

ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE,
WESTMINSTER, LONDON, SW1P 1QJ

13 May, 1982

R 14/5

PPS

Dear Prime Minister,

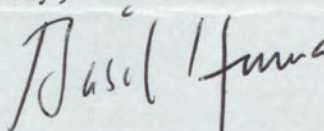
Thank you for your letter of the 11th May.

You wrote in that letter "I was surprised that you should question whether our use of force in the South Atlantic was morally justified." I found this slightly puzzling in that you will be able to check that in my letter of May 8th I wrote as follows:

"You may perhaps be aware that after the sending of the Task Force a statement was published in the Catholic press giving some ideas about the moral issues underlying the crisis. Under the principles of the just war the United Kingdom has an unmistakeable claim to take the necessary steps to overturn the Argentine aggression even if this involves, as a last resort, the use of force."

I do not wish to burden you with this but I thought it only right to put the records straight from my point of view. The rest of my letter of May 8th, I would like to think, is clear enough.

Yours sincerely,



Archbishop of Westminster

The Rt. Hon. M. Thatcher