



Argentina

LAMBETH PALACE, LONDON, SE1 7JU

5th April 1982

Your Holiness,

The Apostolic Pro-Nuncio has told me of Your Holiness's deep concern about the threat of further hostilities in the South Atlantic following the Argentinian occupation of the Falkland Islands. I have therefore decided to send my special envoy, Mr. Terry Waite, to see Your Holiness's Secretary of State, Cardinal Casaroli, to discuss the crisis.

I have a personal involvement as the Bishop directly responsible for the Islands, two-thirds of the population of which is Anglican; but I am also writing on behalf of all the Christians of the Falkland Islands, Roman Catholic and Presbyterian, as well. It is a very God-fearing community. Your Holiness's great moral authority in Argentina prompts me to appeal to you to urge the present military government in that country to respect international law and the recent and unambiguous resolutions of the Security Council.

My envoy, Mr. Waite, will enlarge on this request and he will also be able to give your Cardinal Secretary an up-to-date briefing on sentiment in Great Britain.

(Cont.)

I look forward to more tranquil topics for  
our eagerly awaited meeting in May.

Your Holiness's Brother in Christ,

*Robert Runcie*

Archbishop of Canterbury

His Holiness Pope John Paul II,  
The Vatican.