



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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Falklands

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HIGHLIGHTS OF APRIL 3 & 4  
TV NEWSCASTS AND PROGRAMS

SATURDAY, APRIL 3

CBS EVENING NEWS

1. FALKLAND ISLANDS - Argentina said today that it will not retreat from the Falkland Islands. In New York the UN Security Council demanded that Argentina withdraw its troops immediately. And in London, Parliament held its first weekend session since the Suez Crisis in 1956 and Prime Minister Thatcher announced the freezing of Argentine assets in Britain. (Phil Jones)

Britain announced that a naval task force, believed to include over half of the Royal Navy's fighting strength, will sail Monday for the Falkland islands. Orders for the ships once they reach the occupied British colony in some two weeks sailing time were kept secret. The British force includes two aircraft carriers equipped primarily for helicopters rather than for providing air cover. Prince Andrew, Queen Elizabeth's second son and helicopter pilot, will be sailing with one of the carriers.

If Parliament is any indication of the mood of the country, the British are quite ready to take military action. The task force will sail Monday with most of the country behind it despite the odds against a successful military operation 8,000 miles away without adequate air cover. (Tom Fenton)

After a bitter debate, 10 of the 15 Council members adopted a resolution calling Argentina's invasion of the Falkland Islands a breach of the peace; demanding that Argentina withdraw all its forces at once; and urging a diplomatic settlement. Latin American nations, supported by the Soviet Union, argued that Argentina was acting legally to regain lost territory--an act of decolonization. Panama's Foreign Minister denounced Britain and he sounded a warning about what will happen when those ships reach Argentine waters. To some observers, he conjured up the threat of violent reprisal against embassies, business offices, or individuals of Britain and other nations, like the U.S., which have supported Britain. (Richard Hottelet)

2. EL SALVADOR - In the wee hours of the morning, elections officials announced the names of the new 60-member constitutional assembly and then adjourned to take an Easter-week vacation, that left in doubt the date when the assembly might convene. The assembly will meet here but no party has enough delegates to control it and no one has yet been able to put together a coalition to run the country. So while the current government is on the way out, it also remains in doubt who's on the way in. (Barrie Petersen)

NBC NIGHTLY NEWS

1. FALKLAND ISLANDS - The UN Security Council demanded immediate withdrawal of all Argentine forces from the Falkland Islands. The vote was 10 to 1, Panama being the one with Russia and China abstaining. The U.S. voted for withdrawal and offered to mediate. (John Hart)
2. EFFECTS OF NUCLEAR WAR - 150 medical experts from around the world from thirty countries went to Cambridge, England, today to talk about the effects of nuclear war in Europe. Among the things said were that day would look like night from the fallout and that anyone that survived the bombs would probably die of radiation or starvation. It was the second meeting of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War. (John Hart)
3. PAKISTAN - Pakistan's President Zia said today the U.S. offered to station troops and arms in Pakistan last year. The American offer made at the height of the invasion of Afghanistan by the Soviet Union. Zia said he refused the offer adding that if 85 million Pakistanis cannot defend themselves then they should be ashamed. (John Hart)
4. ASSASSINATION - A 42-year old Israeli diplomat was shot and killed in the hallway of his Paris apartment building today as his wife and 8-year old daughter watched. A woman shot four bullets into Barsimantov, second consular officer at the Israeli Consulate, and then ran away chased by the dead man's teenage son. A telephone caller said that the Lebanese Armed Revolutionary Brigade did it. (John Hart)
5. RUSSIAN DIET - The Soviet Government is recommending that Russians eat more potatoes and sugar and less meat. U.S. Agriculture officials interpret this as an indication that the Soviets seriously missed their 1981 targets for food production. (John Hart)

APRIL 4, SUNDAY

NBC NIGHTLY NEWS

1. MESSAGE TO FALKLAND ISLANDS - British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington sent a message of encouragement today to the 1800 British citizens on the Falkland Islands. By radio, he said the islands remain British territory and pledged to free them from alien occupation. The British are mobilizing now and the Argentinians are getting ready for them. (Jane Pauley)

An assembled task force leaves tomorrow for the islands from the British Royal Navy docks at Portsmouth. There are two carriers with sea harrier fighters and helicopters and assorted support ships will be the third largest in the world. Defense Minister John Nott was asked in an interview if Britain was serious about its plans:

"We are entitled to fight in defense of our own territory which is what we are, in the last resort, prepared to do. And we are putting ourselves in a position to do just that and to win." The British should win in a showdown at sea. Argentina has a sea-to-sea missile but the British have one to shoot it down. American-made skyhawk fighters are more of a threat but the Falklands are almost out of range for the land-based jets and the sea harriers should match them. It will be at least two weeks before any confrontation happens. (Steve Delaney)

The Argentine army has moved in tanks and armored cars onto some of the main islands and they have mobilized thousands of troops. Reports say that a small band of British marines escaped and are now forming a guerrilla resistance. But the Argentinians have one of the largest and best-trained armies in Latin America, with over 130,000 troops. (Robin Lloyd)

2. NUCLEAR DEBATE - The debate over whether or not the Soviet Union has nuclear superiority over the United States has intensified since President Reagan's public statement that the Russians are ahead. Senator Henry Jackson said that position could lead to nuclear blackmail. Diplomatic correspondent Marvin Kalb reports that the debate is as much over politics as it is over weapons. (Jane Pauley)

