

EP HERALD

11-4-96

# Lone yachtsman seeks British help

By SAMANTHA BARNARD

ROUND-the-world yachtsman Anthony Steward, stuck in St Helena after a fire aboard his boat last week, may have to fly home via England.

His wife Sue said yesterday he would sail to Ascension island today for an interview in which he will request special permission to fly from Ascension on a Royal Air Force plane.

"There are no commercial flights from the

island, only the RAF planes that fly to England twice a week.

"If he gets permission, they'll fly him to England and he'll have to fly home from there," she said.

On Easter Sunday Steward was refuelling his petrol generator when it burst into flames and the generator exploded, burning his arms and singeing off his hair, eyebrows and eyelashes.

The flames also destroyed all the electric wiring of his six-metre yacht, Selected Risks, as well as the navigation and communications equipment.

He managed to reach St Helena, 1 000 miles away, by Thursday, effectively ending his attempt to sail solo and non-stop the "wrong way" (east to west against prevailing winds and currents) around the world after only 2 200 miles of his 19 000 mile journey.



**ANTHONY STEWARD**  
... to ask permission