



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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HIGHLIGHTS OF APRIL 7
TV NEWSCASTS AND PROGRAMS

ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT

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1. FALKLAND ISLANDS - Tonight from London, the first announcement of specific military action the British may take against Argentina in their dispute over the Falkland Islands." A threat that came just as the U.S. jumped squarely into the dispute with the announcement that Secretary of State Haig will leave early tomorrow morning for London and then will go on to Buenos Aires to try to keep the conflict from erupting into an actual shooting war. (Frank Reynolds)

When Secretary Haig arrives here tomorrow he won't be able to miss the depth of feeling about the Falkland's crisis. The British Secretary of Defense said in Parliament tonight that as of next Monday Britain is establishing a 200-mile war zone around the Falkland Islands, and John Nott said that any Argentinian ship in the zone will be treated as hostile and be subject to attack. The declared purpose is to prevent Argentina from building up its defenses on the Falklands though it should be pointed out that most of the British task force may still be too far away to make a blockade effective. The Defense Secretary said what other ministers have been saying all day "diplomacy, if possible, but war, if necessary." (Peter Jennings)

Secretary Nott made his announcement before Parliament tonight: "From the time indicated, any Argentine warships and Argentine naval auxiliaries found within the zone will be treated as hostile and are liable to be attacked by British forces. This measure is without prejudice to the rights of the United Kingdom to take whatever additional measures may be needed in exercise of its rights of self-defense under Article 51 of the United Nations Charter."

Britain's new Foreign Secretary Pym addressing Parliament for the first time in that role wondered aloud why the Argentine President suddenly resorted to force: "I suggest that part of the answer lies in the very brutality and unpopularity of the Argentine regime itself. The dispatch of our naval force and the economic measures we have taken should show the Argentine regime quite clearly that we mean business. But if our efforts fail, the Argentine regime will know what to expect--Britain does not appease dictators."

After the session, the Foreign Secretary commented on tomorrow's visit by Secretary Haig: "I am glad Secretary of State Haig is coming and then going on to the Argentine. I may be that he can contribute something important to the search for a peaceful solution."

The hope here is that diplomacy will veer both nations away from conflict. But Foreign Secretary Pym spoke what most Britain's are thinking when he told Parliament "strength may be the only thing Argentina understands."

From Argentina, the junta sent former government officials, business and labor leaders to the Falklands to witness the swearing-in of the Island's new Argentinian Governor. As the British warfleet moves closer, military officials will begin holding black-out exercises tonight. At the British Embassy, the Ambassador and some 60 other diplomats and their families left this afternoon for home. Their departure two days before the Friday deadline indicates the seriousness of the conflict between these two countries. (James Walker)

In London, Britain places enormous importance on American mediation. Though the public, the papers, and politicians are using fighting words, there may be from Britain's point of view a hint of compromise. The Foreign Secretary said in parliament that Britain wanted to restore British Administration to the Falklands. He did not use the word "sovereignty." The implication is an arrangement by which the islands would in the long-run go to Argentina, in the short-run be governed by Britain. One thing is clear--Secretary Haig has a job on his hands. (Peter Jennings)

Tonight, Argentina's Foreign Minister said that if their warships are attacked, they will fire back. So Haig embarks on an extremely difficult mission with both military and diplomatic obstacles to be overcome. (Frank Reynolds)

2. SECRETARY HAIG'S MISSION - Secretary of State Haig will leave Washington in the middle of the night to begin his first exercise in shuttle diplomacy. President Reagan arriving in Jamaica carefully made no predictions about the chances for Haig's success. "I have directed our Secretary of State.....see if we could not in the interest of peace, which I think every country in the world wants, to bring about a peaceful solution." But the fact is that Prime Minister Thatcher's government may not want mediation as much as Argentina. ABC News has learned that the Argentine leaders now fear they may have gone too far when they occupied the Falklands, that they did not believe that the British would react with so formidable a force as the naval armada now sailing towards the Falklands.

For Haig, time is of the essence. The armada will reach Ascension Island in the South Atlantic on Monday. At that point the British force may be close enough to the southern hemisphere and the protective buffer zone for Argentina to prepare to invoke the provision of the Rio Treaty of 1947 which states: "An armed attack by any state against an American state shall be considered an attack against all the American states." The Argentines may argue the announcement of a British zone of exclusion already constitutes such an attack. That is precisely what Haig is seeking to prevent--Argentina invoking the provisions of the Rio Treaty to which the U.S. is a signatory.

