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## QUESTION OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS (MALVINAS)

Letter dated 12 January 1983 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the  
Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations addressed  
to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to write to you, on express instructions from my Government, concerning the presence in the Malvinas Islands of the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom. My country has repeatedly pointed out that the Malvinas, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands are an inseparable part of the sovereign territory of Argentina. It has also repeatedly called attention to the fact that the unlawful British colonial presence in the usurped territories is a violation of its legitimate rights and affects its vital interests and its dignity and thereby constitutes a source of serious tension and instability in the region.

This state of affairs has been considerably aggravated by the presence of the British Prime Minister in the Malvinas. Her visit, her behaviour and the statements which she made during her tour amount to serious provocation and an intolerable insult to Argentina and Latin America, which interpret these actions as confirmation of the arrogant colonialist and expansionist policy which prompted the British acts of military aggression of 1833 and 1982. One assumption behind the visit of the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom may be the unquestionably false and mistaken one that the results of the 1982 conflict are irreversible and that consequently the British Government may prolong its illegal occupation in the South Atlantic indefinitely. Such an assumption is unrealistic, since it ignores the fact that the decolonization and recovery of the Malvinas, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands is a constant priority objective of my country. Accordingly, no attempt on the part of the British to perpetuate their present usurpation of those territories can be tolerated because it overlooks the fact that not only is the restoration of the islands to effective Argentine sovereignty an objective firmly endorsed by the whole of Latin America but the international community, as demonstrated by the adoption of General Assembly resolution 37/9, has refused to ratify the tenuous result of the 1982 military conflict, thus rejecting British claims based solely on use of force.

Argentina has repeatedly expressed its earnest concern to see a just, lasting and negotiated solution to the sovereignty dispute with the United Kingdom. However, my Government feels bound once again to call attention to the serious nature of the British Government's repeated acts which - as in the case of those which are the subject of this letter - testify to a continuing desire to humiliate my country and to block the implementation of resolution 37/9 and the other General Assembly resolutions to the same effect. The fact is, as Member States are aware, that the British Government has not so far shown any readiness to comply with resolution 37/9 and has not responded in the slightest degree to the willingness amply displayed by Argentina. Responsibility for the dangerous situation prevailing in the region of the islands therefore lies solely with the British Government. My Government is confident that the international community will appreciate the consequences of the British policy of continual provocation of Argentina and Latin America and accordingly wishes once more forcefully to underline the necessity for prompt compliance on the part of the United Kingdom with General Assembly resolution 37/9.

I request you to have this letter distributed as a General Assembly document, as a matter of urgency, and brought to the attention of the Special Committee on decolonization in connection with the question of the Malvinas.

(Signed) Victor E. BEAUGE  
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

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