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LETTER DATED 28 APRIL 1982 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE TWENTIETH
MEETING OF CONSULTATION OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of Resolution I entitled "Serious situation in the South Atlantic", adopted at the second plenary session, held on 28 April 1982, of the Twentieth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, convened in accordance with the provisions of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance.

In paragraph 8 of that resolution, I am instructed, as President of the Twentieth Meeting of Consultation, immediately to present this resolution formally to the President of the United Nations Security Council, so that he may bring it to the attention of the members of the Council, which I am doing by means of this letter.

(Signed) Estanislao Valdés OTERO
President of the
Twentieth Meeting of Consultation
of Ministers of Foreign Affairs

Annex

XX MEETING OF CONSULTATION OF
MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
April 26, 1982
Washington, D.C.

OEA/Ser.F/II.20
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28 April 1982
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RESOLUTION I

SERIOUS SITUATION IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC
(Resolution adopted at the Second Plenary session held on
April 28, 1982)

THE TWENTIETH MEETING OF CONSULTATION OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,

CONSIDERING:

The principles of inter-American solidarity and cooperation and the need to find a peaceful solution to any situation that endangers the peace of the Americas;

That a dangerous confrontation has arisen between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Argentine Republic, which was aggravated today by the events that have arisen from the presence of the British navy in the South Atlantic, within the security region referred to in Article 4 of the Rio Treaty;

That the primary purpose of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance is the maintenance of the peace and security of the hemisphere, which, in the case that has arisen, requires ensuring the peaceful settlement of the dispute;

That to facilitate peaceful settlement of the dispute, it is urgent that hostilities cease, since they disturb the peace of the hemisphere and may reach unforeseeable proportions;

That it is an unchanging principle of the inter-American system that peace be preserved and that all the American states unanimously reject the intervention of extra-continental or continental armed forces in any of the nations of the hemisphere;

That Argentina's rights of sovereignty over the Malvinas (Falkland) Islands, as stated in some important resolutions passed by various international forums, including the Declaration of the Inter-American Juridical Committee on January 16, 1976, which states: "That the Republic of Argentina has an undeniable right of sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands," must be borne in mind, and

That the peace efforts being made with the consent of the parties must be emphasized, and that inter-American solidarity contributes to that objective, and

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HAVING SEEN:

Resolution 502 (1982) of the United Nations Security Council, all of whose terms must be fulfilled; Resolution 359 of April 13, 1982, adopted by the Permanent Council of the Organization of American States, and the Declaration adopted unanimously by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs at the opening session of the Twentieth Meeting of Consultation (Doc.14/82), and in conformity with the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland immediately to cease the hostilities it is carrying on within the security region defined by Article 4 of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance, and also to refrain from any act that may affect inter-American peace and security.
2. To urge the Government of the Republic of Argentina likewise to refrain from taking any action that may exacerbate the situation.
3. To urge those governments immediately to call a truce that will make it possible to resume and proceed normally with the negotiation aimed at a peaceful settlement of the conflict, taking into account the rights of sovereignty of the Republic of Argentina over the Malvinas (Falkland) Islands and the interests of the islanders.
4. To express the willingness of the Organ of Consultation to lend support, through whatever means it considers advisable, to the new initiatives being advanced at the regional or world level, with the consent of the Parties, which are directed toward the just and peaceful settlement of the problem.
5. To take note of the information received about the important negotiations of the Secretary of State of the United States of America and to express its wishes that they will be an effective contribution to the peaceful settlement of the conflict.
6. To deplore the adoption by members of the European Economic Community and other states of coercive measures of an economic and political nature, which are prejudicial to the Argentine nation and to urge them to lift those measures, indicating that they constitute a serious precedent, inasmuch as they are not covered by Resolution 502 (1982) of the United Nations Security Council and are incompatible with the Charters of the United Nations and of the OAS and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).
7. To instruct the President of the Twentieth Meeting of Consultation to take immediate steps to transmit the appeal contained in operative paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of this resolution to the governments of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of the Republic of Argentina, and also to inform them, on behalf of the foreign ministers of the Americas, that he is fully confident that this appeal will be received for the sake of peace in the region and in the world.

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8. To instruct the President of the Twentieth Meeting of Consultation immediately to present this resolution formally to the Chairman of the United Nations Security Council, so that he may bring it to the attention of the members of the Council.

9. To keep the Twentieth Meeting of Consultation open, especially to oversee faithful compliance with this resolution, and to take such additional measures as are deemed necessary to restore and preserve peace and settle the conflict by peaceful means.
