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PRIME MINISTER

CANBERRA

3 APR 1982

Mr. Leon Ponzet

Thank you for your message on the Falkland Islands. I agree with you completely as to the gravity of this use of armed force to take possession of a peaceful territory, against the proven wishes of its inhabitants.

On my instructions, Australia's Permanent Representative at the U.N. has intervened in the Security Council's debate to condemn Argentina's use of force and call for an immediate withdrawal of Argentinean forces; Michael MacKellar, who is acting as Foreign Minister in Tony Street's absence in the Middle East, has called for a peaceful resolution of the dispute and I issued a statement on the situation this afternoon.

I attach copies of the texts of David Anderson's remarks in the Security Council, and of my statement.

In this most difficult time, you have Australia's firm and unequivocal support.

You sincerely
Robert Muldoon

The Rt. Hon. Mrs Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,
Prime Minister of Britain,
10 Downing Street,
LONDON