance on whatever options might be under consideration.

EUROPEAN COUNCIL

The Prime Minister was expected to make a Statement tomorrow.

IK