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LETTER DATED 15 MAY 1982 FROM THE DEPUTY 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 transmit to Your Excellency the following announcement made on 15 May 1982 by the British Ministry of Defence:

"As part of their continuing task of enforcing the Total Exclusion Zone, Sea Harriers from the task force yesterday attacked Port Stanley airfield and associated military installations. All aircraft returned safely.

Last night a raid was carried out by British forces on military installations and aircraft on an airstrip on Pebble Island in the north of West Falkland. A number of aircraft on the ground and a large ammunition dump were destroyed. The forces concerned have, as planned, now rejoined the task force. All returned safely with only two minor casualties.

I must emphasise that this was a raid and not an invasion of the Falkland Islands. It was a limited military action designed and executed as part of the task force's continuing role in enforcing the Total Exclusion Zone."

These actions have 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, having regard to the continued illegal occupation of the Falkland Islands and the attempted subjugation of the Falkland Islanders, a people of British descent and nationality living on British territory and entitled to the full protection of the United Nations Charter.

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

(Signed) W. E. H. WHYTE