



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

27 February 1985

mj2ADQ (JR)

cc DTI
DM
FEO
DOE
DJA
CST
MA

Dear Richard

You wrote to me on 24 January, and subsequently came to see me with Michael Fallon on 7 February, to outline the importance of Cleveland Bridge's bid to build the second Bosphorus bridge. You hoped that the Government could provide the level of ECGD cover and aid assistance being sought by the company

I am pleased to tell you that ECGD will be able to provide support within the terms discussed with the company and its bankers, should it be successful in winning the contract. Should other Governments offer aid assistance to their companies in bidding for the contract, we shall inform the Turkish Government that this bid will qualify for assistance under the Aid and Trade Provision. In short, we are informing the company that they can expect to receive the kind of backing which they were looking for to maintain a substantial UK content in their bid and to counter any aid offered by other Governments.

I believe that the company are well satisfied with the assistance which we are prepared to provide. I very much hope that the second bridge can be the same success for the UK as the first one was.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Michael Fallon.

Yours ever

MARGARET

Richard Hickmet, Esq., MP.

R

From: Richard Hickmet, M.P.



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

ppos. R13/3

cf ppos? ~~cf~~ NO

NBPM

Rt Hon Mrs Margaret Thatcher MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1

7 March 1985

Dear Prime Minister,

Thank you for your letter of 27 February 1985 which I was delighted to receive.

I am so pleased that because of Government action, Cleveland Bridge will be able to tender competitively with the Japanese and the Italians for the building of the second Bosphorus Bridge.

I believe that the British will build the bridge and that it will be of immense value, not only to British industry, but also to British prestige in Turkey and the Middle East.

Yours ever,
Richard.

Trade PT 4

Non Tariff Barriers

CCNO



DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY
1-19 VICTORIA STREET
LONDON SW1H 0ET
TELEPHONE DIRECT LINE 01-215 5422
SWITCHBOARD 01-215 7877

PS/
Secretary of State for Trade and Industry

22 February 1985

David Barclay Esq
Private Secretary to the
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1

Dear David,

SECOND BOSPHOROS BRIDGE

Richard Hickmet MP wrote to the Prime Minister on 24 January urging the Government to give Cleveland Bridge every assistance in their bid for construction of the proposed second Bosphoros bridge. Specifically, this meant being ready to provide the necessary ECGD cover and ATP assistance. The Prime Minister subsequently had a meeting with Mr Hickmet and Mr Fallon MP on 7 February to discuss the matter.

2 At the EX meeting last Wednesday, 13 February, it was agreed that the bid by Cleveland Bridge should be assisted with some £10m ATP, and that ECGD should share the risk on the non-ATP assisted UK content of £30m.

3 The company has been told informally of the outcome, and we are now in the final stages of preparing an ATP offer to convey to the Turkish Government through our post in Ankara. We understand that the two MPs are naturally anxious to be informed of the latest position and a draft reply for you to send is attached. Since the formal ATP offer has yet to be made, and is conditional upon the competing aid assistance which we understand the Japanese are providing, the letter is deliberately couched in rather general terms.

4 I am copying this to Richard Broadbent (Treasury), Peter Rickett (FCO), John Ballard (Department of Environment), David Normington (Department of Employment) and Michael McCulloch (ODA).

Yours sincerely
Maureen Dodsworth

MAUREEN DODSWORTH
Private Secretary

JH1CAF

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DRAFT LETTER FOR ~~PS/PRIME MINISTER TO SEND TO:~~

Richard Hickmet Esq MP
House of Commons
London SW1

[Handwritten signature]

SECOND BOSPHOROS BRIDGE

You wrote to ~~the Prime Minister~~ on 24 January, and subsequently ~~met her~~ with ~~Mr~~ ^{Mr} Fallon on 7 February, to outline the importance of Cleveland Bridge's bid to build the second Bosphoros bridge. ~~In particular,~~ you hoped that the Government could provide the level of ECGD cover and aid assistance being sought by the company.

I am pleased to tell you that ECGD will be able to provide support within the terms discussed with the company and its bankers, should it be successful in winning the contract. Should other Governments offer aid assistance to their companies in bidding for the contract, we ~~will~~ ^{shall} inform the Turkish Government that this bid will qualify for assistance under the Aid and Trade Provision. ~~No formal offer has yet been made.~~ In short, we are informing the company that they can expect to receive the kind of backing which they were looking for to maintain a substantial UK content in their bid and to counter any aid offered by other Governments.

I ~~understand~~ ^{believe} that the company ~~is~~ ^{are} well satisfied with the assistance which we are prepared to provide, and the ~~Prime Minister~~ very much hopes that the second bridge can be the same success for the UK as the first one was.

I am sending a copy of this letter to ~~Mr~~ ^{Mr} Fallon.

[Handwritten note: {Chisholm see}]

[Handwritten initials]

JH1CAG

TRADE : Non-Tariff Barriers: R 4.

25 FEB 1985

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From: Richard Hickmet.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

d/f 1/95.

Per Minister

8:2:85

M/H

12/2

Your Prime Minister,

Thank you so much for
seeing Michael Follon & myself about the
Bosphorus bridge.

It was good of you to listen to
all that we had to say.

I was particularly pleased to
hear your comments about Sventhorpe.

They have done really well in

in the steelworks & I know the town
would appreciate hearing your comments
in person!

Yours ever,
Richard.