

Editorial

The superpowers and the Malvinas

The United States must not "come in as a cock-boat in the wake of a British man-of-war."

—*U.S. Secretary of State John Quincy Adams, architect of the Monroe Doctrine, in written advice to President Monroe in 1823.*

We are certain that all among you are already aware that the British Navy is now steaming to wage war against the armed forces and people of Argentina. You are also informed that, unless the British fleet is stopped, shooting war will erupt probably during the third week of April.

We have very little time remaining to act.

Once that war begins, the populations of all Latin America will turn with hatred against Britain, and will also direct that same hatred against the United States. We shall therefore lose, rapidly, all of Central America, and shall probably witness the rapid internal destruction of Mexico as well. If Chile allies with Britain, then it is almost certain that a general war will engulf all of South America.

The consequences are not means limited to the Western Hemisphere. While the United States and Britain are preoccupied with war in this hemisphere, it is nearly certain that a chain reaction will be unleashed in the Middle East. At some time, beginning on or about April 26, Israel will invade Lebanon in force. At the same time, the war between Iraq and Iran jointly backed by Moscow and the U.S. State Department now threatens to destroy the entire Gulf region in a chain reaction of military actions and internal destabilizations. If this development occurs, it means the destruction of the petroleum supplies of our allies in Western continental Europe and Japan.

British military actions in the Western Hemisphere must be stopped. They must be stopped ruthlessly. They must be stopped now.

The only strategically valuable element of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is the joint military command, SHAPE. Admittedly, Britain and Joseph Luns control in fact all of the non-military aspects of NATO, and the British government does in fact have the means to destroy those non-military departments and functions, as well as to pull British military forces out of NATO.

However, the United States has solemn and efficient military treaties, independent of NATO as such, with not only each of the member nations of NATO, but also with France and other non-members of NATO. Any government of continental Europe which attempted to repudiate its military treaties with the United States would be promptly overthrown by forces of its own nation for attempting to do so.

However, Western continental Europe's economic and political existence depends upon export markets of Latin America, Africa, and Asia. The net portion of those exports is chiefly through the Federal Republic of Germany and Sweden, with other European nations' economic existence hanging on the margin of their trade with, chiefly, the Federal Republic of Germany. Once Britain begins major military actions against Argentina, no continental European nation can withstand the pressures of hatred against Britain and its supporters, spreading from Latin America.

It is true that the British secret intelligence community is presently observed in frantically escalated negotiations with the secret intelligence services of Moscow. It is also true that Moscow presently chooses to support Britain against the United States, in what Moscow describes as "inter-imperialist rivalry."

In the larger strategic reality, such British double-dealing against the United States has the same long-term significance as naughty children giggling and exposing their sexual organs behind some barn. The United States and the Soviet Union are the thermonuclear powers of this world. Either they negotiate openly and realistically with one another, or the only alternative is thermonuclear war.

I predict that Moscow will become realistic in a crisis. If Moscow wishes to deal with the United States, it will negotiate directly with President Reagan and the President's friends, and not go behind the barn with a bunch of naughty British schoolboys from Chatham House and Whitehall.