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27th August 1984

The Editor,
The Georgist Journal,
5 East 44th Street, New York, NY 10017, USA

Dear Sir,

The Georgist Journal - No. 44
Summer 1984 - COMMENT - - - -

With reference to this article, I take the opportunity of enclosing a photographic copy of a letter from me published in the Hackney Gazette newspaper, circulating locally in London with a circulation of about 200,000 copies, on 4th June 1982, when the Falklands war was in progress.


On 11th February this year, I wrote a letter to Dr. Carlos Muniz (Republic of Argentina), 1 United Nations Plaza, New York 10017, in which I made the following suggestions: -

1. The British Minister for the Environment should survey the habitable islands in the British Archipelago and should draw up plans for the development of them and resettlement of the Falkland Islanders under the New Towns Act
2. The plans should be exhibited to the Falkland Islanders and a referendum should be held to see whether those who do not wish to accept Argentine rule would agree to be transferred to the British Archipelago and re-settled there
3. Compensation should be paid by the Argentine Government for disturbance of the Falkland Islanders occasioned by the transfer of sovereignty
4. A treaty should be entered into between Great Britain and the Republic of Argentina for the joint exploitation of the South American continental shelf and for the provision of a suitable naval and military base and civil airfield to keep British lines of communication between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans open.

Dr. Muniz has not acknowledged the letter.

My suggestion that islands in the British Archipelago should be repopulated would afford an excellent opportunity for creating an experimental economy based on land-values as the sole source of revenue, but it would require special legislation to do this and no advantage would be likely to be gained unless all subsidies on land-value taxation or rating and all allowances of tax on rent and taxation or rating were abolished.

Yours truly,


(T. A. Ende).

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4/6/82

**UN
E RESOLUTION
ON FALKLANDS
IS DISHONEST**

ONE of your correspondents observes that "the truth is the first casualty in all wars," but, while I do not question his honesty, I do not think he has got anywhere near the truth.

A glance at the physical and political maps of the world will show that the United Kingdom is comprised in an archipelago on the continental shelf of Europe on the east side of the Atlantic Ocean and on the north side of the Equator. The Falkland Islands is an archipelago on the continental shelf of America on the west side of the Atlantic Ocean and on the south side of the Equator.

The intrusion of the British into the Falkland Islands by force in the year 1833 was an act of aggression against the Argentine Republic and an affront to Argentine national pride and to South American continental pride. The present Government has had three years in which to settle amicably with the Argentine Government, and previous Labour and Conservative Governments have had decades in which to do so.

It is part of the criminal law of England that a person who aids, abets, counsels or procures a crime is equally guilty with the perpetrator of it, and can be indicted as a principal to the crime. Resolution 502 of the United Nations is dishonest because it fails to condemn the United Kingdom for having procured the aggression.

My encyclopaedia says that the author of the Monroe Doctrine in 1823 "recognised the independence of the republics in South America, previously under Spanish rule, and in so doing, he declared that the American continents 'are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonisation by any European power.'"

The re-taking of the Falkland Islands after the Argentines had re-asserted sovereignty to them must constitute a violation of the Monroe Doctrine, and the United States' support of Great Britain must constitute a denial of it, apart from United States' obligations under the treaty with South American Republics. I suggest that this unholy alliance stems from the joint intent to exploit the natural resources of the South American continental shelf, and I think that the South American Republics have a better title to them.

In 1968, a Labour Government held a referendum of the Falkland Islanders who opposed cession to Argentina. Large numbers of people of British nationality or British descent live at peace in the Argentine Republic, and it is in the power of Britain and the Argentine Republic to re-settle those who would not want to accept Argentine rule and to compensate all for any loss or disturbance suffered.

Has anybody ever noticed that of the 5,000 islands of the British Archipelago, 2,000 are not inhabited? Yet of the uninhabited islands, I think that many are more hospitable than the Falkland Islands as to sheep pasture and climate.

We have removed island populations without their consent in the past, but I should think that the Islanders may well have revised their views, following the shocking loss of human life and defence material to the prejudice of the North Atlantic Treaty Alliance. — T. A. ENDE, Langfullen Court, Adolphus Road, N4.

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