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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

12 May 1982

Dear Mr. Wigley.

Thank you for your letter of 28 April, signed also by Dafydd Elis Thomas, putting on record the views of Plaid Cymru on the Falkland Islands dispute. I respect your viewpoint, but I cannot but regret that you are unable to support the Government at a time when the united support of Parliament is so obviously needed.

The Government have repeatedly made clear that we have no wish for military confrontation and have consistently sought to solve the dispute by peaceful means. We are continuing to do so by every available channel. We sought UN assistance in solving the problem from the outset. The result was UN Security Council Resolution No. 502, which is mandatory and which calls on Argentina to withdraw. Argentina has so far failed to comply. Our Permanent Representative to the UN has been in constant touch with the UN Secretary-General since then. Francis Pym has also been to New York. We are currently engaged in urgent discussions with the Secretary-General of fresh peace proposals. I hope that Argentina will prove readier to embark on the path of peace than she has been so far. If not, she can be in no doubt of our resolve to end her illegal occupation by whatever means are necessary.

/ One of the reasons

One of the reasons for the widespread international support for us on this question is the realisation that the issue spreads beyond the Falklands themselves. Whilst no one wishes to see war or bloodshed, to allow the basic democratic rights of a peaceful people to be overridden by threats or acts of force would be a recipe for worldwide violence and anarchy. These are concerns which all the people of Britain share.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Dafydd Elis Thomas.

Y  
Laws sincerely  
Raymond Hetherington

Dafydd Wigley, Esq., M.P.