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Argentina: relations  
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FM FCO 241055Z APR 82  
TO IMMEDIATE FREETOWN  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 44 OF 24 APR

FALKLAND ISLANDS

1. PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME  
MINISTER TO PRESIDENT STEVENS.

BEGINS:

DEAR PRESIDENT STEVENS

I SHOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY VERY SINCERE GRATITUDE FOR ALL THE  
HELP YOU ARE PROVIDING TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT DURING THESE  
DIFFICULT TIMES. THE ASSISTANCE WHICH YOU AND YOUR  
GOVERNMENT HAVE GIVEN IN ALLOWING SOME BRITISH VESSELS ATTACHED  
TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS TASK FORCE TO REFUEL AT FREETOWN IS  
DEEPLY APPRECIATED.

I AM ALSO GRATEFUL FOR THE EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT WHICH YOUR  
GOVERNMENT HAS GIVEN IN CONDEMNING THE ACT OF AGGRESSION BY  
THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT, WHICH WAS SO CLEARLY EXPRESSED IN  
THE SECURITY COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION NO 502. YOUR SUPPORT, AND  
THAT OF OUR OTHER COMMONWEALTH FRIENDS, HAS BEEN VERY  
ENCOURAGING TO ME AND MY COLLEAGUES. IT IS A POSITIVE  
EXPRESSION OF THE COMMONWEALTH'S PRINCIPLES OF THE RIGHT  
SELF-DETERMINATION AND ITS STAND ON THE NON-ACQUISITION OF  
TERRITORIES BY FORCE AND ON THE PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF  
DISPUTES.

I CARRY VERY PLEASANT MEMORIES OF YOUR VISIT HERE IN NOVEMBER  
1980.

YOURS SINCERELY.

MARGARET THATCHER

ENDS

2. PLEASE LET US KNOW WHEN MESSAGE HAS BEEN PASSED.

PYM

FCO  
WAD  
S AM D

CABINET OFFICE

ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION

FALKLAND ISLANDS

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