



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

17 June, 1982.

Dear Mr. Stuart,

Thank you for writing to me about your son Matthew. Since you wrote, of course, we have had the news of the victory of our forces in the Falkland Islands. We owe them an enormous debt, and we honour all those like Matthew who have fallen in battle on behalf of their country. Nothing that I say can diminish your loss; you can, however, take pride that Matthew died that others may live in freedom and justice.

I have had telegrams and letters from all over the world showing great respect, admiration, and thankfulness for Britain's stand in this matter. King Hussein said "The British Forces acquitted themselves brilliantly on the field with determination, courage and skill. The souls of martyrs never die. It is only by upholding lofty principles... that honour, dignity and rights may be upheld and a brighter tomorrow may be born". He was speaking of young men like Matthew. With every good wish,
Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher