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(Consejo de Seguridad UN)

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**UNITED
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**LETTER DATED 1 MAY 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, with reference to my letter of 28 April 1982 (S/15006), to inform you of the following.

On 2 April 1982, Argentina used armed force to invade the Falkland Islands in defiance of the Security Council's call on Argentina not to use force of 1 April 1982 (S/14944). Since 3 April 1982, Argentina has failed to comply with the demand in operative paragraph 2 of resolution 502 (1982) adopted by the Security Council on that day. In my letter of 28 April 1982 (S/15006) concerning the Total Exclusion Zone, I set out the text of an announcement by the Government of the United Kingdom to the effect that from 1100 GMT on 30 April 1982

"Port Stanley airport will be closed; and any aircraft on the ground in the Falkland Islands will be regarded as present in support of the illegal occupation and, accordingly, is liable to attack."

On 1 May 1982, the Ministry of Defence of the United Kingdom issued the following statement:

"We have been enforcing the Total Exclusion Zone since noon London time on Friday 30 April in exercise of the right of self-defence under Article 51 of the United Nations Charter. The notice issued on 28 April made it clear that after 48 hours' warning the airport would be closed and that any aircraft on the ground would be liable to attack. Early this morning British aircraft took action to enforce the Total Exclusion Zone and to deny the Argentines the use of the airstrip at Port Stanley. We are not yet able to give details but will do so as soon as we have authoritative information."

This action has been made necessary by the refusal of Argentina to comply with paragraph 2 of resolution 502 following its invasion of British territory. The action has been taken in exercise of the United Kingdom's inherent right to 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
