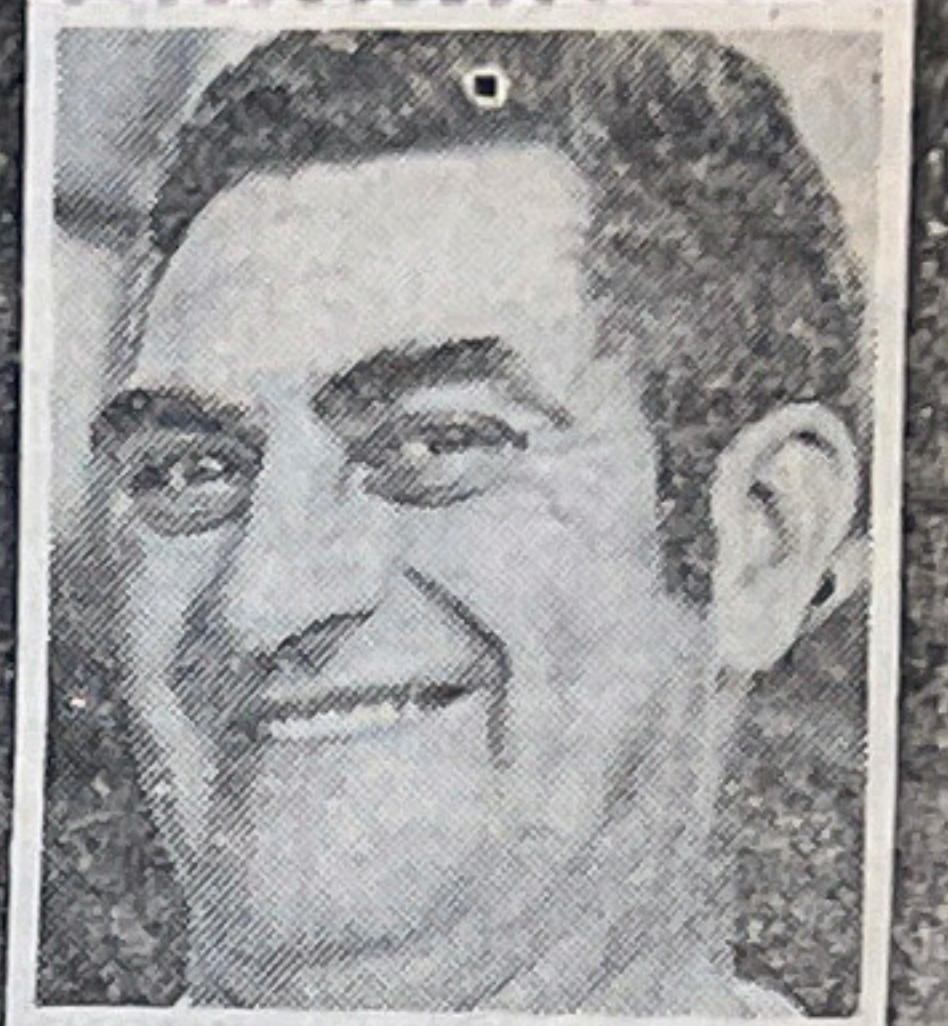


Falklands

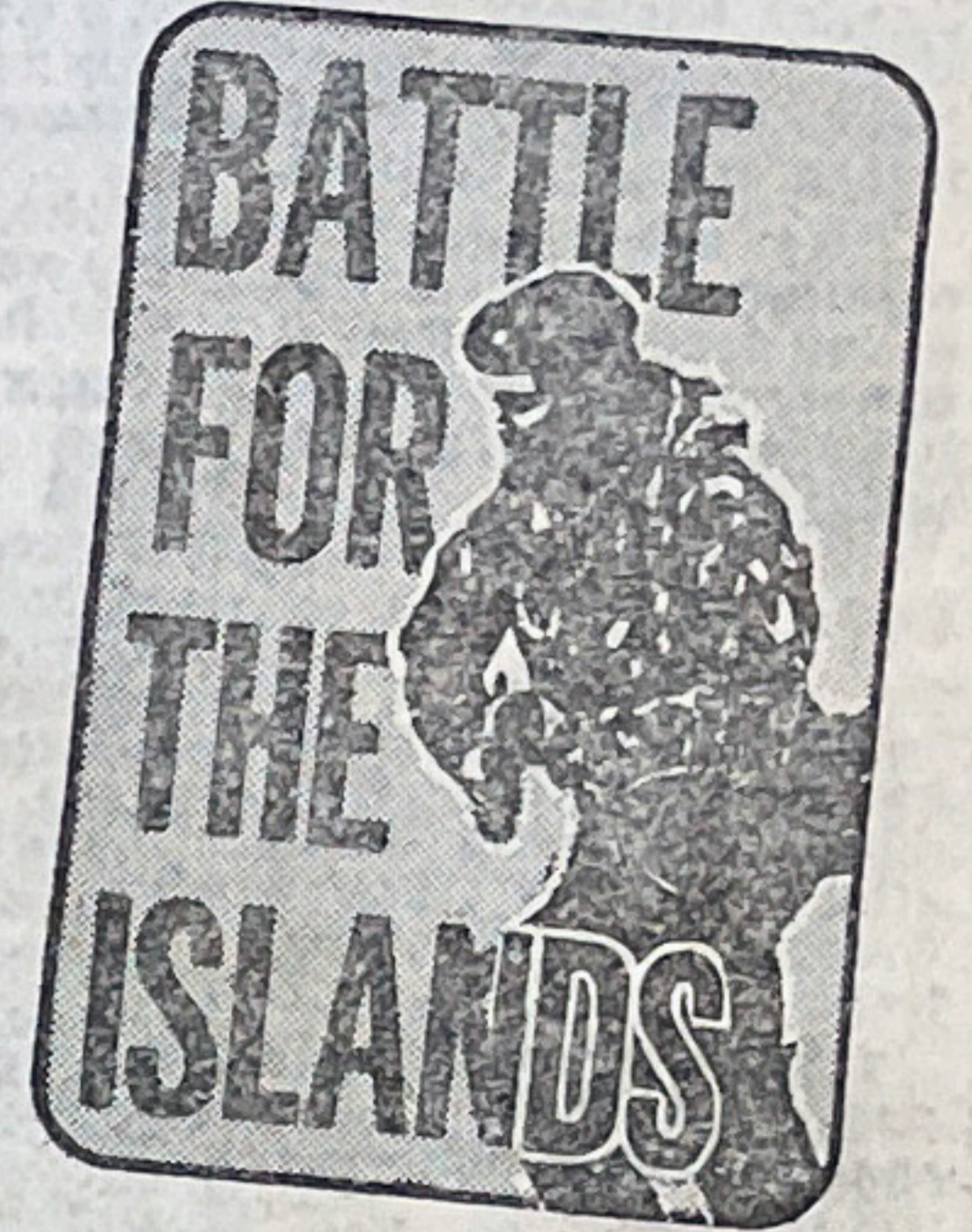
**Dustman Keith
cleans up in
our £50,000
Bingo! Page 11**



TODAY'S LUCKY NUMBERS PAGE 21

Winner Keith Sd

PEACE IS IN THE AIR



Anxious . . . Mrs Thatcher clutches a spring posy

Argentina will pull out in

AMERICAN Secretary of State Alexander Haig was jetting from Buenos Aires to London last night with a Falkland Islands peace plan.

He will today urge Premier Margaret Thatcher to call off her "sink on sight" blockade warning due to come into force early today.

He will ask her instead to consider new proposals by President Leopoldo Galtieri, head of Argentina's military junta, who ordered the Falklands invasion.

Last night Mrs Thatcher responded to news of the Haig proposals by holding a special meeting of Ministers—the second of the day — at Downing Street.

And optimism was reinforced when Jeane Kirkpatrick, the U.S. Ambassador at the United Nations, backed the proposals and said: "I am hopeful, very hopeful."

