



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

31 October, 1983

Dear Mr Owen,

Thank you for your further letter of 28 October about the Cenotaph Ceremony.

I note the justification given by Mr. Jenkins for refusing the request of the SNP to attend at the Cenotaph, but it does not alter my point that this question is one on which Parties other than the SDP have a view. They might equally argue that the national appeal of the SDP to the electorate was as a member of an Alliance which is already represented at the Cenotaph by the Leader of the Liberal Party. Arrangements have been put in hand for a review of the whole question of the representation of minority parties at this and other national occasions, and it would be premature to decide the question about the SDP until we have been able to undertake that review.

Yours sincerely

Raymond Shaker

The Rt. Hon. Dr. David Owen, M.P.