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**S/15228 17 Junio 1982**

LETTER DATED 17 JUNE 1982  
FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ARGENTINA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

**Se refiere a: Nota de Gran Bretaña a Argentina y su respuesta, después del cese el fuego**

**S/15229 17 Junio 1982**

LETTER DATED 17 JUNE 1982  
FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ARGENTINA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

**Se refiere a: Nota de Gran Bretaña a Argentina y su respuesta, después del cese el fuego**

**S/15230 17 Junio 1982**

LETTER DATED 17 JUNE 1982  
FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ARGENTINA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

**Se refiere a: Toma de la Base Corbeta Uruguay en Sandwich del Sur por los británicos**

**S/15231 17 Junio 1982**

LETTER DATED 17 JUNE 1982  
FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF  
THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

**Se refiere a: Entrega copia del acta de rendición**

**S/15232 18 Junio 1982**

LETTER DATED 17 JUNE 1982  
FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF  
THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

**Se refiere a: Respuesta a las notas argentinas S/15204, S/15206 y S/15207, referidas a ataque a la población civil y al buque Bahía Paraíso**

**S/15234 18 Junio 1982**

LETTER DATED 18 JUNE 1982  
FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ARGENTINA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

**Se refiere a: No acepta la rendición y requiere la aplicación de las resoluciones 502 y 505**

**S/15237 18 Junio 1982**

LETTER DATED 18 JUNE 1982  
FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ARGENTINA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

**Se refiere a: Comunicado 167 del Estado Mayor Conjunto, traslado de los heridos en buques argentinos**

**S/15241 19 Junio 1982**

LETTER DATED 19 JUNE 1982  
FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF **ARGENTINA**  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

**Se refiere a: Comunica el ataque a la Base Corbeta Uruguay en Sandwich del Sur por los británicos**

**S/15246 21 Junio 1982**

LETTER DATED 21 JUNE 1982  
FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF  
THE UNITED KINGDOM OF **GREAT BRITAIN** AND NORTHERN IRELAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

**Se refiere a: Respuesta a las notas S/15230 y S/15241 de Argentina referidas a la Base Corbeta Uruguay en Sandwich del Sur**

**S/15249 23 Junio 1982**

LETTER DATED 23 JUNE 1982  
FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF  
THE UNITED KINGDOM OF **GREAT BRITAIN** AND NORTHERN IRELAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

**Se refiere a: Respuesta a la nota S/15234 de Argentina referida a la agresión británica y al cese el fuego**

**S/15253 24 Junio 1982**

LETTER DATED 24 JUNE 1982  
FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF **ARGENTINA**  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

**Se refiere a: Respuesta a la nota argentina S/15246 referida a las islas Sandwich del Sur**

**S/15307 22 Julio 1982**

LETTER DATED 23 JUNE 1982  
FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF  
THE UNITED KINGDOM OF **GREAT BRITAIN** AND NORTHERN IRELAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

**Se refiere a: Levantamiento de la TEZ y reducción a un área de protección de 150 NM**





**Security Council**

Distr.  
GENERAL

S/15228  
17 June 1982  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

LETTER DATED 17 JUNE 1982 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE  
PERMANENT MISSION OF ARGENTINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED  
TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour, on express instructions from my Government, to bring to your attention a communication from the Government of the United Kingdom, transmitted on 15 June to my Government through the Embassy of Brazil in the Argentine Republic and the reply from the Argentine Government to this communication.

The United Kingdom note states:

"Her Britannic Majesty's Embassy present their compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and have the honour to request the Ministry to pass the following message to the Government of Argentina urgently and to obtain their response as soon as possible.

Following the cease-fire in the Falklands Islands, there are a large number of Argentine personnel who will wish to return as soon as possible to their homes and families in Argentina. The British Government is prepared to start the process of repatriation as soon as possible provided that they receive confirmation from the Argentine Government that there is now a total cessation of hostilities between the two countries and that Argentina is ready to accept the return of Argentine prisoners of war and others from the Falklands Islands and dependencies direct to Argentine ports on British or other ships or aircraft. The British Government would else require confirmation of safe passage for any ships and aircraft used for this purpose. Furthermore, once confirmation of the total cessation of hostilities is received, the British Government proposes that the economic measures and exclusion zones instituted by both parties should be lifted and at the same time the British Government would be ready to ask those countries who have imposed economic measures against Argentina to bring them to an end."