The face-saving plan which the Argentinians will accept is:

- Argentine immediately withdraws its 6,000 occupation troops;
- The British fleet pulls back from around the islands;
- The 1,800 islanders—fiercely pro-British—

By DAVID PRYKE

choose their own form of government; but

- Argentina keeps its blue-and-white striped flag flying over the Falklands.

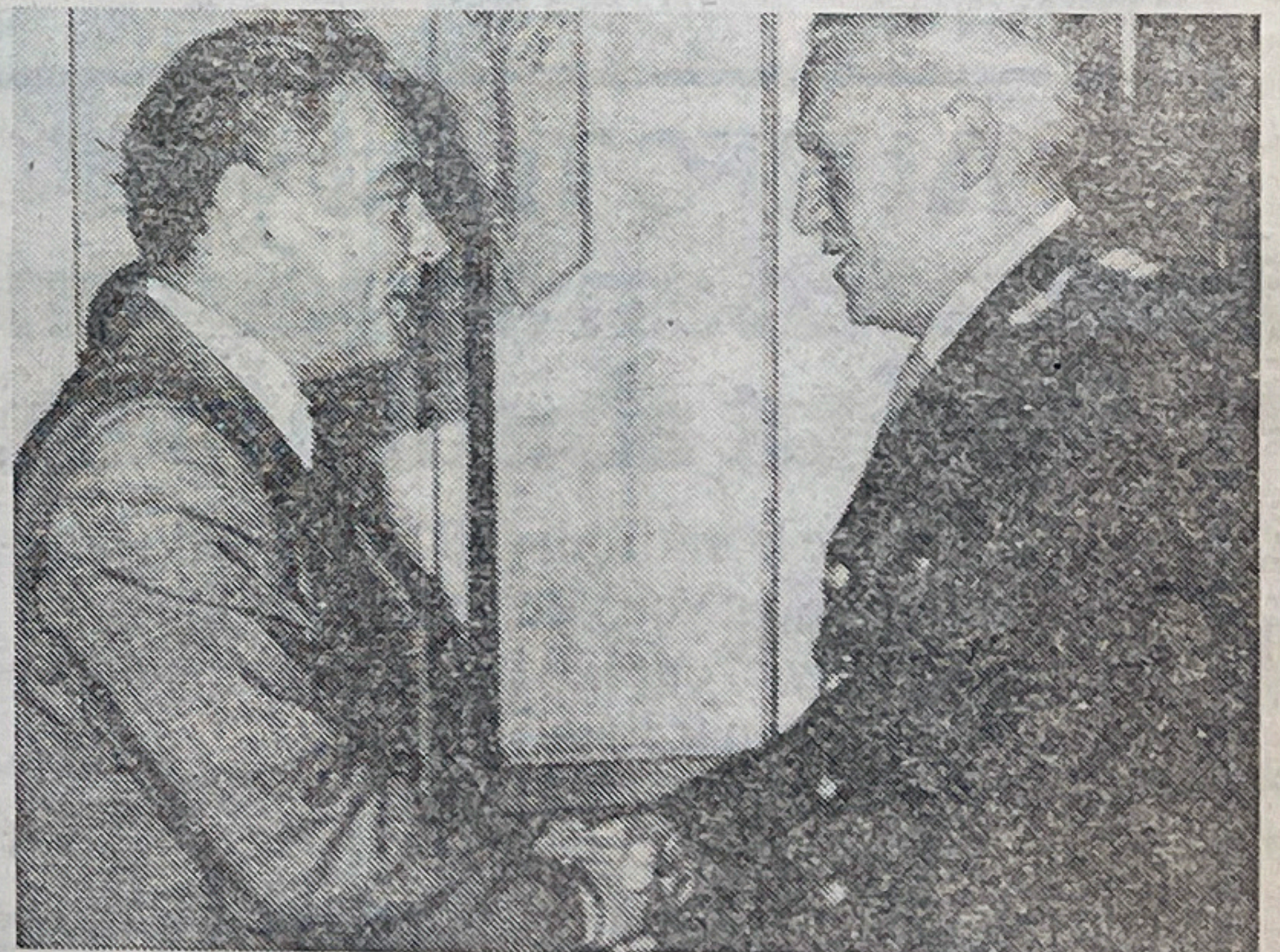
COMMAND

Mrs Thatcher cut short her Easter break at Chequers to return to London. She wanted to be fully in command when the Government's 200-mile blockade ring was due to go into action at 5 am. British time today.

