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PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
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Message from the Federal Chancellor Helmut Schmidt
to the Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP
Prime Minister

Dear Prime Minister

At our meeting in London on 10 and 11 May, which I remember with very much pleasure, we discussed, inter alia, the concerns which the economic plight of Turkey is inflicting on us and on our friends. We then shared the view that not only the political and economic but also and in particular the security interests of our countries call for an economic assistance operation which should be as swift and as farreaching as possible and which should enable Turkey to return to a situation of stability once the process of recovery has been accomplished.

With a view to the considerable importance which we all have to ascribe to the developments in Turkey the Federal Government has now decided to double their planned contribution to the multilateral assistance operation from \$ 100 m to \$ 200 m. The German aid is to be given as credits at particularly advantageous conditions and with a high grant element.

Fortunately the other Governments involved are also prepared to participate in the assistance operation with substantial contributions, f.i. the Netherlands with \$ 20 m, Switzerland with \$ 30 m.

As I am learning just now the British Government is planning to participate with a contribution of £ 15 m. I know that this decision has not been an easy one for you and that it has to be seen in the context of the endeavours of your Government to reduce public spending. Still I should very much appreciate if you could investigate once more whether there is a possibility for the British Government yet to make a higher contribution.

The Federal Government is making endeavours that France increases considerably her share of, so far, \$ 70 m.

With kindest regards

Yours sincerely

sgd. Helmut Schmidt