



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

30 January 1984

Dear Sir Raymond,

Thank you for your letter letting me know of your efforts to promote the sale of Tornado to Turkey, following British Aerospace's very welcome successes over Rapier and Sea Skua.

As you will know, we have all been considering over the last few weeks how best to follow up Michael Heseltine's meeting last October with the then Turkish Defence Minister. I am sorry to hear that the prospects for the sale of Tornado are looking less bright again. But I understand that Geoffrey Pattie is considering visiting Turkey next month in order to promote the development of military collaboration with Turkey and that the Ministry of Defence are in close touch with you about the points he should emphasise with the Turks.

I shall certainly bear in mind your suggestion that President Evren should be invited here. But the programme of inward visits at this level is already very full and I doubt whether a visit can take place soon. In general, however, our relations with Turkey are good and I am quite sure that the new Turkish Government view us as one of the countries best disposed towards them. Geoffrey Howe had a good meeting with the new Turkish Foreign Minister in Stockholm on 19 January and we intend to remain in close contact.

Admiral Sir Raymond Lygo, K.C.B.

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

file
3
200
DTI



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

27 January, 1984

You John,

*Type letter pl.
✓ A.S.C. 30/11.*

Turkey

In your letter of 5 January you enclosed a copy of a letter to the Prime Minister from the Managing Director of British Aerospace. Admiral Lygo had suggested that we should show some sign of approval to the President of Turkey and invite him to visit the United Kingdom.

Admiral Lygo has been assiduous in promoting the sale of Tornado to Turkey and clearly sees a visit by President Evren as being helpful in this. Over the last couple of weeks British Aerospace claimed to have evidence that the Turkish intention to buy American F16 aircraft was wavering. As a result, MOD, in consultation with British Aerospace, were considering a visit to Turkey by Mr Geoffrey Pattie. As we agreed over the telephone, we thought it best to delay replying to Admiral Lygo's letter until the situation became clearer. Unfortunately, however, the prospect of the Turkish purchase of Tornado has once again receded and Mr Pattie has decided against an imminent visit. But he is currently contemplating a visit on 6 February in order to promote closer collaboration over defence equipment more generally.

In current circumstances, an invitation to President Evren to visit the UK would do little to alter Turkish intentions over Tornado. In view of the controversy surrounding the nature of Turkish democracy, the Department have advised the Royal Visits Committee not to consider an invitation to President Evren to visit until we can better assess Turkey's progress towards democracy, ie until 1986 at the earliest.

I am copying this letter to Richard Mottram (MOD).

Richard Bone
(R B Bone)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

DRAFT: ~~x~~minute/letter/~~teletype~~/despatch/~~note~~

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM:
Prime Minister

Reference

DEPARTMENT: TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO:

Your Reference

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Restricted
- Unclassified

Admiral Sir Raymond Lygo KCB

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

Thank you for your letter letting me know of your efforts to promote the sale of Tornado to Turkey, following ~~the~~ British Aerospace's very welcome successes over Rapier and Sea Skua.

CAVEAT.....

As you will know, we have all been considering over the last few weeks how best to follow up Michael Heseltine's meeting with the then Turkish Defence Minister ~~last~~ ^{last October} ~~October~~. I am sorry to hear that the prospects for the sale of Tornado are looking less bright again. But I understand that Geoffrey Pattie is considering visiting Turkey next month in order to promote the development of military collaboration with Turkey and that the Ministry of Defence are in close touch with you about the points he should emphasise with the Turks.

Enclosures—flag(s).....

I shall certainly bear in mind your suggestion that President Evren should be invited here. But the programme of inward visits at this level is already very full and I doubt ~~that~~ ^{whether} a visit ~~could~~ ^{can} take place ~~particularly~~ soon. In general, however, our relations with Turkey are good

/and

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RR → 20;
1

CONFIDENTIAL

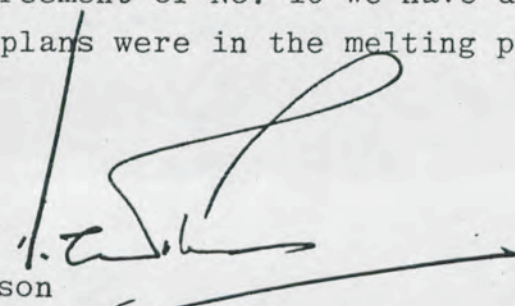
From: D C Wilson
Date: 25 January 1984

Mr Jenkins

cc: Sir J Bullard
Mr Cartledge
Defence Dept

TURKEY: LETTER TO PRIME MINISTER FROM MANAGING DIRECTOR OF
BRITISH AEROSPACE

- A
1. The Prime Minister's Private Secretary wrote to PS enclosing a letter from Admiral Sir Raymond Lygo to the Prime Minister dated 4 January. Admiral Lygo would like President Evren of Turkey to be invited to Britain to encourage the sale of Tornado.
 2. I submit a draft reply to No. 10 covering a draft reply from the Prime Minister to Admiral Lygo. Defence Dept, MOD and DTI concur.
 3. The draft takes account of Mr Geoffrey Pattie's recent decision not to visit Turkey this week to promote Tornado (Miss Anderton's letter of 20 January). With the agreement of No. 10 we have delayed replying to them while Mr Pattie's plans were in the melting pot.
- B


