

10 DOWNING STREET

16th April 1984

Dear David,

Thank you for your letter of 9th April, in which you ask whether the Prime Minister might agree to make the Oration at the Memorial Service for Air Marshal Sir Arthur Harris.

I have now had a chance of talking to the Prime Minister about this but she feels that, regrettably, she is not the right person to do this and would therefore rather decline. I do hope you understand.

> yours even Mirhall

MICHAEL ALISON

The Lord Trefgarne

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Prime Minister

David Trefgarne asks in the attached letter whether you would make the Oration at the forthcoming Memorial Service for Air Marshal Sir Arthur Harris.

I imgaine that you would not wish to do so: and I am not even certain that you would wish to attend the Service in person (I could certainly represent you), but perhaps you could let me know your views.

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MICHAEL ALISON



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PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE D/US of S(AF)DGT 14/2/1 FOR THE ARMED FORCES

The Rt Hon Michael Alison MP
Parliamentary Private Secretary
to the Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1

9 April 1984

Dear Michael,

As you know Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir Arthur Harris died last week and we are now considering with Lady Harris the arrangements for a memorial service, hopefully at Westminster Abbey, sometime in late May or early June. Members of the Air Force Board are wondering if there is any chance of the Prime Minister agreeing to make the oration.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Lord Trefgarne