What seems clear now is that President Reagan at his last news conference surprised many top intelligence officials not by what he said, but that he said it at all: "The truth of the matter is that on balance, the Soviet Union does have a definite margin of superiority." Up to that point, no president had ever been prepared to advance the proposition that on balance, the United States had slipped to second place behind the Russians in strategic weapons, principally because the proposition is considered highly debatable. In the air and on or under the sea, most experts agree that the U.S. continues to hold the lead. On land, there's doubt. American ICBM's are now officially considered vulnerable. In western Europe, America's medium-range missiles are considered out-dated and out-distanced. (Marvin Kalb)

#### CBS EVENING NEWS

1. EL SALVADOR - It's been a week since the election in El Salvador, an election that seemed to vote 'yes' for the democratic process and the democratic system. But guns continue to play a major role in the politics of El Salvador (Morton Deane)

A newly-elected delegate to constitutional assembly was shot three times last night and died. He was a member of the far-right ARENA party. His murder touched off fears there may be other killings as retribution. Although the country is gearing up for its week-long Easter holiday, politicians may continue in an effort to form a coalition government. Most observers do not expect any breakthroughs in the coming week. (Barry Petersen)

2. NUCLEAR DEBATE - President Reagan's view that the Soviet Union has the upper hand when it comes to nuclear weapons strength was defended and attacked today. (Morton Deane)

Senator Daniel Moynihan, the ranking Democrat on the Senate Intelligence Committee, today was sharply skeptical of the President's view. He appeared on CBS' Face the Nation: "What Commander-in-Chief has ever told the world that the U.S. is inferior to an adversary and why would anyone say that when it isn't even so?" There was a similar view from Democratic Senator Henry Jackson who has co-sponsored a version of a nuclear freeze resolution endorsed by the White House. Jackson appeared on ABC's This Week: "The real danger in all of this, regrettably, is that our allies have a perception, including our Chinese friends, that somehow we are in a decline. And it is the political application of strategic arms that worry me the most, the danger of blackmail and all those things..." On the same broadcast, Richard Burt, the State Department's chief political and military expert, sought to reinforce the Administration's line: "Of course the President was right; he said the Soviets had a definite margin of superiority, and we've said before the President said that, and after the President said that--that they possess a substantial lead in their capability to knock out our land-based ICBM's; they possess complete superiority in these intermediate-range forces in Europe..." Nevertheless, Burt acknowledges that the U.S. has enough of an edge in some important areas of the nuclear arms race so that deterrence is still workable. There is, he said, a balance of terror. (Rita Flynn)

3. BREZHNEV - President Brezhnev has not been seen in public nor pictured on television since March 25 when he visited a small Soviet city. His touring schedule was said to be exhaustive and he was rumored to be taken to a Soviet hospital immediately upon return to Moscow. Soviet sources say he has been released from the hospital and is recuperating slowly at home. He is said to be under constant medical supervision and the nature of his illness has never been disclosed. Speculation ranges from simple exhaustion to stroke. The subject of his health has not been mentioned in the Soviet media. (Mary Wasniewski)

#### ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT

1. FALKLAND ISLAND DISPUTE - There could war between Argentina and the United Kingdom over a small group of islands several hundred miles off the coast of Argentina. There are fresh reports of casualties resulting from Argentina's occupation, and fresh notices from London that the British mean to fight to regain control of the islands. (Sam Donaldson)
2. BREZHNEV TO RETIRE? - According to a U.S. intelligence estimate reported in Newsweek magazine, Soviet President Brezhnev will retire in May due to severe stroke he suffered. (Sam Donaldson)
3. POPE SPEAKS OUT - In his Palm Sunday speech in St. Peter's Square, the Pope appealed to both Israelis and Palestinians to seek peace in the land of Jesus, but he especially defended what he called legitimate aspirations of Palestinians living in Jordan's West Bank. (Sam Donaldson)

- 4. MIDDLE EAST - In the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip today, seven Israelis were wounded in a grenade attack, presumably thrown by Palestinians. But in Beirut, ABC's Walter Rodgers reports that the best-known Palestinian leader insists he is counselling restraint. (Sam Donaldson)

Despite the fact that Israeli soldiers kill Arab teenagers and sack Palestinian mayors, PLO chairman Yassir Arafat counsels restraint, not revenge: "We are with the \_\_\_\_\_ of history and sooner or later our people will achieve our, their goals." Radical Palestinians want to break the ceasefire in southern Lebanon to goad Israel into another war but Arafat keeps the ceasefire, perhaps hoping for improved standing with the U.S., but also believing that in the eyes of the world, the suppression of Arab rights by Israel makes Menachim Begin look like the terrorist. (Walter Rodgers)

OTHER NOTES

Summaries of This Week with David Brinkley and Face the Nation are attached.

- Q: The argument has gotten around to say we could destroy us sure then we could destroy them.
- A: Now that is not the fact. There is roughly a situation of parity at the present time. The problem is that if you continue to pile-up more and more nuclear arms your own security becomes less because at some point there may be a reasonable or plausible threat of a first strike, of a disarming strike. Now the problem of course is that the weapons on both sides are becoming more vulnerable and more deadly. And as a consequence, there is now and more a tendency to think in terms of launch-on-warning, and that's how a nuclear war would start.
- Q: 60 senators have advocated a freeze, both equally and sharply reduced levels. What is to be said against that proposal?
- A: I think that would be fine, but you have to ask how do you get there. Now obviously to start off with the idea that there is an imbalance in favor of the Soviets, that's what you are saying is that we will freeze at the level we're at now, and that's not negotiable. They know that they are not equal.
- Q: Are you denying that there is a tilt in the Soviet favor since

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- A: Oh, certainly there has not been any tilt. The Soviets have built up as have we. We have done our best to show that we've got a force of Minuteman III's. We've got 550 of them. We've put 550 of them are launched from our silos. We've also got nuclear weapons. We've also got more than 100 strategic