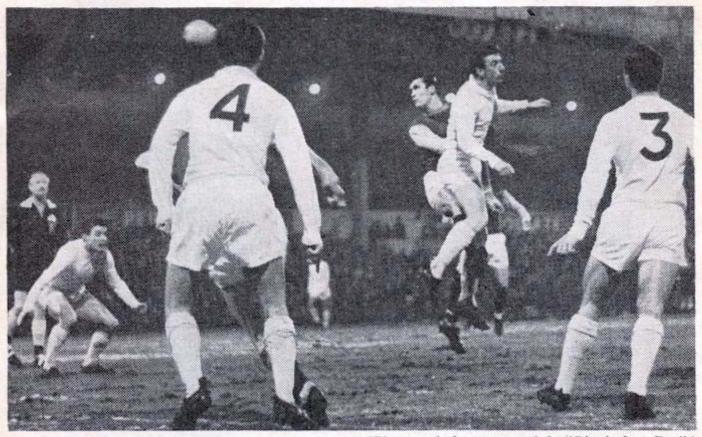
LET'S HOPE FOR BETTER CONDITIONS TONIGHT



Snow . . . sand . . . mud. These pictures show the treacherous surface on which the first leg of this League Cup semi-final was played at Villa Park. Above: John Hollins at full stretch in an effort to block a centre by Villa outside-left MacLeod.



(Photographs by courtesy of the "Birmingham Post".)

An over-the-bar header by Hateley from a corner. Chelsea men (in the all-white strip) are, from left to right, Bobby Tambling, John Hollins, John Mortimore and Ron Harris.