But when she heard of Mr Haig's proposals she

Continued on Page Two

Haig plan



Cordial . . . Haig and Galtieri in Buenos Aires yesterday

RIDDLE OF THE 'HOSTAGE' MARINES—Pages 2 and 3

Argentine Navy pulls ships back from war

Schools holiday

By SHAN
LANCASTER

NEARLY 1,000 school-children have had a Mediterranean holiday cut short . . . because their cruise liner has been "called up."

The P and O ship Uganda has been requisitioned by the Royal Navy to be converted into a floating hospital.

The 944 prep-school children on board will be off-loaded at Naples tomorrow and flown back to London's Gatwick Airport.

Crew

The youngsters — all aged ten to 14 — were due home next week after visiting Egypt, Greece, Turkey and Italy.

Their parents paid £316 for the 13-day education trip—but will get refunds.

Thousands more dis-appointed children were

liner is enlisted

booked to sail on the Uganda over the next month.

But a P & O spokesman said: "We have had overwhelming understanding in the response so far — parents and children are aware that we are meeting a national need."

"We were fully booked for the whole spring and summer."

The 30-year-old Uganda will sail around to Gibraltar to be fitted out as a hospital ship and will leave for the South Atlantic later this week.

RIDDLE ON

They may be trapped

in war zone

ARGENTINA'S brutal junta may be using captured British Marines as hostages in the Falklands war zone.

Fears grew that the men were on Argentine ships . . . which Britain may fire on after the expiration of today's 5am deadline.

Argentina said the 22 Marines, who bravely defended out last outpost on South Georgia, were "somewhere at sea."

The mystery deepened as the enemy fleet pulled back from the 200-mile two warships in the danger area.

As tension mounted, the Argentinians refused to disclose the exact whereabouts of the captured men, led by Lieutenant Keith Mills.

It was feared they may also be using British civilians to test Britain's threat to sink ships breaching the blockade.

Fought

The civilians, a party of scientists and a TV crew, were captured in the same invasion of South Georgia.

Last night, desperate efforts were being made by the Government to discover whether Britons

were aboard the two warships.

Meanwhile, Foreign Secretary Francis Pym spelled out strongly once again that any hostile ship in the zone will be sunk.

His warning came as U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig flew from Buenos Aires to London on his shuttle peace mission.

The Marines, who knocked out a helicopter and damaged a corvette as they fought to repel



Prisoner

Lieutenant Keith Mills could be a hostage

the invaders, left South Georgia on Thursday, Argentina said.

Thirteen scientists from the captured British Antarctic Survey station were shipped out with them.

The TV crew includes Anglia TV boss Lord Buxton's daughter, Cindy. A Foreign Office spokes-

man said yesterday: "We have no idea, no information at all, where they may be. It is causing concern to us — anything is possible."

"We are anxious to establish their whereabouts and establish their welfare and we are in contact with British interests in Buenos Aires."

President Galtieri's order to 14 of his battle fleet to return to home waters could be the start of a climb-down by Argentina.

It may be a move to aid diplomatic efforts to reach a peaceful solution. But it could be the first gambit in a grim naval game of Cat and Mouse, experts fear.

The retreat order was sent in secret signals to the Argentine navy over the weekend.

Anxious

A British invasion of the Falklands would be led by the Special Boat Service — the seaborne version of the SAS.

