Francis Harry Hinsley, by a happy circumstance our honorary graduate this evening received the distinction of a Fellow of the British Academy in 1981. Power and the Pursuit of Peace, a rigorous analysis of the sources that form the basis of power in international relations since the sixteenth century, has become a standard work. The excellent influence of British Intelligence have recently been described in an authoritative review in The Times Literary Supplement as "one of the most important documents in the history of the Second World War and ... a triumph of official historiography'.

Sir Harry's writings are characterized by a consistency of approach. He adopts a sceptical attitude towards efforts to apply principles of moral idealism when managing international affairs. It is the implications of Realpolitik that must be attended to. Not surprisingly, in today's world he is a firm supporter of the maintenance on the part of the Western powers of the nuclear deterrent.

A stimulating teacher and an excellent lecturer, Sir Harry attracted his own research students at an early stage in his career. As a Cambridge supervisory he had a remarkable reputation for moral principle. He was a powerful influence in the development of several students. In the 1960s his research students were a mixed group of students who were not all prepared to study under his guidance. Eventually the group was reduced when he could establish his own seminar in international and historical studies. Contributing to the process by which the Cambridge of this time came to generate a new and more influential climate for graduate studies in the humanities, Hinsley's seminar achieved fame, attracting visitors from abroad as well as British historians beyond Cambridge.

Hinsley's editorship of the Historical Journal extended the range of his academic influence still further. He greatly increased the size and scholarly weight of the journal, his highest volume reaching 760, 1970. In his hands its reputation as a leading international journal in the field of modern history was assured.

The confidence of his colleagues in Hinsley's personal and academic qualities had an important bearing on his career as a university administrator. As Master of his college he presided (with what degree of enthusiasm is not known) over the undergraduates. As Vice-Chancellor he had to cope with financial issues in the government's grants to universities that have become a feature of British politics. The cuts were distributed fairly and evenly all over the nation. The matter of forced (or much encouraged) early retirement Hinsley's proceedings were tactful and averted little animosity. His decision to take early retirement as a professor himself was made not because he wanted to leave the university administratively, but because he felt he ought to, having persuaded others to do so.

As Vice-Chancellor Hinsley also took initiatives designed to improve the university's relationship to industry by encouraging applied research of the kind that could be more widely exploited. Towards the end of his term as Principal he was appointed by the Committee on Vice-Chancellors and Jarratt, the chairman of the University Committee, as the Chancellor of Birmingham University, which was set up to enquire into the efficiency of universities in the United Kingdom. The Jarratt Committee undertook a study of six universities...
in depth. Its final report, which on the criterion of efficiency makes stricture
on the present management methods of British universities, has recently been
published.

In public life outside the academic domain Sir Harry's main contribution lies in
his war service, for which he was awarded an OBE in 1946. He served at Bletchley
Park, where the Government Code and Cypher School was based, in close liaison
with the Special Intelligence Service and Special Operations Executive. Kinsley and
his colleagues were concerned with the decrypting and analysis of enemy intelli-
gence, in particular the transmissions of the **Geheimschreiber** (Fish), the
computer-like encrypting machine through which many of Germany's crucial strate-
gic communications were processed. In keeping not only with the clandestine na-
ture of the activity but also with his own reservations about the place of
biography in historical study, Sir Harry's history of British Intelligence reveals
little about the personalities involved. Nevertheless it is well known that de-
spite his young age he was an exceptionally important member of the Bletchley
team, and that the part he himself played in Naval Intelligence made a major and
direct contribution to the sinking of the **Bismarck** on 26 May 1941.

The act of honouring a former Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University and the
present head of one of its major colleges underlines the association our univer-
sity enjoys with one of the greatest institutions of learning in the United
Kingdom. Many members of our academic staff are Cambridge graduates and Cambridge
continues to attract some of our best graduate students. On a more personal level
Sir Harry himself was a visitor to the University exactly twenty years ago, and
while here wrote some of the chapter of his book on Sovereignty. More recently
a further link was forged through the appointment of one of his former students
as a lecturer in our Department of History. Finally, as part of a possible tra-
dition in the making, Sir Harry Kinsley is the third head of a Cambridge college
to honour the University by accepting an invitation to deliver the Chancellor's
lecture.

Mr. Chancellor, I have the honour to request you to confer the degree of Doctor
of Literature, *honoris causa*, on Francis Harry Kinsley.