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LETTERS

THE FALKLANDS-WHAT WAS ACHIEVED?

Mr Francis Bennion (Letters, May) refers to my review of the book, "Iron Britannia" and questions my opinion that the Falklands war was "fundamentally irrelevant". I chose the words with care and I stand by them. The fact that, despite our economic and other difficulties, few of which we are anywhere near solving, we could defeat the Argentine armed forces proved nothing. It certainly does not prove that our cause was right. Does Mr Bennion believe that any country may resort to arms when it thinks it will? Further, does Mr Bennion, or anyone else, really feel safe from the threat of nuclear war because of what happened in the South Atlantic? I have far too much respect for Mr Bennion's intelligence to believe this.

A smaller matter is that Mr Bennion seems to think that I was purporting to write "as an impartial observer". He has misunderstood what I wrote. I cannot think that many people thought my remarks suggested impartiality. I had in mind not myself but the foreign observers whom I met in West Germany when the war broke out. They had no sympathy with Argentina and did not defend that country's actions. They simply thought that the British Government was insane.

T. F. EVANS