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LETTER DATED 26 JULY 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

I have the honour, on express instructions from my Government, to bring the following information regarding the question of the Malvinas, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands to the attention of the Security Council:

"1. The British Government, through the Swiss Embassy in Buenos Aires, has transmitted to the Government of Argentina a communication containing unilateral judgements and definitions concerning the situation prevailing in the South Atlantic at this stage of the conflict.

"2. In the said communication it is stated that hostilities have ended, but at the same time measures of a patently belligerent nature are announced that involve the maintenance - with some modifications - of the exclusion or blockade zones earlier established by Great Britain on 30 April. Specifically, any ship or aircraft entering what is called a Protection Zone, bounded by a circle of 150 nautical miles radius around the islands, will be considered hostile and treated accordingly. Moreover, the British Government reserves the right to carry out military activities in any part of the South Atlantic should it deem them necessary for the protection of its forces.

"3. This is an attempt to create, by unilateral acts and declarations, a situation that would enable British military occupation and the colonialist presence of the United Kingdom in the zone to be consolidated and made acceptable. In these circumstances, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Argentina states that it does not accept, just as it has not accepted in the past, the existence of exclusion zones or of limits of any kind in seas that lie within Argentine jurisdiction and that the United Kingdom will be solely responsible for any incident that may arise on account of their establishment. It also reaffirms that, as is demonstrated by the attitude assumed by Great Britain, a final cessation of hostilities does not exist in the zone, but rather a de facto suspension of hostilities. The resulting situation, fraught with danger as it is, can lead to genuine peace only if Great Britain abrogates the military and economic measures it has taken and

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agrees to negotiate with the Argentine Republic, within the framework of the United Nations and in accordance with the relevant resolutions, on the final settlement of the dispute."

I request that this letter be distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ruth GUEVARA ACHAVAL
Minister Plenipotentiary
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.
