

file 500
19 May 1983

The Prime Minister has asked me to thank you for your letter of 18 May.

She very much enjoyed your Reception on 4 May on the occasion of the 400th Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Turkey and Britain.

A. J. COLES

His Excellency Mr. Rahmi Gümrukçüoğlu

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TURKISH EMBASSY

LONDON

18th May, 1983.

Paul Mills

Dear Prime Minister,

18/5

May I have the honour and the pleasure of conveying to you our feelings of deep appreciation for your kindness in attending our Reception on the 4th May on the occasion of the 400th Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Turkey and Britain.

The memory of the presence of the most distinguished and highly esteemed Prime Minister of the United Kingdom at our Embassy on that evening will live with us for a long time to come. I am sure we were not wrong in interpreting this personal contribution from you as a sign of the importance that the British Government attaches to the maintenance of the ties of friendship and alliance between our two countries, a feeling which is totally reciprocated by the Turkish Government and the Turkish people.

Now that you have taken the important and historic decision for Britain to hold the General Election, may I take this opportunity to wish you every success in the forthcoming elections and express the hope that we will continue to enjoy your support and co-operation in further developing these relations to the mutual benefit of our two countries, when you return to power after the 9th June.

Please accept, Prime Minister, the renewed assurance of my highest consideration.

Rahmi Gümürkçüoğlu

Rahmi Gümürkçüoğlu

The Rt.Hon. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,
Prime Minister,
10, Downing Street,
S.W.1.