

TRANSLATION OF LETTER FROM THE ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER,
SR CAMILION, TO THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR, DELIVERED IN BUENOS AIRES
ON 27 JULY 1981

Dear Ambassador

1. I have the pleasure to address Your Excellency in order to refer to the negotiations in train between the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom concerning the dispute over sovereignty over the Malvinas (ie the Falklands), South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands.
2. In this connection, the last meeting in February this year, in New York, did not permit the achievement of any progress in the matters discussed and this - so long after the negotiations began - seriously concerns the Argentine Government, which has been making every effort to create the best conditions for reaching a definitive solution to the dispute.
3. The above-mentioned New York round was the latest of a series started in 1977, which the Government of my country considers has not, in general, produced positive elements for resolving the dispute.
4. A few weeks ago too there passed the tenth anniversary of the joint declaration which established the programme for opening up communications with the Malvinas; the faithful application of this agreement by my country, with a view to promoting better mutual understanding between the inhabitants of the mainland and the Islands and creating a climate favourable for in-depth negotiation, has not achieved these aims either, despite numerous initiatives by Argentina to put an end to the isolation of the inhabitants of the Malvinas and improve their way of life.
5. In the Argentine Government's view, it is therefore not possible to postpone further a profound and serious discussion of the

essential constituents of the negotiations - sovereignty and economic co-operation - in a simultaneous and global fashion with the express intention of achieving concrete results shortly. A determined push must therefore be given to the negotiations.

6. The next round of negotiations cannot be another mere exploratory exercise, but must mark the beginning of a decisive stage towards the definitive termination of the dispute. I am convinced that if the question is faced in this way we shall be able to advance positively towards a solution which takes account of the interests of the two sides in the dispute.

7. It is in this context that I am pleased to address a formal call to the British Government to resume the negotiating process shortly, in a realistic spirit, in a framework of mutual good faith and approaching the substantial subjects in depth and with a firm resolve to reach a definitive solution to the Malvinas question.

With kind regards to Your Excellency,

(signed: Oscar Camilion).