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NBPM

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1  
Telephone 01-~~922 7022~~ 218 2111/3

MO 27/5/1

22nd February 1985

Dear Robin

You wrote to Denis Brennan on 6<sup>th</sup> February about the Lord Mayor of London's participation in the commemoration service for the 40th Anniversary of the end of the second world war.

The present view here is that the Lord Mayor of London should be invited to the service, as the country's leading civic figure. In addition, the Lord Mayor of Westminster will be there by right as an officer of the Abbey, and we will be looking at how other national civic dignitaries might be accommodated within a limited congregation. The priority will, of course, be to give the maximum number of seats to veterans of the war, civil and military, and so the distribution of seats to official representatives will have to be scrutinised carefully to maintain the right balance.

BF // I will, of course, let you know as soon as a firm decision is taken on the attendance of the Lord Mayor of London. We aim to do this within the next two weeks.

Yours ever

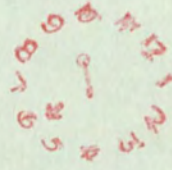
Simon Lowe

(S H LOWE)  
Private Secretary

F E R Butler Esq  
10 Downing Street

Defence: VE Day Oct 84.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1  
Telephone 01-833 7031



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*file VB*

10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Principal Private Secretary*

6 February 1985

Could I mention one small aspect of the many problems you will have to deal with on VE Day.

The Lord Mayor of London asked me to let him know when I could whether he was likely to be invited to the Commemoration of VE Day on 8 May. I should be grateful if we could help with this since there are some obvious sensitivities for him about the location of the service; and I should have thought that it might help with these if he were invited to the service, provided that this does not create difficulties with others.

*BF |*

Perhaps you could put down a marker to let me know when a decision has been made on this.

*file VB*

*CT*

Denis Brennan, Esq.,  
Ministry of Defence.

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