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cc: Fco
Ho
B. Ingham

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

2 November 1984

Dear Mr. Young,

The Home Office has already had occasion to draw your attention to the Government's concern about the platform which the BBC has provided for a very small minority of Sikh extremists in this country. We now have specific advice from our High Commissioner that this is not only damaging our relations with India, but endangering the security of British citizens in India, and more specifically increasing the threat to Her Royal Highness The Princess Anne and others going to Delhi for Mrs. Gandhi's funeral.

I hope that you will give full weight to these factors. If by any chance you should put out further similar reports, I hope you will make it clear that they are totally unrepresentative and are outweighed by the condemnation of murder and violence by Government and people alike.

I do not question the BBC's editorial independence, but I would be failing in my duty if I did not remind you of the responsibility that goes with that independence.

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

Stuart Young, Esq.

(BBC)

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