

Slouch

By Jim Earle



"Last week? You mean we were supposed to come back last week?"

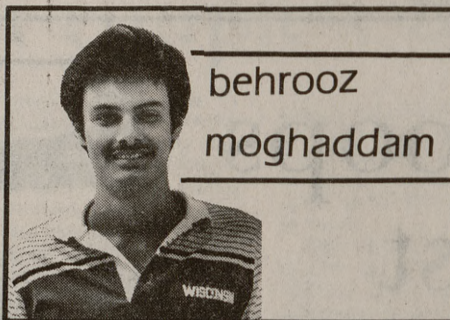
Falklands — is it too late?

At any moment now, the 7,500 British troops poised around Port Stanley will overtake the capitol of the Falklands, defended by roughly an equal number of Argentine troops. In doing so, a whole series of related and uneasing effects will be unleashed.

Promptly following the defeat of Argentina on the Falklands, Buenos Aires will very likely witness a purge in its military junta, as younger and/or more nationalistic officers take over. In light of U.S. assistance to Great Britain and apparent Cuban/Soviet support to Argentina, the latter will gradually move into the Soviet sphere. This will probably happen whether or not a coup does in fact evolve in Buenos Aires. President Leopold Galtieri and Foreign Minister Costa Mendez have hinted this much.

The British will find themselves forced to maintain a large deterrent contingency on the islands in view of Argentina's threats of continuing the contest later on in case of defeat. Thus, a drain on both the British treasury and commitment to NATO would ensue.

Similarly, the U.S. will be faced with a most uncomfortable predicament indeed. Its previous position of influence and prestige not only in Argentina but in Latin America as a whole would be undermined. At a time when only recent-



ly, there existed the perceived threat of a domino effect enveloping Central America with communism, we see the ironic possibility of U.S. policies (vis a vis Argentina) enlarging that very threat to encompass all of Latin America. To say the least, a significant blow will have been dealt to U.S. foreign policy in the Western Hemisphere. Clearly, there is an urgent need to reconsider Britain's options, if Soviet expansion in traditionally U.S. spheres of influence is to be precluded.

On April 2, when Argentine troops overran the islands, no one ever suspected the British would react with such a show of strength. They sent an armada of over 40 ships of the Royal Navy and step-by-step with brilliant military planning have retaken all but the capitol city of the

islands. Throughout the ordeal, lacking British energy and patriotism have been rekindled and set memories of the olden days took. Thus, they have preserved their and soil in battle. They have yet a memory of British valor to recall years to come.

Hence, in light of everything said thus far, one must question the for crushing Argentina to the last. Britain must now weigh what little it will derive in a victory over Port Stanley against its costs. On the other hand, extra incentive must be that Argentina itself does not appear too anxious into a bear hug just yet. If at all possible, would, I think, prefer, for good reason (as the Poles will testify), to negotiations with the U.S. However, a situation would be nothing less than that broke the camel's back.

In the final analysis; therefore, of the alternative, the most minor, symbolic, British concession in a automatic settlement should satisfy Argentine junta. Such a concession move would moreover provide Presidents Reagan and Galtieri room to vage what little remains of the ship. And lastly, it would win for Royal Majesty's government both lands and magnanimity.

Reagan movie clips could aid in revenge

by Arnold Sawislak
United Press International

WASHINGTON — The Republicans have hired lookalike actors again for their TV commercials slamming the opposition — and the Democrats, forgetting the principal dictum of retributive politics, are howling.

The GOP has signed up a pair of actors who resemble former President Jimmy Carter and Speaker Tip O'Neill to sit alongside a mock lawyer as he reads a will leaving the country's economic woes to the Republicans.

This commercial is a spinoff of a 1980 spot using the same O'Neill character to damn the Democrats for their spending habits. It seemed to work well then so the GOP went it one better in 1982.

The Democrats are yelping with pain about the new spots, huffily complaining that they amount to dirty tricks. But what if they cool down long enough to remember the axiom of all hardball politics, "Don't get mad, get even," and undertake to produce their own look-alike commercials?

With thousands of feet of Ronald Reagan's old movies available, the Democrats, who are always short of money, might be able to save some by using film clips from the president's old movies for their commercials.

For example, a judicious snippet from "Bedtime for Bonzo," showing the hero and the chimp in apparent deep conversation would be potential political gold. The voice-over on this spot could be a simple, "President Reagan and his advisers have worked out a plan to solve the country's economic problems."

Another possibility might be the dramatic highlight from "King's Row," wherein Reagan wakes up to discover his girl friend's surgeon-father has chopped off his legs. "Where's the rest of me?" the hero asks plaintively. "Where's my Medicare?" the Democratic narrator might intone.

But Democrats wouldn't be restricted to the president's old films. For example, they might dig up one of the livelier domestic scenes with Richard Burton and Liz Taylor in "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" This could billed as a policy conference between the Secretary of State and the United Nations ambassador.

Another possibility would be for the Democrats to hire Ed McMahon to play Ed Meese and Rock Hudson to play Jim Baker in a skit about waking the president after he has retired for the night.

"Let's not be hasty, the situation is under control," says McMahon.

"But Ed," says Hudson, "The White House is on fire."

Actually, the Democrats are not likely to do any of these things.

The party, which used to have a good sense of humor even when it lost, now seems to have become as creative as a firm of probate lawyers and as somber as a convention of undertakers.

To judge from its recent attempts to counter Republican sales pitches, the party probably will entrust any response it makes to some charismatic and photogenic personality such as Sen. Alan Cranston or Sen. Claude Pepper. Now that really would be revenge.



Letters: Lebanon suffers injustice

Editor:

An attempt was made on the life of the Israeli ambassador to Britain. The Israeli government, without trying to identify who was behind the attack, blamed it on the PLO and ordered a raid on Lebanon. So far, two hundred Lebanese and Palestinian civilians have died in the raid. This method of reprisal undertaken by the Israeli government is similar to that practiced by the Nazis in Europe and is causing the suffering of Lebanese and Palestinian civilians.

I wonder for how long is the American government going to keep its unconditional support to Israel, who is using the American support and military aid to massacre Palestinian civilians, whose sole "crime" is trying to achieve freedom and a national identity. And for how long are the American people going to allow certain lobbying groups to put American's interest behind that of Israel's?

Ghassan S. Khader
134 Luther

American support questioned by student

Editor:

Violence and atrocities have been the headlines in newspapers and top stories on television news during the last few days. Israelis attacked South Lebanon

and Palestinian guerillas shelled Northern Israel. More than two hundred people were killed in less than 48 hours.

But in reality, Lebanon is the only loser in this war. Lebanon is suffering more casualties than any of the two parties involved. Lebanon's innocent and peaceful citizens are being killed. It is all happening on Lebanese soil. Lebanese villages are being destroyed, and the worst is yet to come, when Lebanese will suffer the painful consequences of this invasion. Thousands of refugees are leaving their homes and looking for a place to spend the night in. Women and children are being driven out of their homes.

Where to go? Who is responsible for

the small society

by Brickman



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Gabriel A. Abbas
Plantation Co.