The Argentine note states:

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship presents its compliments to the Embassy of the Federative Republic of Brazil and has the honour to request it to transmit the following message to the British authorities:

"The Argentine Government is ready to receive as soon as possible the Argentine personnel now on the Malvinas Islands. For this purpose, it understands that the procedure followed up to now from the beginning of the conflict should continue to be applied.

The Argentine Government hopes that the British Government will apply this procedure which has already been successfully carried out in co-operation with the Government of Uruguay and with the International Committee of the Red Cross and which has allowed transfers in very few hours to Argentine territory.

Any attempt to impose unilaterally other conditions of a political nature that have nothing to do with humanitarian considerations, is unacceptable to the Argentine Government. Otherwise, the British Government must assume the responsibility for using the situation of these thousands of persons for political purposes."

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship avails itself of this opportunity to reiterate to the Embassy of the Federative Republic of Brazil the assurances of its highest consideration".

I request that this letter should be circulated as a Security Council document.

(Signed) Arnold M. LISTRE  
Ambassador

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Security Council

Distr.  
GENERAL

S/15229  
17 June 1982  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

LETTER DATED 17 JUNE 1982 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.1. OF  
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ARGENTINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On express instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of the following communiqué issued by the Joint General Staff of the Argentine Armed Forces:

Communiqué No. 166 of 16 June 1982

"With regard to the events which gave rise to the decision to cease firing in the fight for Puerto Argentino and after a detailed analysis and compilation of all the available information, the Joint General Staff reports:

1. On 13 June at 1000 hours, the British forces began an intensive softening-up action by means of persistent artillery fire and naval and air bombardments, which caused material damage to our artillery and support arms.
2. At 2230 hours on the same day, the British forces launched a large-scale attack, exploiting basically their technological ability to operate at night, which was facilitated by the availability of special equipment for night vision, such as infra-red viewing and sighting equipment, portable missile-launchers, laser aiming systems, individual disposable mortars, and so on.
3. This attack was carried out with the massive support of helicopters, especially suitable for night operations, which allowed the enemy great mobility with minimum wear and tear on his troops.
4. The operation was planned along three main routes:
  1. Harriet - Tumbledown
  2. Longdon - Wireless Ridge
  3. Murrell - Cortley Hill

At 0500 hours, the enemy succeeded in breaking the defensive front and in penetrating our position. At the same time special forces transported by helicopter overwhelmed our defences from above and descended in the rear of our men, forming a circle that was practically impossible to break and compelling us to make a very difficult change of front.

5. While these troop movements were going on, the enemy artillery directed fire on to pinpoint targets and the assault helicopters provided support fire with extraordinary efficiency and continuity. With the help of these advanced weapons, the enemy destroyed our artillery and severely damaged our communications, thus reducing drastically our fighting capacity.

6. By the first light of dawn, at 0900 hours, the enemy had taken the high ground and the key points of the defence. The intensive fighting continued, with the use of reserves, until 1400 hours, when the situation became untenable.

7. At 1500 hours, a de facto cease fire took place, without previous agreement, and the Commander of the Malvinas Military Garrison carried out the necessary evaluation, concluding that it was impossible to continue resistance without causing unnecessary bloodshed.

8. In the light of the above events, he arranged a cease fire with the Commander of the British forces, a decision which applied exclusively to the actions taking place in the area of Puerto Argentino.

9. From an analysis of the fighting in Puerto Argentino and from a comparison with the actions fought throughout all the hostilities in the Malvinas area, it may be concluded that:

9.1 The taking of Puerto Argentino was the result of the clear superiority of the British forces in equipment and technology.

9.2 This equipment was used recently when the enemy launched his final offensive and with the certainty that any other method of fighting would have made success very difficult.

9.3 With the use of this equipment, much of which was completely new and unknown even on the international arms market, the Malvinas area of operations was transformed into a site for testing and experimentation.