That would place the U.S. in the worst possible position--having to choose between Britian, its closest ally, and Argentina--probably the rest of Latin America as well, whose help it has been seeking in an effort to resist communist subversion in the Western Hemisphere. (Sander Vanocur)

3. HAIG/BUSH - Secretary of State Haig is taking on this peacemaking mission eagerly, partly to prove that he can handle emergency assignments of this kind without outside help. ABC News has learned that Haig apparently was President Reagan's second choice. In his urgent phone call to Argentina's President Thursday night, Reagan offered the mediation services of "someone like Vice President Bush to mediate the crisis." The Argentine President showed no interest in Bush's help, according to officials familiar with the conversation. Haig was far from enthusiastic about Bush's possible intervention, even though the Vice President was named the Administration's international crisis manager last summer. In addition, Haig was already personally handling the Falkland Island crisis in direct meetings with the British and Argentine Ambassadors, as well as the Argentine Foreign Minister. In the past two days, the Argentine and British Governments both have made it known they would prefer Haig as honest broker because they felt he knew more of the background. (John Scali)

NBC NIGHTLY NEWS

1. FALKLAND ISLANDS - Great Britain tonight announced a major new military move against Argentina in the dispute over the Falkland Islands. For its part, Argentina said it will defend the islands to the last Argentine soldier. And the U.S. stepped up its diplomatic role. The British announced a blockade of the island beginning Sunday warning that Argentine ship found within 200 nautical miles of the island could be fired on. The purpose of the blockade is to cutoff reinforcements and supplies from Argentina. (Tom Brokaw)

Underlying the political debate in London, is the economic weight of this crisis. It has depressed the London stock market, eroded the British pound and unsettled the financial community. In the effort to get the islands back, the economic cost is enormous, the political risks substantial, and the military option potentially bloody. But having noted all of that, the British are going ahead anyway because they say aggression should not be rewarded by success and because the Falkland islanders are British and want to stay British. (Steve Delaney)

Meanwhile in the Falkland Islands today, General Mario Venendez (sp) was sworn in as Governor. He has been ordered to treat the islanders well. So, even as the British naval fleet continues on its course, the Argentines are consolidating their hold over the Falkland Islands, and the British diplomats are leaving in protest. (Robin Lloyd)

France, Belgium, and Switzerland announced today that they would hold up delivery of weapons and spare parts to Argentina.
(Tom Brokaw)

2. HAIG MISSION - President Reagan after two days of maneuvering between our traditional loyalty towards Great Britain and our treaty obligations towards Argentina, ordered Secretary of State Haig to go to London and Buenos Aires to make the next move in the Falkland dispute. (Roger Mudd)

In both London and Buenos Aires, Haig will engage in what's officially described as "preliminary discussions." U.S. officials deny that he'll be carrying any formula for a settlement, but this trip does put U.S. prestige on the line. The Pentagon today denied reports that the U.S. had given the British advance warning of the invasion--aerial pictures of the Argentine preparations. These reports have caused a furor in Britain where Thatcher government critics that the country should have been prepared.

At the State Department, the Spokesman disclosed that the U.S. did have some advance evidence prior to the Friday attack and communicated with London: "There were some indications a couple day before it took place." (Question: Do you know how they acquired that information?) "I don't have any comment to offer you on that." (Question: And was that information relayed to the British?) "We were in touch with the British on this subject within the timeframe that has been discussed publicly."--(Alan Romberg)

Among the possible facesaving solutions is this one: Argentina gets sovereignty over the disputed islands and the British get a lease to administer the islands. (Bernard Kalb)

Secretary Haig wanted to leave for London this afternoon but preparations and repairs on his special government plane have delayed his departure until 3:00 a.m. tomorrow. (Roger Mudd)

3. PRESIDENT'S TRIP - The White House billed the President's trip to Jamaica and his visit later this week to Barbados as more than a goodwill tour or a vacation saying the President planned to discuss the long-term U.S. economic and political commitment to the Caribbean with democratic leaders of the area. Mr. Reagan is the first President of the U.S. to visit Jamaica and the welcome was warm and colorful. At a meeting with the Prime Minister, the President explained that Secretary of State Haig was absent because of Haig's efforts to settle the Falkland Island dispute. In the meeting, the President discussed his Caribbean Basin initiative--offering \$350 million in economic and military aid to countries in the Caribbean and in Central America.

