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10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

30 April 2003

THE PRIME MINISTER

Dear Rod

Thank you for your letter of 10 April giving advance warning of your announcement of the retirement of your Concorde fleet from October 2003.

As an example of British and French engineering, Concorde has indeed lived up to its name. Its withdrawal from service will mark the end of an era in civil aviation.

Although I greet the news with a degree of sadness, I recognise fully the commercial considerations that have led the board of British Airways to make this decision.

Yours ever,  
Tony

Dr Rod Eddington

J