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Falklands Dispute

Government Statement

The Government are appalled by the outbreak of what amounts to open war between Argentina and Great Britain in the South Atlantic and at reports that hundreds of lives have already been lost. They see the present situation as a serious threat to world peace.

The concern expressed by the Government in their statement on Sunday has now unfortunately been realised. It is imperative that the United Nations become involved immediately to secure an end to the present conflict.

Accordingly the Irish Government will seek an immediate meeting of the Security Council in order to prepare a new resolution calling for:

- (1) An immediate cessation of hostilities by both British and Argentinian forces, and
- (2) The negotiation of a diplomatic settlement under the auspices of the UN.

The Irish Government regard the application of economic sanctions as no longer appropriate and will therefore be seeking the withdrawal of these sanctions by the Community.

4th May, 1982.