9.4 The United States of America provided logistical support.

9.5 The British themselves recognized that the professional skill, valour and spirit of our troops constituted an obstacle that could be overcome only by a clear superiority in equipment, both qualitative and quantitative.

9.6 It must be recognized that technical superiority and the availability of equipment were responsible for the partial victory of Great Britain.

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10. The fact that international arms markets were closed to us had a basic impact on the development of operations.

11. In this evaluation it must be remembered that, in spite of our inferior technological capacity, differences in equipment and the impossibility of replacing our material losses, our armed forces, with skill, valour and resolution, not only confronted Great Britain, one of the major world Powers, supported by the United States of America, the European Common Market and with the acquiescence of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, but also caused disproportionate damage in relation to the difference between the opposing forces and their equipment."

I request that this letter be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Arnaldo M. LISTRE  
Ambassador

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Security Council

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GENERAL

S/15230  
17 June 1982  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

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LETTER DATED 17 JUNE 1982 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE  
PERMANENT MISSION OF ARGENTINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED  
TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On express instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to certain actions taken by the British Government with regard to the scientific station "Corbeta Uruguay", which the Argentine Republic set up in March 1977 on Morell Island, in the South Sandwich group. Previous work on this station had begun at the end of 1976.

It is pertinent to recall that this base was established for purely scientific purposes to serve as a sub-Antarctic station in support of the scientific activities which Argentina is carrying out in the Antarctic and in order to renew the work previously carried out during the Antarctic campaigns of 1954/55 and 1956/57 in the same place. Already in January 1955, the Argentine icebreaker General San Martín had set up a base in Ferguson Bay, on Thule Island, in the same group of islands, which had been temporarily occupied during this summer.

In 1976, the work of rehabilitation and enlargement of the existing installations was renewed with a view to housing a scientific station to carry out geological prospecting, petrography, studies of the continental drift and other special operations such as research in solar radiation, glaciology, oceanography and meteorology, designed to support broader research programmes in Antarctica.

At the end of 1977 and as part of the Antarctic campaign of 1977/78, the scientific station was completed and enlarged so as to increase its ability to participate in other international scientific programmes such as Biomass, Giro Weddel, I.S.O.S. and Polex Sur. It also carried out seismological operations related to the work of the Scientific Committee for Antarctic Research, and investigations in marine biology and geophysics, again as support for Antarctic activities.

It should also be noted that, before the construction of the scientific station, no permanent installation like "Corbeta Uruguay" had been built on the South Sandwich Islands and that consequently there was no permanent settlement on the Islands up to that point. It should also be recalled that on a number of occasions British ships had called at the scientific station and made normal contact with it.



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"Corbeta Uruguay" is now issuing meteorological bulletins of international importance. Its installations consist of the main dwelling-house and an emergency house, a building housing generating equipment and boilers, and a shed for storage and scientific equipment. However, it has no equipment of a military nature.

We have now been informed that the British warship Endurance has informed the personnel of the station that they should abandon it and give themselves up as prisoners; otherwise the ship will open fire. This example shows once again the British Government's obvious attachment to the use of force in order to remove by violent means a scientific station which the Argentine Republic has maintained since 1977 and which constitutes absolutely no military threat.

I request that this letter be circulated as a Security Council document.

(Signed) Arnoldo M. LISTRE  
Ambassador

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Security Council

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GENERAL

S/15231  
17 June 1982

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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LETTER DATED 17 JUNE 1982 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE  
UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND TO THE UNITED  
NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In my letter of 28 May 1982 (S/15134) and earlier letters, I reported upon military operations conducted by British forces in exercise of the United Kingdom's inherent right of self-defence recognized by Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations in the face of Argentina's illegal use of force to invade and occupy the Falkland Islands.

I now have the honour, on instructions from my Government, to transmit the text of the Instrument of Surrender signed by Brigadier-General Mario Benjamin Menendez, the Commander of Argentine Land, Sea and Air Forces in the Falkland Islands, and by Major-General Jeremy Moore, Commander of British Land Forces in the Falkland Islands, at 2359 Z on 14 June 1982.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this letter to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) A. D. PARSONS

Annex

Instrument of Surrender

I, the undersigned, Commander of all the Argentine Land, Sea and Air Forces in the Falkland Islands, surrender to Major-General J. J. Moore, C.B., C.B.E., M.C., as representative of Her Britannic Majesty's Government.

