



Security Council

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LETTER DATED 12 JUNE 1982 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF
THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ARGENTINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On express instructions from my Government, I have the honour to continue to report on the situation in the Malvinas area.

In this regard, I am enclosing the text of a message, dated 11 June 1982, which the Embassy of the Federative Republic of Brazil was requested to transmit to the British authorities:

"The Argentine Government wishes to remind the Government of the United Kingdom of the unambiguous provisions of the Second Geneva Convention, which refers in article 22 to the protection due to hospital ships.

"The attack perpetrated by British aircraft against the Argentine hospital ship Bahía Paraíso while the latter was moored in Puerto Argentino with wounded persons on board and while a commission from the International Committee of the Red Cross, which had been transported there by that hospital ship, was carrying out its functions among the local population has caused profound concern on the part of the Government of Argentina.

"The British aircraft fired two missiles, one of which made impact near the hospital ship, while the other swerved to the side and caused serious damage to a nearby house belonging to one of the inhabitants of the area.

"An action of this nature shows disregard for the provisions of the Geneva Conventions and constitutes a clear violation of fundamental humanitarian principles, and the Government of the Republic of Argentina is obliged to denounce it."

I request you, Sir, to have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Arnoldo M. LISTRE
Ambassador