

Closing Remarks

Ladies and gentlemen,

There are a few notices: for those who have tickets for the lunch at RAF Northolt, please proceed up the road and use the Main Gate to the Station, after you have passed the end of the runway; you will be directed by Air Cadets, please inform them if you need the drop off point for elderly or disabled guests.

Could I draw your attention to the Mass for the intentions of Polish Airmen, which will be offered tomorrow at 12.00 at the Garrison Church of St Andrew Boboła in Hammersmith and attended by the Dęblin Officer Cadets.

On behalf of the Polish Air Force Memorial Committee, for their help with this Ceremony, I would like to thank:

- The Metropolitan Police
- St John Ambulance Brigade
- The Polish Scouting Association
- The Polish Air Force Academy at Dęblin
- The Royal Auxiliary Air Force Band, who for our drummer and trumpeter
- Royal Air Force Northolt, who provide year-round backing for our work
- The London Borough of Hillingdon, who maintain this Memorial and Garden so superbly, and provide their best staff to help plan and deliver this event
- And finally, and by no means least, the Air Training Corps. The Middlesex Wing have supported us for many years and manage the parade impeccably; the Greater Manchester Wing boasts 316, 317, and 318 Squadrons who now make the long round-trip in a day to honour the Polish Squadrons whose numbers they are proud to carry; and the National Marching Band of the Air Training Corps who have played for us so splendidly. Without their unstinting support and the time given up by Cadets, officers and adult volunteers, this Ceremony simply could not take place. I think their impressive turn-out, conduct and performance deserves your warm applause.

Could I now ask Mr Smaga and his colleagues, representing the Ribbon of Memorial project in Kraków, to take a small sample of Northolt earth to be buried there, representing the support provided by the Polish Air Force for the work of the Home Army throughout the war.