D C Wilson
Southern European Department

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DRAFT: memo/letter/teletype/telegram/despatch/note	TYPE: Draft/Final I+
	Reference
FROM: Private Secretary	
DEPARTMENT:	TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	TO:	Your Reference
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Private Secretary
No 10 Downing Street

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING	SUBJECT: TURKEY
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.....In Confidence

CAVEAT.....

1. In your letter of 5 January you enclosed a copy of a letter to the Prime Minister from the Managing Director of British Aerospace. Admiral Lygo had suggested that we should show some sign of approval to the President of Turkey and invite him to visit the United Kingdom.

2. Admiral Lygo has been assiduous in promoting the sale of Tornado to Turkey and clearly sees a visit by President Evren as being helpful ⁱⁿ ~~over~~ this. Over the last couple of weeks British Aerospace claimed to have evidence that ^{the} Turkish intention to buy American F16 aircraft was wavering. As a result, MOD, in consultation with British Aerospace, were considering a visit to Turkey by Mr Geoffrey Pattie. As we agreed over the telephone, we thought it best to delay replying to Admiral Lygo's letter ^{in h} ~~til~~ the situation became clearer.

Enclosures—flag(s).....

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We can better assess Turkey's progress towards democracy,

1 (Revised)

17

DRAFT: ~~minute~~/letter/~~teletype~~/~~despatch~~/~~note~~

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM:
Prime Minister

Reference

DEPARTMENT: TEL. NO:

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TO:

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Admiral Sir Raymond Lygo KCB

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SUBJECT:

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Turkey: Anglo-Turkish Relations Nov 79

FILE SH



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

5 January, 1984

Turkey

I enclose a copy of a letter which the Prime Minister has received from the Managing Director of British Aerospace.

The letter, which is copied to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, the Secretary of State for Defence and the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, argues that we should extend some sign of approval to the President of Turkey and, specifically, invite him to visit the United Kingdom.

BT

I should be grateful for a draft reply for the Prime Minister's signature.

I am copying this letter and enclosure to Richard Mottram (Ministry of Defence) and Callum McCarthy (Department of Trade and Industry).

A. J. COLES

R. B. Bone, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

British Aerospace

PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY

100 PALL MALL LONDON SW1Y 5HR

TELEPHONE 01-930 1020

From the Managing Director,
SIR RAYMOND LYGO, KCB

4th January, 1984

The Rt. Hon. Mrs. M. Thatcher, MP,
Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury,
10, Downing Street,
London.
SW1

Dear Prime Minister,

As you know, we have succeeded in selling both Rapier and Sea Skua to Turkey. There are good prospects for selling further Rapiers and I have recently returned from a visit to Turkey, the purpose of which was to promote Tornado.

Our earlier attempt to sell Tornado was somewhat frustrated by a Turkish decision to buy the F16, heavily supported by U.S. Foreign Military Aid. However in October, Michael Heseltine visited the then Defence Minister and, as a result, British Aerospace was asked to submit further proposals. This we have now done and there is still a chance we will be successful.

I have now spent a fair amount of time talking to the top military people in Turkey and I have been impressed by their calibre and competence. They have now returned to a large measure of civilian rule.

Through their eyes, the Turks face an unfriendly world. They do not trust and will not deal with the French. They have the foreign worker problem with Germany and they have long memories of U.S. attitudes over Cyprus, generated by the Greek lobby in Washington. They see the U.K. as their best friend and they have great admiration for you personally. I believe we could do much to improve Anglo-Turkish relations, and provide U.K. Industry with a preferential position in the re-development of Turkey, if we could show President Evren some sign of approval. So far he has been cold shouldered by most western countries.

Continued

I have already briefed both Baroness Young and Geoffrey Howe on the subject of Turkey but in view of our immediate aims I thought I should bring to your direct attention my belief that an invitation to President Evren to visit the U.K. would be received with much satisfaction and might enable British Aerospace to glow with reflected pleasure.

With Best Wishes for all things all
Prosperous New year to you both.

Yours sincerely,
Ray Lygo

Copies to: The Rt. Hon. Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, MP,
Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs

The Rt. Hon. Michael Heseltine, MP,
Secretary of State for Defence

The Rt. Hon. Norman Tebbit, MP,
Secretary of State for Trade and Industry