

AMBASÁD NA hÉIREANN, LONDAIN.



IRISH EMBASSY, LONDON.

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PS/Mthud

PS/As. Ousla

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Mr Bullard

Mr Griffiths

Mr Vire

Mr Hamman

Mr Goodison

RID

SAND

GCD(E)

*mtH 7/5*

7 May 1982

The Rt Hon Francis Pym MP  
Secretary of State for Foreign and  
Commonwealth Affairs  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
London

*My dear Foreign Secretary*

I have been asked by our Foreign Minister, Mr Gerard Collins TD, to convey the following reply to your message of yesterday, Thursday 6 May:

My Dear Foreign Secretary

1. In the view of the Irish Government, the imposition by the Community of sanctions on Argentina was designed to provide an element of economic pressure which, in combination with a balanced application of political and military pressure, would serve the purpose of inducing Argentina to abide by the terms of Security Council Resolution 502 and thus make a peaceful political and diplomatic solution of the Anglo-Argentine dispute possible.

2. The actual use of military force in the aftermath of Mr Haig's mediation efforts had unfortunately upset that balance and increased the risk of a wider conflict. In this situation, the continuation of sanctions by the Community was bound to be represented and perceived as supporting and reinforcing a solution through predominantly military means. It is for this reason that Ireland considered that the continued application of sanctions by the Community would be inappropriate in the prevailing circumstances.



3. You will be aware that in their statement of 4 May the Irish Government also indicated that Ireland intended to seek a meeting of the Security Council. The purpose of seeking to activate the Security Council was to make it clear that every diplomatic means was not only explored but fully exploited. We believe that the approach of the Community and its Member States to the Falklands crisis will be better appreciated if, at the same time, the UN is actively engaged in the search for a diplomatic solution.

4. You will be aware that in informal consultations in the Security Council the Irish delegation made it plain that our efforts are aimed at complementing those of the Secretary General. May I say that we were happy to learn of the positive and constructive response by Argentina and Britain to the UN Secretary General's efforts to create a credible diplomatic framework for negotiations. Against this background I believe it is right that we should review the question of Community sanctions at our informal meeting in Villers-le-Temple tomorrow. I shall be glad to explain more fully the reasons for the Irish position on the continuation of sanctions. In any event, I'm sure you will agree, the Ten as a whole should avail of the opportunity to consider at this stage whether and in what circumstances a Community decision to maintain or to renew the sanctions may or may not be appropriate: You may take it that we will give due weight to the principle of Community solidarity.

Yours very sincerely

Gerard Collins  
Foreign Minister.

*I am, my dear Foreign Secretary  
Yours very sincerely  
Sean Kennedy*