



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

30 June 1982

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Dear Mrs. Batt,

Thank you for writing to me about your husband, Lieutenant-Commander Gordon Batt, who gave his life for his country in the Falkland Islands.

I am sorry that you do not think that the campaign to repossess our sovereign territory in the Falkland Islands was justified and I know that nothing I say will diminish your sense of loss at your husband's death. I believe however that you can be proud of the part your husband played in the service of his country. The price which has to be paid to protect freedom and peace from tyranny like that of the Argentine invasion of the Falkland Islands is all too often the sacrifice of men like your husband. We owe it to them to ensure that their sacrifice is not in vain.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

Mrs. Diana Batt

P.S. I shall not ever consider "the return of the Falklands to Argentina."

FUP