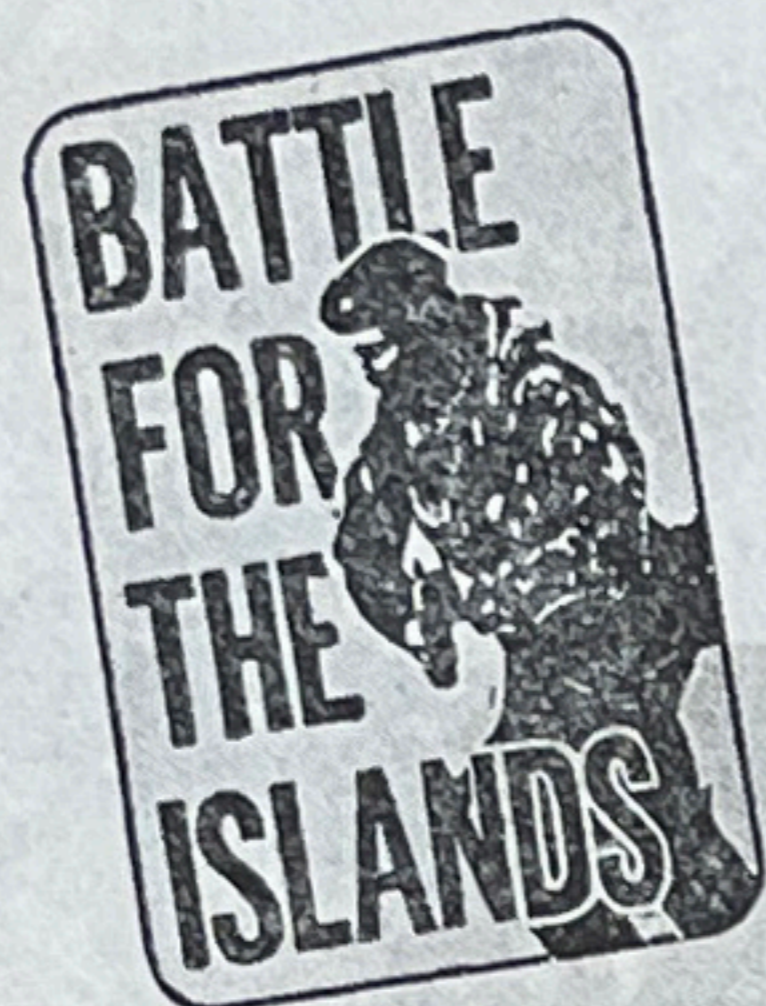
Meanwhile, a Soviet spy ship yesterday tracked the Canberra as it carried British troops to the Falklands.

The frigate-sized vessel dropped back 12 miles during the night preventing the 2,000 Britons from catching a glimpse of it.

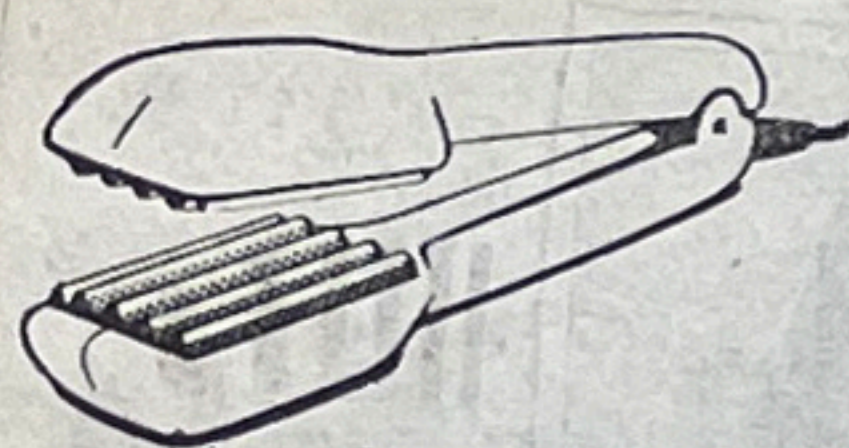
● Mrs Thatcher's hard line over the Falkland crisis has the strong backing of the man-in-the-street, according to an opinion poll yesterday.

And the beleaguered Prime Minister has the highest support she has enjoyed for many months.

