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LETTER DATED 28 MAY 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 draw to your attention the following communiqués issued by the Joint General Staff of the Argentine Armed Forces:

Communiqué No. 95 of 27 May 1982:

"The Joint General Staff announces the following developments in connexion with the operations being conducted by the Argentine Army in the Malvinas Islands:

Argentine infantry troops are maintaining contact with the aggressor troops, preserving their combat power intact.

The enemy was fired on by the Argentine infantry and suffered the following losses:

- Two Sea King helicopters shot down, with only one announced survivor;
- Two helicopters seriously damaged;
- Undetermined casualties among the Royal Marines.

Elements of armoured cavalry are performing tasks of exploration and security, with the aim of denying space and freedom of action to the aggressor forces, hemmed into a pocket of approximately 150 km<sup>2</sup>. Highly trained troops are engaged in harassment activities within the enemy deployment; the evaluation and results will be announced in due course."

Communiqué No. 96 of 27 May 1982:

"The Joint General Staff announces that on 26 May 1982 the following action was undertaken in the Malvinas area:

1. By the enemy:

- A frigate attacked the area of Puerto Argentino, leaving the sector at top speed after being fired on from the land;
- Two frigates attacked the area of Fox Bay, without causing damage.

2. By Argentine troops:

- Aircraft of the Argentine Air Force dive-bombed the area near Puerto San Carlos; the damage done has not yet been evaluated.

There were no Argentine losses during the operation."

Communiqué No. 97 of 27 May 1982:

"The Joint General Staff announces that early today, at 2 a.m. on 27 May 1982, Canberra aircraft of the Argentine Air Force bombed the beachhead established by the enemy at Puerto San Carlos.

The evaluation of the damage caused will be announced publicly in due course."

Communiqué No. 98 of 27 May 1982:

"The Joint General Staff announces that, during the day on 27 May 1982, forces of the Argentine Army maintained contact with the enemy beachhead through the advance of our exploratory probes.

Air attacks were conducted against enemy positions and the results are being evaluated.

The enemy attacked the areas of Howard, Puerto Argentino and Darwin with Harrier aircraft; in this last attack, an attacking aircraft was shot down."

Communiqué No. 99 of 28 May 1982:

"The Joint General Staff announces publicly that, through the Foreign Ministry of the Federative Republic of Brazil, the United Kingdom Government was again notified today, 27 May 1982, of the abnormal situation of the military hospital ship Uganda.

In this connexion, the Argentine Government has noted that the Uganda is being used by the enemy for military purposes, thus violating explicit provisions of the second 1949 Geneva Convention.

The Argentine Government has repeatedly called for the immediate cessation of all activity not related to the specific function of the hospital ship, demanding that it be moved to a safe distance from the area of operations in the San Carlos Strait, so as to permit its identification and eliminate any doubt about other possible uses.

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If the United Kingdom persists in using the Uganda for tasks unsuited to a hospital ship, the Argentine Government will consider itself exonerated, under the provisions of the above-mentioned Convention, from any responsibility for whatever may occur."

The military actions of the Argentine Armed Forces described above were undertaken by the Argentine people and Government in exercise of the right of self-defence envisaged in Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations.

I request that this letter be circulated, as a matter of urgency, as a Security Council document.

(Signed) Arnaldo M. LISTRE  
Ambassador

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