

THE EUROPEAN

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To Whom It May Concern:

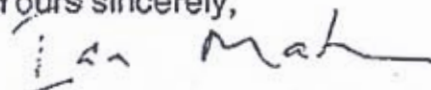
This is to confirm that I have known Kimi Zabihyan since around 1990 when we both worked at The London Observer. I was the newspaper's Defence Correspondent and she had just started The Observer's film company.

I recall chatting with her in the newspaper canteen about my experiences during the Falklands War when I was imprisoned in Argentina with two other British journalists and held for more than three months on charges of espionage. Kimi quickly picked up on the fact that I was curious to return to the prison in Tierra del Fuego to discover the attitude of the Argentine authorities and former inmates now that the passions had died down.

As a result, she began lobbying her contacts in the British television industry, and as a result arranged a deal with BBC2 for an entire series on individual memories of the Falklands War, which was broadcast over the weeks coinciding with the tenth anniversary of the Argentine invasion. I travelled with Kimi to southern Argentina, where, after making fairly cautious enquiries we discovered we would be welcomed back with a film crew. The ensuing documentary was shown as one of the BBC2 series, along with another documentary produced by Kimi based on an Argentine defence analyst.

I have no hesitation in saying that had it not been for Kimi's intuition and persistence the project would never have materialised. I was also entirely happy with the professionalism with which Kimi ran the project, which was named as the most recommended programme of the night by many British newspapers.

Yours sincerely,


Ian Mather

(Diplomatic and Defence Editor of The European newspaper, London)

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