Under the terms of this surrender, all Argentine personnel in the Falkland Islands are to muster at assembly points which will be nominated by General Moore and hand over their arms, ammunition and all other weapons and war-like equipment as directed by General Moore or appropriate British officers acting on his behalf.

Following the surrender, all personnel of the Argentinian Forces will be treated with honour, in accordance with the conditions set out in the Geneva Convention of 1949. They will obey any directions concerning movement and in connection with accommodation.

This surrender is to be effective from 2359 hours ZULU on 14 June (2059 hours local) and includes those Argentine Forces presently deployed in and around Port Stanley, those others on East Falkland, West Falkland and all the outlying islands.

(Signed) M. B. MENENDEZ, Commander Argentine Forces

J. J. MOORE, Major-General

D. PENNICOT, Witness

2359 hours, 14 June 1982

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Security Council

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GENERAL

S/15232  
18 June 1982

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 17 JUNE 1982 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF  
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour, on instructions, to reply as follows to the three letters dated 13 June 1982 (S/15204, S/15206 and S/15207) from the Permanent Representative of Argentina containing allegations of attacks by British forces on the hospital ship Bahia Paraiso and on civilians in Port Stanley.

The United Kingdom refutes the allegation that there was an attack on the Bahia Paraiso in contravention of article 22 of the Second Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of the Armed Forces at Sea of 1949. Military operations were being conducted in the area at the relevant time, but British forces had been instructed to keep well clear of the hospital ship. Article 30 of the Second Convention qualifies article 22 by providing that hospital ships "shall in no wise hamper the movements of combatants" and that during an engagement "they will act at their own risk".

Turning to the alleged attack on civilians in Port Stanley, the British authorities do not yet have full details of the incident described in Argentine communiqués Nos. 150 and 153 (S/15204 and S/15207) and are not in a position to judge how the casualties occurred. The Government of the United Kingdom, naturally, regrets the loss of any life, injury to civilians or damage to property which may have been caused on the Falkland Islands. Whatever the immediate cause, the ultimate responsibility for such incidents lies squarely about Argentina as a consequence of its unprovoked aggression on 2 April 1982 against the Falkland Islands. The accusations in the three Argentine letters have reached new heights of hypocrisy. Had the Argentine authorities been genuinely concerned with the welfare of the civilian population, they would have arranged long ago for their removal to safety in neutralized zones, in accordance with articles 14 and 15 of the Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 1949, or for their evacuation in accordance with article 49 of that Convention. The Argentine authorities should also have facilitated access by the representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross, who were unable

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Page 2

to reach Port Stanley until 10 June 1982, despite the strenuous endeavours which they had been making for some time. The extent to which Argentine forces have treated the civilian population in accordance with the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 will be judged in the light of the facts as they emerge: in this connexion, the Government of the United Kingdom is awaiting authoritative reports with great concern.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this letter to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) A. D. PARSONS

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Security Council

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GENERAL

S/15234  
18 June 1982  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

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LETTER DATED 18 JUNE 1982 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE  
PERMANENT MISSION OF ARGENTINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED  
TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On express instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring the following to the attention of the Security Council with regard to the question of the Malvinas, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands:

After vetoing the draft resolution ordering the cease-fire, which was voted by the majority of the Council on 4 June 1982, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has continued its armed aggression against my country and has completed the military occupation of Puerto Argentino, the capital of the Malvinas, on 14 June. The self-defence exercised by Argentina in order to safeguard its territorial integrity could not prevail against the military superiority of the aggressor.

Consequently, the Commander of the Argentine forces defending the Malvinas had to surrender the personnel under his command in order to avoid greater loss of human life.

Throughout the developments which led to this situation the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ignored the demand for an immediate cease-fire contained in Security Council resolution 502 (1982) of 3 April 1982 and also the exhortation of the Council contained in paragraph 3 of that resolution to the Governments concerned to seek a peaceful solution of the dispute by means of negotiations.

