



CANADA

PRIME MINISTER • PREMIER MINISTRE  
OTTAWA, K1A 0A2

June 27, 1982

T 140/82

The Prime Minister saw an  
advance copy. F./C.O.  
advice has been sought  
on a reply. A.S.C. 1/3

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PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE  
SERIAL No. T 140/82.

Dear Margaret,

May I extend my warmest congratulations on your remarkable success in retaking the Falkland Islands. Throughout this crisis you have demonstrated both your strength and your integrity; in so doing, you have inspired and led your country in the best sense. While you were determined that the first use of force should not be rewarded, you tried to reach an honourable negotiated settlement that would not compromise this principle. I know how deeply you regretted the need to resort to a military solution and can only state my admiration for the measured and brilliant manner by which your forces pursued their military objectives. Even so, you, like the Argentines, have paid a high price in the loss of men and materiel. May I offer my deep sympathy to you and my condolences to the men's families.

Canada was pleased to be able to demonstrate in a concrete way our abhorrence of the use of force in settling international disputes through our statements, arms sales embargo, restrictions on export credits, and prohibition of Argentine imports. As you may know, we implemented the latter measure on the basis of an inter-governmental arrangement with the European Community. These measures have been terminated, again in consultation with our European partners.

The Right Honourable Margaret Thatcher  
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom  
10 Downing Street  
London

I know that you are very conscious of the longer-term problems you confront regarding the status and security of the Falklands. While these questions are the direct responsibility of the United Kingdom, the manner of their resolution will, as you know, have implications for the relations of your allies with Argentina and other Latin American countries and, more generally, for the peace and stability of the region. I would hope that in approaching these problems, your Government will give due weight to the larger problem. It is difficult to argue for generosity towards the Argentine Government after its actions which have been so costly to you. At the same time, I believe the principle that the first use of force should not be rewarded has been satisfied by the clarity of Argentina's defeat and its consequences in that country.

Clearly, these problems will not be resolved easily or quickly. You have every reason to pause after your victory and to take time to restore some semblance of normalcy in the Falklands. I shall follow your actions with interest and sympathy.

Once again, my congratulations on your success. Your actions have served the cause we share of strengthening international order.

Yours sincerely, *with*

*personal regards.*

*Jim*