

FROM: Eldon Griffiths, M.P.



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

R30/5

Dear Margaret

27th May, 1981.

You will recall that the Indo British Association would very much like you to be the Guest of Honour at their Annual Dinner, commemorating the birthday of Jawaharlal Nehru. You were unable to accept their previous invitations; but following your visit to India, I have been asked by the Committee to try once again to persuade you to come, in particular since your visit to India has aroused great interest and enthusiasm among our members.

The dinner can be held on any evening that would fit into your busy schedule during either December or January. It takes place at the Royal Garden Hotel and normally attracts not less than 600 guests, mainly industrialists, bankers, businessmen and diplomats.

I am sure this would be a very appropriate occasion for you to attend, and I know that your presence would be greatly appreciated in India itself, as well as among the Indian community in Britain.

Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.  
10 Downing Street,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

*Eldon Griffiths*



*efo*  
*1/9*

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

3 June 1981

*Dear Eldon,*

Thank you for your letter of 27 May.

I am afraid I am still not in a position to give you a reply to the invitation from the Indo-British Association to be their Guest of Honour at their Annual Dinner in December or January. As I believe Caroline Stephens mentioned to you when she last wrote, this invitation is dependent on other commitments at that time and I shall not be in a position to give you a firm answer until the autumn. I appreciate that this may cause some inconvenience to the Association but hope that you and they will understand.

*Yours sincerely*  
*Roger*

Eldon Griffiths, Esq., MP.

*efo*

MR. ALEXANDER

Eldon Griffiths has written again about the possibility of the Prime Minister addressing the Indo-British Association in December or January. You will remember that in March we agreed that this should be brought up again in September and the acceptance was dependent on Indo-British relations later on this year. How would you like to proceed?

Ann Stephens -

ES.

I do not think we should allow ourselves to be bullied by Mr Griffiths. We have said we would come back to him in the Autumn & we will. The PA will be ~~opening~~ renaming the Bhawan's hall in September so the Indian

2 June 1981

Community are being well looked after! Ann