As is well known, the United Kingdom vetoed the draft resolution of 4 June, submitted by Panama and Spain, thus making clear its refusal to carry out the cease-fire and to accept resolution 505 (1982), although it had been adopted unanimously and, obviously, with its own affirmative vote.

Argentina cannot and will not accept the situation of force which Great Britain has thus sought to impose. Today, it is clearer than ever that the United Kingdom's aim is to ensure by any means the continuation of a situation of colonial domination in the South Atlantic, in open violation of the Charter of the United Nations.

82-17279 0416j (E)

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The Argentine Republic is now addressing the Security Council again to make clear, as it has done on previous occasions, its full readiness to carry out resolutions 502 (1982) and 505 (1982). My country hopes likewise that the Council will continue its efforts to secure the full compliance of the United Kingdom with these resolutions.

The United Kingdom is maintaining its troops on the Islands, its fleet in the South Atlantic, the naval and air blockade against Argentina and also the economic aggression carried out with the participation of other industrialized countries.

In addition, the United Kingdom has now extended its military operations to the South Sandwich Islands, as the Argentine Mission informed the Security Council in note No. 171 of 17 June circulated in Security Council document S/15230, by attacking the scientific station "Corbeta Uruguay" which the Argentine Republic has maintained in those Islands for a number of years.

In view of the present circumstances, there is a de facto cessation of hostilities which Argentina is now observing. However, this cessation of hostilities will be precarious as long as the British policy of continuing the military occupation, the blockade and the economic aggression continues.

The total cessation of hostilities will be achieved only when the United Kingdom agrees to lift the naval and air blockade and the economic sanctions referred to above and when it withdraws the military forces occupying the Islands and the naval task force and the nuclear submarines which it has deployed in the area.

The Argentine Republic points out, once again, that only negotiations within the framework of the United Nations and in conformity with the pertinent resolutions - negotiations in which Argentina has always been ready to participate - can lead to a final settlement of the dispute, thus eliminating a situation of illegal colonial domination, which is sustained by force and which in itself constitutes a permanent threat to peace.

I request that this note be circulated as a Security Council document.

(Signed) Arnoldo M. LISTRE  
Ambassador

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Security Council

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S/15237  
18 June 1982  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

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LETTER DATED 18 JUNE 1982 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE  
PERMANENT MISSION OF ARGENTINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO  
THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On express instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of the following communiqué issued by the Joint General Staff of the Argentine Armed Forces.

Communiqué No. 167 of 17 June 1982

"With regard to the transfer of wounded from the Malvinas area to the continent, the Joint General Staff reports:

1. These transfers are being carried out with complete normality on board the Argentine hospital ships Almirante Irizar, Bahía Paraíso and Puerto Deseado.
2. The operation is being carried on regularly without any difficulties being encountered after the events at Puerto Argentino.
3. Since the beginning of the dispute until 17 June 1982, 549 wounded have been transported and have been hospitalized at various centres on the continent."

I request that this letter be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Arnoldo M. LISTRE  
Ambassador





Security Council

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GENERAL

S/15241  
19 June 1982  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

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LETTER DATED 19 JUNE 1982 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE  
PERMANENT MISSION OF ARGENTINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED  
TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On express instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that this afternoon United Kingdom helicopters overflew the "Corbeta Uruguay" scientific station on Morell (Thule) Island, which is part of the South Sandwich archipelago, and fired shots.

The helicopters, whose number is undetermined but greater than three, landed, and at present the scientific station is surrounded by United Kingdom troops.

This action constitutes a clear violation of the cessation of hostilities existing under the terms of my note No. 172 of 18 June 1982 (S/15234) and also constitutes a new act of aggression committed by the United Kingdom, in violation of Security Council resolution 502 (1982).

The scientific nature of the "Corbeta Uruguay" station and the activities in which it is engaged have already been fully detailed to you in my note No. 171 of 17 June 1982 (S/15230). On that occasion I indicated the gravity of the situation resulting from the United Kingdom threats, the presence of the warship Endurance and the attempt to "remove by violent means a scientific station which the Argentine Republic has maintained since 1977 and which constitutes absolutely no military threat".

I request you, Sir, to have this note circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Arnaldo LISTRE  
Ambassador

82-17440 0602a (E)



Security Council

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GENERAL

S/15246  
21 June 1982

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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LETTER DATED 21 JUNE 1982 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE  
UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND TO THE UNITED  
NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour, on instructions from my Government, to state the following in reply to the letters dated 17 and 19 June 1982 (S/15230 and S/15241) from the Permanent Representative of Argentina about the South Sandwich Islands.

The South Sandwich Islands lie approximately 1,500 miles east-south-east of Cape Horn in the Antarctic Ocean, to the north of the Antarctic Treaty Area. The islands were discovered by a British national, Captain Cook, and British sovereignty was proclaimed in 1775, before which the islands were terra nullius. The islands have long been administered by the United Kingdom, which was accepted by Argentina until Argentina first advanced a claim to the islands in 1937. In the 1940s and 1950s, the United Kingdom offered to refer the question of sovereignty over the islands to the International Court of Justice, but Argentina declined to accept the Court's jurisdiction.

In 1976, the United Kingdom became aware of the establishment of an Argentine station on Southern Thule for which no authorization had been sought. Accordingly, the United Kingdom protested at the time against these illegal actions and has subsequently maintained in protests to Argentina that this illegal presence was totally unacceptable.

On 2 April 1982, Argentina purported to proclaim "the recovery of its national sovereignty" over the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands. This proclamation was brought to the attention of the Security Council by the representative of Argentina in his statement at the 2346th meeting of the Security Council on 2 April 1982. At the same time, Argentina used armed force in order to invade the Falkland Islands and South Georgia, while maintaining its illegal presence on Southern Thule.

In my letters of 17 June and 26 April 1982 (S/15231 and S/15002), I reported to the Council the recovery by the United Kingdom of possession of the Falkland Islands and South Georgia, respectively. I now have the honour to report the recovery of possession of the South Sandwich Islands. The Argentine station

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English

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comprised 10 naval and 1 air force personnel. They formally surrendered on board HMS Endurance at 1900 hours GMT on 20 June. At no time were any shots fired by British forces. This action was undertaken in exercise of the United Kingdom's inherent right of self-defence, recognized by Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this letter to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) A. D. PARSONS

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## Security Council

Distr.  
GENERALS/15249  
23 June 1982

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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LETTER DATED 23 JUNE 1982 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE  
SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 18 June 1982 (S/15234) from the Charge d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Argentina ("the Argentine letter") and, on instructions from my Government, to state the following.

Aggression

The Argentine letter refers to "armed aggression" on the part of the United Kingdom and contains several other tendentious statements of a similar nature. What are the facts? First, it will be recalled that on 1 April 1982 the Security Council issued an appeal to Argentina and the United Kingdom to refrain from the use of force (S/14944). Secondly, I accepted that appeal on behalf of the United Kingdom (S/PV.2345, p.36). Thirdly, the Representative of Argentina remained silent: Argentine armed forces invaded the Falkland Islands on 2 April and South Georgia on 3 April. Finally, the Security Council, in Resolution 502 (1982), characterised this use of force as an invasion which had caused a breach of the peace in the region of the Falkland Islands. It is clear from the foregoing, as well as from the definition of the term "aggression" put forward by the General Assembly in its Resolution 3314 (XXIX), that by its first use of armed force in defiance of the Security Council's appeal Argentina committed acts of armed aggression against the United Kingdom and the people of the Falkland Islands. The Argentine aggression was the more serious because negotiations were still in progress, the latest meeting having been held in a positive spirit at the end of February 1982. Argentina's action thus violated both the third and fourth paragraphs of Article 2 of the Charter - the fundamental principles of peaceful settlement and non-use of force. Argentina also violated the rights of the Falkland Islanders (a permanent population of British descent and nationality) under Article 73 of the Charter.

In the face of this illegal use of force by Argentina, the United Kingdom has been exercising its inherent right of self-defence recognized by Article 51 of the Charter. British forces have now recovered possession of all the British territory illegally occupied by Argentine forces.

