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10 DOWNING STREET

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 1348/82

THE PRIME MINISTER

17 June, 1982.

Dear Mr. President,

Now that the Argentine armed forces in the Falklands have surrendered and we can proceed to reconstruction and rehabilitation of the islands, I should like to thank you most warmly for the staunch support which the Togolese Government has given to us from the outset of the crisis.

During these difficult times it has been immensely reassuring to know that we can count on our friends in Africa in upholding the principles to which we attach importance, in particular the unacceptability of the use of force to change frontiers and the right to self-determination.

I greatly appreciated the support which your Government gave to Security Council Resolution 502 and, more recently, your decision to abstain on 4 June on the Security Council resolution which called for a ceasefire without adequate guarantees of Argentine withdrawal.

I hope and believe that in demonstrating clearly that the use of force to change frontiers does not pay, we have done a service not just to the Falkland Islands and Britain but to the wider international community.

May I take this opportunity to convey to you my warm good wishes and renewed thanks for your support.

His Excellency General Gnassingbe Eyadema

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

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