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10 DOWNING STREET
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From the Private Secretary

14 March 1990

Dear Ian.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GALLIPOLI LANDINGS

Thank you for your letter of 12 March about the arrangements for veterans to attend the 75th Anniversary of the Gallipoli landings. The Prime Minister is most grateful for this.

*Yours sincerely,
C. D. Powell*

(C. D. POWELL)

Ian Woodman, Esq.,
Ministry of Defence.

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MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

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Dear Minister 12th March 1990

*I have think this
is now satisfactory.*

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Dear Charles.

CRP 13/3

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GALLIPOLI LANDINGS

Thank you for your further letter on this subject of 24th February.

We have had another look at ways in which we could help the British Legion with the pilgrimage they are arranging to Gallipoli and have decided we can best do this by offering genuine British veterans, members of their immediate family, and any necessary medical support, seats at concessionary rates on a VC10 aircraft that is flying out to Istanbul carrying the Army band that will be participating in the commemorations and which has a small number of spare seats available. We envisage that those flying to Turkey in this way would join up with the Royal British Legion pilgrimage on arrival in Istanbul.

As an aircraft is scheduled to cover this route in any case, the fare for this would be only £44.00 return. We may be able to cover this fare ourselves in the case of individual Gallipoli veterans in positions of financial hardship and we will discuss any such cases with the British Legion.

We do not yet know if this offer will result in more Gallipoli veterans joining the Pilgrimage, but regrettably, given the very small number of such veterans still active after 75 years it is most unlikely even at this reduced cost that more than 3 of the British servicemen who took part in the campaign will be able to attend (I understand one of the four I mentioned in my last letter has since dropped out for medical reasons).

*Yours sincerely
I M Woodman*

(I M WOODMAN)
Private Secretary

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