

file with Press office



file

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

2nd October 1983

Jay

Pl put on file
what you have.

Thats.

Kay

4.10.83

Dear Ian,

Churchill Songs - Friday 2nd December

Many thanks for your letter of 20th September

In answer to your questions:-

1. I confirm that the PM and Denis would like to dine at Harrow after Songs. It is a good idea to invite Mark and Carol and I know that Mark in particular wants very much to come. I have asked the PM, Denis and Mark whether there is anyone they would want to be specially invited: the only person is Mark Tyndall, who was Mark's housemaster.
2. On press arrangements I have asked

Bernard Ingham, the PM's Chief Press Secretary, to arrange for one of his staff to come out to Harrow and agree the arrangements with you. I agree that there should be a press facility covering the PM's arrival in, and possibly departure from, Speech Room but that press should not be admitted to the Speech Room itself. My inclination is to avoid anything contrived; but we might naturally arrange for ^{the Head of the School and} some monitor to meet you and her at the entrance to Speech Room and escort her in and out, and be photographed doing so.

3. I raised the question with you about an extra verse to Forty Years On (or some other song?). From the point of view of sentiment, I think she would like "When Raleigh Roes", "The Silver Arrow",

"Byron bay" and perhaps "Giants": I hope that you might also think it right to include "Songs", "Good night" - and possibly "Fairies", which I think she would like too (at any rate her private secretary does!).

4. I agree about Lady Soames and with your idea for six cheers. If you can let me know in advance what is going to happen, I will make sure that the PM is prepared.

5. Our security people will make their own arrangements for easing the joint and liaising with the local police.

Yours ever,

Robin.

P.S. Can you arrange for Mr. and Mrs. Patten to be invited to Songs - not to dinner. They want to come and I think that, Michael Heseltine apart, he is the only current parent who is a member of the Government.