

## **10 DOWNING STREET**

THE PRIME MINISTER

18 May 1982

The John

Thank you for forwarding on 12 May a copy of a letter dated 6 May to me from Mr. John Daubeny of Hinton, Gloucestershire, about a television programme shown on Wednesday 5 May.

As I have made clear in the House of Commons, I can well understand the concern of many people about some - by no means all - recent television and radio coverage of the Falkland Islands dispute. The media in this country are <u>free</u> to broadcast what they wish without government interference. If our people take issue with the content of some programmes, I hope that they will complain vigorously to the BBC and the IBA, who are far more likely to take notice of the people's views than they are of those of MPs and Ministers.

John Cope, Esq., M.P.