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Cessation of hostilities

The Argentine letter states that the current cessation of hostilities is "precarious" and that a total cessation of hostilities will be achieved only when the United Kingdom agrees to some pre-conditions sought by Argentina.

It will be recalled that on 15 June 1982, the United Kingdom addressed Notes through the Embassies of Switzerland and Brazil to Argentina, seeking confirmation of the total cessation of hostilities by Argentina. The British Note went on to propose that "the economic measures and the Exclusion Zones instituted by both parties should be lifted". The Argentine reply, set out in the letter dated 17 June 1982 from the Charge d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Argentina (S/15228), did not accept the British proposals of a total cessation of hostilities and the lifting of economic measures and Exclusion Zones. In his further letter of 18 June 1982 (S/15234), the Charge d'Affaires stated that a total cessation of hostilities would be achieved only if certain conditions were fulfilled, including the withdrawal of British forces from the Islands.

As the Argentine authorities are aware, that condition is totally unacceptable to the British Government. British forces have been present in small numbers on the Islands for very many years. At present, British forces remain on the Falkland Islands in order to defend the Islands and their people against further Argentine attacks, and to help the Falkland Islanders to repair the extensive damage caused by the Argentine invasion and occupation. It will take a long time for life to return to normal there. The Islands are British territory and the population is British: there can therefore be no question of withdrawing British forces. It is not a case of "colonial domination" or "military occupation", as asserted in the Argentine letter: the Falkland Islanders totally rejected and resented the Argentine invasion and occupation: they welcomed their liberation by British forces from alien subjugation.

In these circumstances, the United Kingdom looks forward to receiving positive indications which will allow it to conclude that Argentina accepts that all hostilities in the South Atlantic are now at an end. If such indications are forthcoming, the United Kingdom stands ready to implement the proposals transmitted to Argentina on 15 June 1982.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this letter to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) A. D. PARSONS

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Security Council

Distr.  
GENERAL

S/15253  
24 June 1982  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

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LETTER DATED 24 JUNE 1982 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.  
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ARGENTINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour, on express instructions from my Government, to refer to the note addressed to you by the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom, dated 21 June 1982 (S/15246), concerning the South Sandwich Islands.

In this connexion, I wish to state the following:

1. The United Kingdom again invokes an alleged pre-existing title of sovereignty to justify the armed attack by its forces on an Argentine scientific establishment, the "Corbeta Uruguay" station, on Southern Thule Island. We have characterized the nature of this act of colonial force in our previous notes and shall not, therefore, repeat what has already been said.

Argentina does not accept the British claim to sovereignty over these islands based on the mere fact of discovery and on a fictitious administration of the islands, nor does it recognize as having any effect the military occupation on 20 June 1982 resulting from a further use of force against the territorial integrity of my country.

2. The United Kingdom note asserts that the islands were administered by the United Kingdom and that that administration was accepted by the Argentine Republic.

This is incorrect. The United Kingdom has purported to "administer" the South Sandwich Islands as dependencies of the Malvinas Islands, whose occupation and subjection to colonial rule have been constantly contested by the Argentine Republic.

Strictly speaking, there has been no effective United Kingdom administration over the South Sandwich Islands, but only isolated references in British documents and other papers, some of them vague, the purport of which was that British jurisdiction extended to territories that were under the unquestionable sovereignty of other States. Consequently, there was no peaceful, effective and continuous administration sufficient to give the United Kingdom a valid title.

3. The South Sandwich Islands were uninhabited - as I pointed out in my previous note and as the latest United Kingdom note implicitly recognizes - and had no permanent settlement until the end of 1976, when the Argentine Republic started work on establishing the "Corbeta Uruguay" station.

It should also be pointed out that, prior to the establishment of this station, Argentina had carried out scientific work in previous campaigns, placing beacons on a number of islands in the archipelago and setting up a temporary shelter.