The survey was carried out on Thursday—the day Mr Nott announced the war zone.

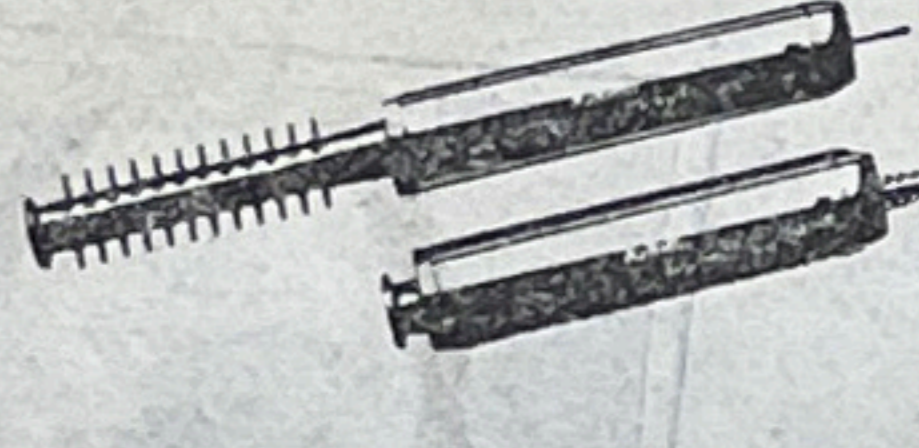


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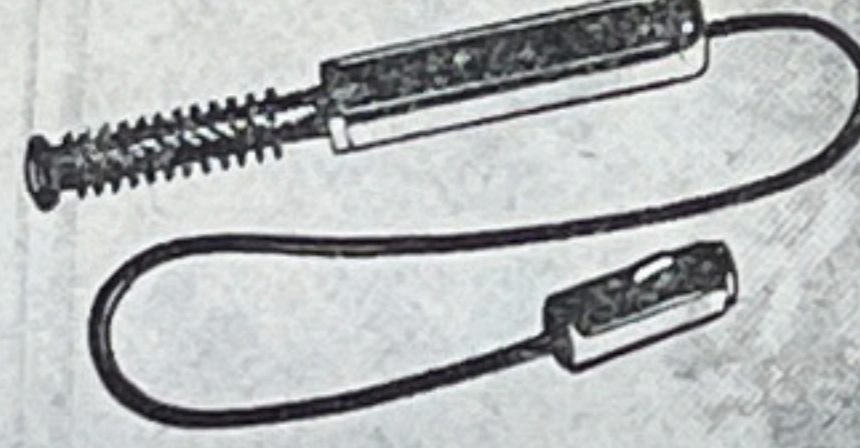
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Continued from Page One went to bed—and was there when this morning's deadline passed.

It was significant that she held a Cabinet meeting. And the second meeting at Chequers last night was attended by Ministers closely linked with the crisis — including Foreign Secretary Francis Pym and Defence Secretary John Nott.

STEPS

ARGENTINE government sources, who asked not to be named, said Mr Haig was carrying a proposal that Argentinian sovereignty over the Falklands was "not negotiable" — and the islands would be defended if Britain tried to retake them.

The sources said Mr Haig was told further negotiations would depend on the British agreeing to halt their fleet, and not impose a blockade. Only then would they consider withdrawing troops.

Argentina would be willing to offer participation in governing the Falklands.

Mrs Thatcher last night



Pym . . . "Task force will not be diverted"

remained determined not to discuss any form of sharing with Argentina until it has pulled its troops out.

And in any case the wishes of the islanders will be given the first priority.

There was speculation last night that Mr Haig may have some secret ingredient in his plan which would help Britain to make some peace move without losing face.

And there are still no signs that Mrs Thatcher's nerve will crack first.

FOREIGN SECRETARY



Nott . . . he was at last night's meeting

Mr Pym on ITV's Weekend World programme yesterday, was adamant the Navy task force would not be diverted, nor the threat to sink Argentine ships lifted, until every Argentinian has left the islands.

