

PRIME MINISTER

Service at St. Paul's Cathedral to Commemorate the
Great Soldiers of World War II

You might have noticed in your annual diary that on Friday, 23 November there is pencilled in a service to commemorate the great soldiers of World War II. We have now received further information regarding this event and the soldiers who are being commemorated are mentioned on flag A, and the order of service is that mentioned on flag B. The Queen will be attending and the Ministry of Defence is expecting other members of the Royal Family as well. You might like to see the Ministry's letter of explanation, flag C.

I have tried to discover whether it is Mr. Pym's recommendation that you attend this service. As far as I can gather the position is that he would be most grateful if you did but he is equally aware that it would be a waste of your time. It is one of those difficult occasions where if you do not go you might offend a lot of people but if you do go it is at least two hours out of your morning with nothing to gain at the end of it.

Could you please let me know what your feelings are?

C.S.

*I must go and
should like to go.
and.*

31 August 1979

DT?