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14 June 1982

ENGLISH

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LETTER DATED 13 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 transmit to you the following communiqué issued by the Joint General Staff of the Argentine Armed Forces:

Communiqué No. 154 of 12 June 1982

The Joint General Staff announces today, 12 June 1982, that the following military actions took place:

1. At 0250 hours, enemy troops numbering approximately 4,500, very well-equipped and armed with sophisticated weapons, began an advance taking advantage of the line of hills leading towards Puerto Argentino.
2. The enemy troops took the Two Sisters and Mount Harriet. They were held back by Argentine forces along the front from Mount Langdon to Mount Harriet. The latter are regrouping to the east of Mount Harriet, at present held by the enemy, in order to stabilize the existing situation, which is holding.
3. The enemy advance has penetrated 3.5 km behind our defence lines. This situation is not in itself decisive for victory or defeat, which depends on the operational defence plan that is pursued.
4. The situation is at present unchanged as fighting is continuing with heavy artillery and mortar fire from both sides.
5. During the fighting, one British Harrier aircraft was shot down and another damaged.

In conclusion, it should be noted that the actions in question revealed the massive deployment of British forces having substantial resources and support units at their disposal. This move has been countered by our own forces, which have a satisfactory level of technical sophistication and are adequately equipped and which have shown excellent fighting spirit."

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The military actions of the Argentine Armed Forces described above were carried out by the Argentine people and Government in exercise of the right of self-defence provided for in Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations.

I request you, Sir, to have this letter circulated as a Security Council document.

(Signed) Arnaldo M. LISTRE
Ambassador
