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LETTER DATED 13 APRIL 1982 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
ARGENTINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On the express instructions of my Government, I have the honour to bring to your attention, in connexion with the telegram which His Excellency Dr. Javier Arias Stella, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Peru, addressed to His Excellency Dr. Nicanor Costa Méndez, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Argentine Republic, on 11 April 1982 (S/14966), the text of the corresponding letter of reply.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and the text of the annexed letter of reply distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Eduardo A. ROCA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

S/14975

English

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Annex

Letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship of Argentina
addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Peru

I have the honour to reply to the proposal of the Government of Peru to establish a 72-hour truce in connexion with the question of the Malvinas.

The Argentine Government is very appreciative and grateful for this initiative of the Government of Peru and I wish to assure it that, for its part, it has no intention whatsoever of initiating or provoking hostilities that might jeopardize the provision in paragraph 1 of United Nations Security Council resolution 502.

Rather it is the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland which, by decreeing a naval blockade in a 200-mile area around the Malvinas archipelago, with the participation of a large number of surface warships and nuclear submarines, that is committing a clear act of armed aggression. It is therefore incumbent on that Government to refrain from carrying out that aggression.

The Argentine Government very warmly welcomes the proposal of the Government of Peru and informs it that it will refrain from any action that might lead to armed confrontation. Nevertheless, if the British Government carries out its threats and establishes the blockade, the Argentine Government will have no other alternative but to respond to the aggression in exercise of its right of self-defence.

The Argentine Government trusts that the generous proposal of the Government of Peru, if accepted by the other party, will contribute to reducing the tension and facilitate the exercise of the good offices of the United States Secretary of State.

Nicanor COSTA MENDEZ
Minister for Foreign Affairs
and Worship
