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LETTER DATED 24 MAY 1982 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF URUGUAY TO THE  
UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the statement issued  
yesterday by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of my country,  
Dr. Estanislao Valdés Otero, on behalf of the Government of Uruguay.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this note, and its annex, to be  
circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Jorge AZAR-GOMEZ  
Minister  
Acting Permanent Representative

Annex

Statement made by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Uruguay  
on 23 May 1982 in Montevideo

The Government of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay condemns the armed attack perpetrated against the American territory of the Islas Malvinas, and declares that this action has no reasonable connexion with the inherent right of self-defence recognized by Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations.

The Republic has recognized and repeatedly supported the rights of sovereignty of Argentina over the Islas Malvinas, and this position was shared by the Twentieth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the member countries of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance.

The defence of the cause of peace, and the consequent rejection of the use of force for the solution of differences between States, is part of the fundamental principles and of the indomitable tradition of the foreign policy of the Republic.

Any breach of peace profoundly moves the conscience of our people, which is naturally particularly affected by a conflagration involving Argentina - a nation with which our country maintains historic ties of genuine brotherhood and exemplary friendship.

Motivated by these principles and feelings, the Government of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay calls for an immediate cessation of hostilities, so that there may be no more victims, and for the initiation without delay of the indispensable procedure of a negotiated diplomatic solution to the conflict.

The memory of those who fell during the hostilities requires a supreme effort in favour of peace, and condemns any country or organization giving incitement to the use of arms by providing direct or indirect support for colonialist policies of confrontation which ignore the essential fact that we are all part of the same civilization inspired by common ideals of freedom, peace and justice.

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