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NOTE VERBALE DATED 24 MAY 1982 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSIONS OF
ARGENTINA, NICARAGUA, PANAMA AND VENEZUELA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The Permanent Missions of Argentina, Nicaragua, Panama and Venezuela to the United Nations present their compliments to the President of the Security Council and request him to circulate the Declaration annexed hereto as a Security Council document.

Annex

Declaration by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Argentina,
Nicaragua, Panama and Venezuela, made at New York on

24 May 1982

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Argentina, Nicaragua, Panama and Venezuela, who are attending the present meeting of the Security Council of the United Nations on the "Question concerning the situation in the region of the Malvinas Islands", have deemed it desirable to make the following declaration to the Council:

1. We confirm the rejection by Latin America of the United Kingdom's military offensive against the South American continent and express, unequivocally and firmly, the desire of our peoples for peace and the hope that it may materialize as a result of an effective decision by the Council.
2. We strongly protest against the British decision, officially communicated to the Government of Uruguay, to the effect that the United Kingdom has decided to extend its naval and air military action to the River Plate. This deplorable decision, in addition to violating general international law and the River Plate Treaty, carries the British aggression into the very heart of the continent, since it ignores all the legal, historical and geographical reasons which confer on the River Plate the same status as attaches to jurisdiction on land. This directly affects the integrity and security of Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay and Uruguay, while at the same time aggravating and spreading the conflict which has resulted from the United Kingdom's military adventure.
3. We reject with righteous indignation the decision taken by the European Economic Community, with the honourable exception of Ireland and Italy, extending indefinitely the economic aggression which, under the pretext of "sanctions", has been imposed on Argentina. This act, which is offensive to the whole of Latin America, constitutes a serious threat to international peace and security and presages the generalization of a conflict which, day by day, is assuming the character of an intercontinental confrontation.
4. We note with alarm that, although a number of weeks have elapsed since the beginning of the British fleet's armed attack on the Argentine Republic, the Security Council has taken no action to achieve the re-establishment of peace. This concern is seriously increased by the fact that, after four days of debate in the Council, during which both the fighting and the loss of life have intensified, it has not proved possible to respond to the outcry of mankind, which demands an unconditional cease-fire and vigorous action for peace, for which purpose it is essential to give the Secretary-General a mandate.

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It is urgently necessary for the Security Council, whose duty is to ensure the peace of the world to take the necessary action to halt this military escalation. We cannot continue to regard with indifference the course of events which are jeopardizing the future of mankind.

(Signed) Nicanor COSTA MENDEZ
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of Argentina

(Signed) Miguel D'ESCOTO
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of Nicaragua

(Signed) Jorge ILLUECA
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of Panama

(Signed) José Alberto ZAMBRANO VELASCO
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of Venezuela