With a number of Caribbean countries vulnerable to leftist insurrections because their economies are in such bad shape, the Administration believes that more economic aid will act as a buffer to Soviet and Cuban influence. (John Palmer)

4. JAMAICA - President Reagan's visit to Jamaica is getting a mixed reception in that country's political circles. The current Jamaican leadership wants more U.S. economic aid, while the opposition is suspicious of American motives. (Tom Brokaw)

Today the economic news is brighter in Jamaica, inflation is down and there are more goods for sale. But despite the improved outlook, Jamaica is still counting heavily on more U.S. aid. To obtain that aid, Prime Minister Seaga is relying on his personal relationship with President Reagan which began when Seaga became the first head of state to visit the White House after Reagan's election. Since then Reagan has come to view Seaga's Jamaica as a role model for the Caribbean--conservative, pro-business and anti-Castro. But opponents, led by former Prime Minister Michael Manley had harsh words for the U.S. Manley feared that few of the promised economic benefits will trickle down to Jamaica's poor. Jamaicans appear of two minds about the renewed American interest in their country. U.S. dollars are always welcomed here; at the same time, however, there remains a determination not to allow Jamaica, a colony of Great Britain for 300 years, to become an economic colony of the U.S. (Don Porter)

5. EL SALVADOR - NBC News has learned that all six political parties have agreed on a nine member commission which will shape a new government of national unity. The commission reportedly will include representatives of the moderate Christian Democrats as well as the two leading right-wing parties. (Tom Brokaw)

6. ARMS CONTROL - Four fairly heavy hitters stood up in Washington today and said the time has come to study the idea of telling the world that if war breaks out in Europe, NATO will not be the first to use nuclear weapons. They are McGeorge Bundy, George Kennan, Gerrard Smith, and Robert McNamara: "We have concluded that there is a deeper and overriding danger that arms control alone cannot yet meet, it is the danger of continuing to rely on NATO's present military strategy--a strategy which is based on the first use of nuclear weapons." They have put their ideas in an article for "Foreign Affairs." They say the U.S. needs enough nuclear weapons to strike back if the Soviets use nuclear weapons first and that NATO should have enough conventional forces to fight a non-nuclear war. They argue that the race to build ever more superior nuclear weapons, including the neutron bomb, would slow down if the U.S. said it would use its weapons only if someone else used their's first. They say it is impossible to believe that any nuclear war could be contained, but they believe a conventional war might be contained if western forces are strong enough.

Secretary of State Haig disagrees. He's against a no first use policy. Secretary Haig makes it sound like cost-effectiveness--that's it is cheaper to plan for nuclear war. Conventional wars do cost more to prepare for. Bundy, Kennan, Smith and McNamara

are saying that if we don't press the nuclear button first, maybe the Soviets won't either--maybe they are as afraid of nuclear war as we are. (John Chancellor)

CBS EVENING NEWS

1. FALKLAND ISLANDS - The British today declared a war zone blockade of the Falkland Islands. The British warned Argentine ships to stay out of a 200 mile area. But it was, at least for now, an empty threat since no British warships have actually reached the Falklands yet. A British official in Washington conceded that the timing of the war zone announcement is a negotiating ploy. Negotiations to lead off a military confrontation between Britain and Argentina are the purpose of a newly-announced trip by Secretary of State Haig. He leaves early tomorrow for London, then is scheduled to go on to Buenos Aires. (Dan Rather)

During an emergency debate in the House of Commons, newly-appointed Foreign Secretary Pym made clear the government's resolve to fight if the Argentine forces do not withdraw peacefully: "Britain does not appease dictators." Opposition leaders, while criticizing Mrs. Thatcher's handling of the crisis, announced their support of her efforts to win back the islands. The only major dissent today came from Tony Benn, leader of Labor's radical left: "We are sending the fleet really to recover Mrs. Thatcher's reputation and not the islands, and I think as time goes by people will appreciate that it's a tragic error for this country."

Mobilization efforts that could be seen today or that could be gleaned from the government indicated that Britain is gearing up for prolonged military operations. The Royal Navy is planning a ship rotation system to sustain a blockade of the Falklands. The commandeering of civilian ships to carry troops and mechanized infantry equipment points to plans to eventually retake the invaded islands. While the fleet steamed south, the BBC has begun broadcasting personal messages of encouragement to Falkland Islanders cut off from relatives in Britain. Britain is receiving support from its European friends. West Germany, which is building a number of warships for Argentina, banned all arms sales to that country, as have France, Belgium and the Netherlands.

At 10 Downing St., Haig's visit is welcomed but Mrs. Thatcher's position is clear: the Argentine troops must withdraw. There is a real expectation here that only military action can force them to leave. (Tom Fenton)

HAIG'S MISSION - White House sources say that Britain informed Reagan before upping the ante by declaring that a war zone will exist around the Falklands as of next Monday. The administration spokesman had no public reaction to that other than to say that Haig's trip is not in response to the escalation. Privately, sources say they hope the Haig visit to both capitals will produce results because there is much concern about what may happen if the shooting is allowed to start.

