

RRRT CU DEN

IMMEDIATE

D/By

ADVANCE COPY

R 07/14c32

D W F F 020/07

00 FCO (FOR DTI) DESKBY 071415Z

DTI: VIGORLA SI ✓

00 FCO DESKBY 071415Z

ECGD.

00 FCO (FOR TREASURY) DESKBY 071415Z

00 FCO (FOR ECGD) DESKBY 071415Z

00 TOKYO

VIA HSM

GRS 440

DESKBY 071415Z

CONFIDENTIAL

FM ANKARA 071330Z MAY 85

TO IMMEDIATE DTI (FOR PEP AND OT5)

TELEGRAM NUMBER OTTER 049 OF 07 MAY.

INFO IMMEDIATE FCO (FOR SED AND TRED), TREASURY, ECGD AND TOKYO.

MY TEL OTTER 048 AND TELECON WILKINSON/RHODES (PEP): SECOND BOSPHORUS BRIDGE.

1. WE HAVE CONSIDERED THE POSITION FURTHER WITH FAULKNER AND ADLER AND AGREED THAT IF CLEVELAND BRIDGE ARE TO HAVE A REAL CHANCE OF JOINING UP WITH THE JAPANESE CONSORTIUM TURKISH GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR THIS IDEA WOULD BE A VALUABLE CARD. AS YOU WILL SEE FROM PARAGRAPH 3(E) OF MY TUR, YUSUF OZAL WAS NOT PREPARED TO COMMIT HIMSELF ON THIS THOUGH HE DID NOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY. BUT IT EMERGED FROM OUR CONVERSATION WITH YUSUF OZAL THAT THE TURKS WERE GOING TO BE RELUCTANT TO RISK UPSETTING A PACKAGE WHICH, FINANCIALLY AT LEAST, IS HIGHLY FAVOURABLE TO THEM. IT WILL, I THINK, THEREFORE REQUIRE A HARD PUSH IF THE TURKS ARE TO BE PERSUADED TO ACT ON OUR BEHALF.

2. IN MYTEL NO. 226 TO FCO I SUGGESTED A MESSAGE FROM EITHER THE PRIME MINISTER TO THE TURKISH PRIME MINISTER OR FROM MR TEBBIT TO THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER. WE SUBSEQUENTLY AGREED WITH THE DEPARTMENT THAT IN VIEW OF THE AWARD OF THE CONTRACT A MESSAGE ON THE LINES THEN ENVISAGED WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE. BUT WE NOW HAVE A SITUATION IN WHICH CLEVELAND BRIDGE ARE PUTTING FORWARD NEW IDEAS WHICH DO NOT SEEK TO CONTEST THE AWARD OF THE CONTRACT TO THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT, NOR TO UNSCRAMBLE THAT CONTRACT BY SEPARATING THE BRIDGE AND ROAD-WORKS ELEMENTS IN THE PACKAGE. WE CAN FAIRLY CLAIM THAT BY SEEKING CLEVELAND BRIDGE PARTICIPATION ON SUITABLE TERMS EITHER IN THE JOINT VENTURE WITH THE JAPANESE OR AS A NOMINATED SUB-CONTRACTOR WE ARE AIMING AT ENHANCING THE TECHNICAL CAPABILITY OF THE CONSORTIUM TO ENSURE THAT THE BRIDGE IS BUILT ON TIME.

3. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES I THINK THAT A TOP LEVEL MINISTERIAL MESSAGE WOULD BE VALUABLE. IF THE TURKS ARE PREPARED TO BE HELPFUL THE BEST OPPORTUNITY FOR THIS WOULD CLEARLY BE DURING OZAL'S FORTHCOMING VISIT TO TOKYO. HE LEAVES FOR JAPAN ON 18 MAY AND WILL INCLUDE IN HIS PARTY YUSUF OZAL AND THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF HIGHWAYS. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WILL BE REPRESENTED BY THE UNDER-SECRETARY TEZEL. THE PRIME MINISTER HIMSELF WILL BE FAMILIAR WITH THE CONTRACT AND HE WOULD BE THE MOST EFFECTIVE INTERLOCUTOR WITH THE JAPANESE. I RECOMMEND THEREFORE THAT THE PRIME MINISTER MIGHT SEND A MESSAGE TO MR OZAL ON THE LINES OF THE DRAFT IN MY MIFT. I DO NOT THINK THAT ON THIS SUBJECT A MESSAGE THROUGH HALEFOGLU, WHO HAS NOT BEEN INVOLVED, WOULD BE EFFECTIVE.

RUSSELL

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