He said the Government insisted on holding Argentina to the United Nations resolution, which called on her to withdraw troops.

● The Sun Says, Jon Akass and Franklin's view — see Page 6.

PEACE IN THE AIR

But Britain's island heroes are still missing

HOSTAGE MARINES

Backlash worry by UK exiles

By KIERON SAUNDERS

FEARS grew among the huge British community in Argentina as Britain's blockade deadline drew near early today.

The 100,000 descendants of the settlers who created a cosy "Little England" in South America are worried because of the threats, bombs and 15,000 disappearances that followed guerilla conflicts in the 1970s.

They fear an Argentine backlash if the Royal Navy carries out the threat to sink Argentine warships within a 200-mile Falklands sea zone.

They also face financial disaster with export and import embargos.

The people have key roles in many Argentine businesses and farming industries.

Argentine officials have said the community, the largest British group outside the Commonwealth, "will continue to enjoy all the guarantees they have always enjoyed in this country."

Britons fly home as fears grow

WORRIED Britons who flew into London from the Falkland Islands yesterday said they had not signed a "no invasion" petition under duress.

It was signed by 15 leading islanders who fear that as Britain moves closer there will be a backlash from the Argentinians.

They are pleading for fellow islanders to be evacuated.

Mrs Jenny Felton, who is six months pregnant, said: "There is no question of the petition being signed under duress."

"It is lovely to be home but I'm worried, very worried. My husband is still there."

'Vanished'

Police escorted her out of a back door at Heathrow Airport.

She was accompanied by 27-year-old farm worker Alan Watson who said:

"There are 1,800 islanders and about 40,000 troops involved on both sides. No one has asked the people what they want."

"The petition has only 15 signatures and I'm not saying whether I agree with it or not."

"Half of the islanders have vanished to settlements outside of Port Stanley."

THE SON of the top Briton left on the Falklands is praying for his hero dad to come home.

Richard Baker has been told of his father's brave part in the battle at the governor's residence in Port Stanley by the governor himself.

Gunfire

Mr Dick Baker the chief secretary of the Falklands is now the acting head of the British residence since Governor Rex Hunt's departure.

Mr Baker braved gunfire to carry out a make-shift white flag from the



Attack Cockleshell Heroes from the Marines' Special Boat Squadron practice for a Falklands assault

By SUN REPORTER

Governor's residence to call for a truce after the fierce battle.

Within three days of the invasion, more than 300 telegrams from islanders had been received in Britain.

A radio engineer from the Falklands was in Britain on holiday when the invasion happened Mr John Cheek, has been studying the telegrams to get an overall picture.

He says it appears most islanders are prepared to stay put and risk the outcome of any confrontation between Britain and Argentina.

THE ANDY SHOW!

From TONY SNOW aboard Invincible PRINCE ANDREW is to star in his own TV series—to entertain his task force shipmates.

The one-man chat-shows, complete with phone-ins and studio guests, has the provisional title of A Dose Of Andrew.

The programmes will be broadcast on HMS Invincible's closed-circuit TV station, where the Prince is a helicopter pilot.

Lieutenant Nick Bradshaw, head of Invincible Television—or ITV as it is known on board—said yesterday: "It's his own idea, he's a really good sport."

Success

The new show follows Prince Andrew's success as a mystery guest on an earlier programme

Prince to star on TV

when the ship was on an exercise in Norway.

Nick, 33, said: "As soon as the crew realised who it was, the phone never stopped ringing."

"Andrew answered all the questions quite frankly—unless they were too sensitive."

"He knows how popular the last show was and said he was willing to do some more."

Nick, who joined the

Navy on the same day as Prince Andrew in September 1979, added: "He's a very understanding bloke with a great sense of humour."

"He's just one of the lads."

"He's keen to do the programme, flying permitted, but I must admit he doesn't like the title I suggested. There's still time to change it though."

Booster

The Andy show will go out to all 1,000 Invincible crew members and will be an invaluable morale booster on their journey into the South Atlantic.



Prince Andrew... "a great sense of humour"

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