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LETTER DATED 17 MAY 1982 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE
PERMANENT MISSION OF COSTA RICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the following communiqué:

"On 15 May Foreign Minister Volio Jiménez, on behalf of the Government of Costa Rica, issued the following communiqué of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship:

1. The Government of Costa Rica declares that it is deeply distressed by the military actions in the Malvinas because of the sorrow they are causing our noble sister people of Argentina, because of the serious disruption of existing international legal systems for the peaceful settlement of disputes among States and because of the tensions which they are generating within the group of Western democratic nations, with the resultant political advantage for their adversaries in the ideological struggle that is jeopardizing world peace;

2. Urges Argentina and Great Britain to halt their military activities and agree to a negotiated settlement of their differences, in accordance with the norms and procedures of international law;

3. Declares that it is essential to end all vestiges of colonialism in the Americas and throughout the world, since they constitute an affront to the dignity of the persons afflicted by that scourge and a violation of their right to self-determination. It consequently recognizes the justice of Argentina's claim to the exercise of sovereignty in the Malvinas;

4. Nevertheless regrets that that claim should have culminated in an act of force, contrary to international law;

5. Likewise regrets that Great Britain, whose contribution to the cause of democracy Costa Rica acknowledges and stresses, should also have resorted to violence in order to assert what it deems to be its right and should have made excessive use of its military strength, even to the extent of loss of life among its nationals, which the Costa Rican Government regrets;

6. Decisively supports the peace efforts being made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and trusts that they may soon bring about a satisfactory solution;

7. Regrets that the commendable mediation efforts of the United States of America and Peru did not bear fruit and that the former country should afterwards have resorted to procedures outside the Organization of American States;

8. Calls upon the member States of the OAS, in the face of the Malvinas crisis and its serious repercussions on the inter-American legal system, particularly to the detriment of the efficacy of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance (TIAR), to undertake measures to improve and strengthen it, without countenancing ad hoc initiatives, however well-intentioned, that might well obstruct the above-mentioned aims, for the sake of the solidarity of the members of the inter-American system and its noble goals;

9. Renews its support for the aims and purposes of the Charters of the United Nations and of the Organization of American States, especially at this time when their machinery for the peaceful settlement of disputes is being put to the test; and

10. Declares to Great Britain and any other power that it will vigorously repudiate any action that affects the sovereignty and integrity of the mainland territory of the Argentine Republic or of the entire territory of the Americas."

I should be grateful if you would have this letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Emilia C. de BARISH
Ambassador
Alternate Permanent Representative
Charge d'Affaires a.i.