4. Not only has my country never accepted the British claim to the archipelago, but the United Kingdom must have been very clearly aware of that fact, because in April 1977 it agreed with the Argentine Government, in a joint communiqué, to establish as terms of reference for the negotiations on the Malvinas question that the negotiations would relate to sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands. This was reported by the Permanent Representatives of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom in communications to the Secretary-General of the United Nations (A/32/110 and A/32/111). The same conclusion must be drawn from the joint communiqué of the two Governments of 20 December 1978, which also refers to negotiations concerning the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands (A/34/66 of 22 January 1979) and from documents A/34/342 of 29 June 1979 and A/34/343 of the same date, containing identical letters from the Permanent Representatives of Argentina and the United Kingdom in which both of them refer to "a fourth round of negotiations on the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands".

5. The Argentine Republic has no doubt whatsoever concerning its title to the South Sandwich Islands and the illegitimacy of the British colonial claims. The Argentine presence in those islands, not preceded by any other permanent occupation, was exercised up to 20 June 1982 in a peaceful manner, through the establishment of the "Corbeta Uruguay" station. It should be noted that that presence was tacitly consented to by the United Kingdom, which sent its ships on normal visits to the Argentine scientific station.

Moreover, in late 1978, during a round of negotiations in Geneva, the United Kingdom delegation, headed by the then Minister of State in the Foreign Office, concluded with his Argentine opposite number an agreement on scientific co-operation which provided for the establishment of Argentine bases not only in the South Sandwich Islands but also in South Georgia. Months later, however, the British Government announced that it could not ratify the agreement because of objections by the inhabitants of the Malvinas Islands, although in practice it allowed the agreement to be put into effect.

6. It should also be made clear that the "Corbeta Uruguay" station was operated throughout its existence by scientific personnel of the Argentine armed forces, the reason being that the armed forces are responsible for all Antarctic and sub-Antarctic logistical operations. The personnel in question were not in possession of any armaments at all.

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7. Lastly, it is important to emphasize that the "Corbeta Uruguay" station is a surface synoptic meteorological station making three-hourly observations and also an altitude meteorological station (radiosonde-radiowind). Its establishment was reported to the World Meteorological Organization, without any objection, on 6 December 1977, by a note to the Secretary-General of the Organization giving its co-ordinates and geographical location. In accordance with the international rules in force, the station was given the designation No. 88946, and in June 1978 it was included in the publication volume 9 of the World Meteorological Organization, thus being officially recognized as an Argentine station belonging to Regional Association III (South America); this was not contested and gave rise to no British complaint whatever.

I request that this note should be circulated as a Security Council document.

(Signed) Arnoldo M. LlSTRE  
Ambassador

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Security Council

Distr.  
GENERAL

S/15307  
22 July 1982

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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LETTER DATED 22 JULY 1982 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE  
PERMANENT MISSION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN  
AND NORTHERN IRELAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO  
THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to my letter dated 9 April 1982 (S/14963) and to the letters from Sir Anthony Parsons dated 24 April 1982 (S/14997), 28 April 1982 (S/15006) and 8 May 1982 (S/15058). On instructions from the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, I have the honour to inform you that a statement in the following terms was made earlier today in the House of Commons by the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, the Right Honourable Margaret Thatcher.

"We have decided to lift the total exclusion zone of 200 nautical miles around the Falkland Islands, which was established on 30 April. Port Stanley Harbour and Port Stanley Airfield, together with the three-mile territorial sea around the Falklands, nevertheless, remain closed to commercial shipping and aircraft until further notice for reasons of safety.

"Our warning of 7 May that any Argentine warship or military aircraft found more than 12 miles from the Argentine coast would be regarded as hostile similarly no longer applies.

"But British forces continue to have authority to take all necessary measures to protect themselves against attack anywhere in the South Atlantic and to defend the Falkland Islands and the dependencies, in accordance with the inherent right of self-defence recognized in Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations. In particular, and to minimize the risk of misunderstandings or inadvertent clashes, we have asked the Argentine Government, via the Swiss Government, to ensure that their warships and military aircraft do not enter a zone of 150 miles around the Islands where they would pose a potential threat to our forces. Argentine civil aircraft and shipping have also been requested not to enter this zone, unless by prior agreement with the British Government, and also to stay clear of other British dependencies in the South Atlantic."

S/15307  
English  
Page 2

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this letter to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hamilton WHYTE

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