The administration shies away from characterizing Haig as a mediator in the dispute, but today in Jamaica Reagan seemed to endorse some kind of broker's role for Haig: "I have directed our Secretary of State, Alexander Haig, to go to London--he had been invited in both countries--and then to Buenos Aires and see if we could not get....a peaceful solution." (Bill Plante)

3. REACTION IN ARGENTINA - There was no immediate Argentine reaction to the British war zone declaration. Unofficially, an Argentine diplomat said it showed Britain's disposition for aggression. Earlier today, the Argentine Cabinet went into emergency session to discuss the war threat. Blackout exercises were ordered in mainland coastal cities closest to the Falklands. (Dan Rather)

A prolonged crisis could wreak eventual havoc on Argentina's fragile economy. The news of the confrontation has already caused some to withdraw savings from banks and has caused interest rates to jump again, in some cases as much as 60%. But even government critics found ways to overlook the potential for new economic trouble and praise the government for taking the islands. (Bob Schieffer)

ADDENDUM TO ABC

The following items were inadvertently left off from the ABC report this evening:

4. IRAN/SOVIET UNION - The Reagan Administration is concerned about the increased political and economic ties between the Soviet Union and Iran. But today there is new evidence that shows the two countries may not be getting along nearly as well as some may have believed. (Frank Reynolds)

ABC News has learned that sporadic fighting has broken out in the last week between Soviets and Iranian forces on their disputed border east of the Caspian Sea. The number of casualties is unknown. Iranian ground forces and aircraft have been involved in these border clashes. Sources say that for the last several months, Russian troops along the border of both Afghanistan and Iran have been trying to create an uninhabited buffer zone. To do this, they have been relocating villages and setting up more stringent border patrols. Their goal sources say is to reduce insurgent activity across these borders into the Soviet Union. The border with Iran is, however, not clearly defined and the Soviets have been demolishing villages and running patrols in territory that Iran considers Iranian, not Soviet. As a result, in the last six days Iranian forces have been firing at and bombing Soviet troops along the frontier. As yet, there is no sign that the Russians plan to meet these attacks with large troop increases of their own. (John McWehty, the Pentagon)

5. SOVIET UNION - Another mystery surrounding the Soviet President's health. ABC's Moscow correspondent Ann Garrels reports that last month, after Mr. Brezhnev returned from Tashkent, there was a military alert in the Lithuanian and Russian Republics and travel in the area was restricted. (Peter Jennings)

6. JAPAN - The Japanese Government has now confirmed the existence during World War II of a secret army unit which allegedly used prisoners of war, including some Americans, as human guinea pigs in chemical and biological warfare experiments. A government minister has told Japan's Parliament that army unit 731 was most regrettable from the point of view of humanity. (Peter Jennings)

MACNEIL-LEHRER

Tonight's program focused on the new nuclear debate: The "First Use" Issue. Guest was former National Security Advisor McGeorge Bundy.

BUNDY believed that the credibility of "first use" is going down while the danger is going up. Reliance on nuclear weapons, he argued, obstructs the U.S. from the need for the real and usable kind of deterrent: conventional forces. He said he shared the view, developed by Haig yesterday, that a conventional threat must be guarded against, and he agreed with Haig's statement that the conventional forces of the alliance must be strong enough to "defeat all but the most massive and persistent conventional aggression." He added that it was not just in the Soviet but also in U.S. interests that the U.S. not be the agent of a general nuclear war.

During the broadcast, approximately ten minutes of excerpts from Haig's speech before the Georgetown Strategic Institute were shown and Bundy was asked on several occasions to respond to specific points made by Haig.

Bundy emphasized that he and his co-authors believed in the maintenance of a nuclear deterrent fully adequate to prevent the Soviet Union from supposing that it would ever be in its interests to initiate a nuclear attack. He said that they were not talking about the abandonment of deterrence but of the reinforcement of deterrence. Bundy added that it was in the interest of the alliance that it be capable of deterring a conventional attack with conventional forces. In response to Haig's criticism of the "no first users" in his speech, Bundy said that Haig's sweeping prescription--that they be prepared to reinstitute the draft, triple the size of the armed forces, etc.--indicated that Haig had not had a chance to read the article before he spoke, and he regretted that. Bundy pointed out that he and the other authors admitted that they did not know exactly how much force would be necessary to defend against a conventional attack in Europe, and called for a study to find out. Bundy said that most likely no one knew the answer to that question.

In response to Haig's point that by rejecting the first use strategy, the U.S. would be limiting its commitment to Europe, Bundy said that that was not an accurate description of their proposal at all.

He said the U.S. would be simply changing the terms of its commitment to West Germany, for example, not diluting it; the U.S. would be saying that the appropriate way to meet conventional aggression would be through adequate conventional defense. Believable deterrence, Bundy emphasized, was the key; he said it would strengthen the coherence of the alliance.

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