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LETTER DATED 13 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 (S/15006), to  
address Your Excellency on the subject of the Falkland Islands.

The Ministry of Defence in London has announced that on 12 May, at  
approximately 1730 hours London time, two Royal Navy ships in the course of  
enforcing the Total Exclusion Zone were attacked by Argentine Skyhawk aircraft.  
The aircraft approached in three waves. In the first wave there were four  
aircraft, two of which were shot down. A third aircraft flew into the sea whilst  
taking evasive action. The fourth aircraft escaped. No further aircraft were shot  
down. While engaging the second group, which also contained four aircraft, one of  
the British ships sustained comparatively minor damage. A third group of aircraft  
subsequently gathered some distance from the British ships but did not approach for  
an attack.

These operations by the British forces were carried out in exercise of the  
United Kingdom's inherent right of self-defence recognized by Article 51 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) A. D. PARSONS