

PRIME MINISTER

INVITATION FROM SIR DAVID MCNEE (13 OCTOBER)

Third time lucky!

You were under the misapprehension that the week following the Party Conference is a light one. Please look at the attached diary. Can I refuse Sir David's invitation please? *No*

ES.
I told him I would go.
out.

24 July 1979



10 DOWNING STREET

PRIME MINISTER

I wonder if I could ask you to reconsider Sir David McNee's invitation to take the Salute at the evening performance of the Metropolitan Police Tattoo on Saturday, 13 October. It would be so simple to say to him that when you saw him with the Whitelaws you did not have your official diary with you and that you did not realise that you had other commitments on that day.

ES.

You said "if at all possible". [McNee's letter]
IT JUST ISNT POSSIBLE! DW.

20 July 1979

*Will do - we
have a look
with 04 of his
what. m*



10 DOWNING STREET

PRIME MINISTER

Sir David McNee's office rang me saying that you had told him at the Whitelaws that you would be happy to take the salute at the evening performance of the Metropolitan Police Tattoo at Wembley on Saturday, 13 October. I attach Sir David's subsequent letter. I do hope that you will refuse this invitation. You will be very tired on your return from Blackpool and having had major publicity on Friday 12 October there is really no reason at all for you to take on this further engagement particularly as you will have been out of London for three days and will have heavy boxes. I am sure that Sir David will be the first to understand.

ej.

Plus - I shall

*have to
out*

16 July 1979



COMMISSIONER OF POLICE
OF THE METROPOLIS

NEW SCOTLAND YARD
BROADWAY LONDON SW1H 0BG

Sir David McNee QPM

11 July 1979

Your Prime Minister.

You will no doubt recall that when we met at Dorney Wood last weekend I asked if you would be able to take the Salute at an evening performance of the Metropolitan Police Tattoo which is being held at the Empire Pool, Wembley, between 12 and 17 October. As you know, the Tattoo is one of a series of events being held this year to celebrate 150 years of policing in the Metropolis.

I do appreciate that your commitments are considerable and I understand that the first two days of the Tattoo clash with your Annual Party Conference. You promised that if at all possible you would come on Saturday the 13 October. We would be greatly honoured if you could join us and take the Salute that evening.

*Yours sincerely,
Margaret Thatcher*

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP