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LETTER DATED 10 MAY 1982 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF PERU TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to communicate with you, Sir, in order to inform you that on 7 May 1982 the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru issued an official communiqué relating to the United Kingdom Government's announcement that any ship or aircraft found more than 12 nautical miles from the Argentine coast would be regarded as hostile and liable to be dealt with accordingly.

I request you, Sir, to have this note and the text of the aforementioned communiqué, which I annex hereto, circulated as a Security Council document.

(Signed) Juan José CALLE
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Peru
to the United Nations

Annex

OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF PERU

The United Kingdom Government announced today that any Argentine ship or aircraft found more than 12 nautical miles from the Argentine coast would be regarded as hostile and liable to be dealt with accordingly.

The Peruvian Government regards as a matter of the utmost gravity the extension of the area of conflict to waters which, under Argentine law, are subject to Argentina's sovereignty and are therefore part of South American continental territory.

In the face of this new expansion of warlike actions by the United Kingdom forces, after the unjustifiable sinking of the cruiser General Belgrano, the Government of Peru repeats its vigorous protest and its request for a cessation of hostilities in order to afford an opportunity for the peaceful procedures provided for under international law.

Peru firmly supports the moves being made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and calls upon the parties to the conflict to agree without delay upon a truce, which is the only means capable of averting a greater conflagration.

Peru has immediately taken the actions required in the international field for the preservation of the peace and security of the countries of Latin America and has given instructions accordingly to its delegation to the Twentieth Consultative Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs.

Lima, 7 May 1982
