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## Academic calls for HK to back British efforts

HONGKONG should "kick out" Argentina's consul general, impose trade sanctions and freeze its assets. These, according to a leading academic, are not big efforts to make in the face of the "enormous sacrifices" Britain is making to regain the Falkland Islands.

"Hongkong ought to stand up and play its part by supporting Britain in every possible way over the Falkland crisis," the Head of the Communications Department of Baptist College, Chang Kuo-sin said yesterday.

He said that Britain was taking a "grave, grave risk" in demonstrating its loyalty and responsibility by protecting the British subjects on the Falkland Islands.

Although the Falkland issue would not have any repercussions on Hongkong, Mr Chang said that the principles involved in the drastic measures Britain has taken could be applicable to Hongkong, for it is, like the Falklands, a British dependency.

If the British retreated from the Argentine challenge and foresook their responsibility it would create unease among their other subjects. However Britain had demon-

strated its commitment by not abandoning the responsibility towards the Falklanders and is, in dispatching the navy, respecting the "people's wishes" to remain British subjects.

The military problem Britain is facing in the Falkland Islands is quite grim, according to veteran defence and war correspondent Clare Hollingworth, who has been a roving journalist for the British Daily Telegraph for many years.

"The running of any operation 8,000 miles away from the home base is an enormous problem," she said "especially as far as ammunition, fuel and food is concerned."

The helicopters and planes have a limited range and they will be using a great deal of fuel - it is not the same as operating from a land base, she added.

However she was optimistic that if Britain was forced to sink Argentina's ships she could easily do so.

But she said that she was shocked that the British military action had been made public and added: "Revealing military plans is not the normal form."