

PRIME MINISTER

Ankara

SUBJECT

CC Ops
master

June 5, 1985

My Dear Prime Minister

PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL NO. T105AA/85

I have received your letter of May 8, 1985, expressing the British interest in having a part in the construction of the Second Bosphorus Bridge.

We appreciate the desire of Cleveland Bridge to make a tangible contribution to our development efforts. I want to assure you that the final decision has been made after a careful scrutiny of the offers made by the different consortia.

Regarding the proposal by Cleveland Bridge to join in the consortium as a sub-contractor, I assume that a final decision on this question would depend on the Japanese and British sides reaching a satisfactory agreement. Nevertheless, during my recent visit to Japan I raised the issue with Prime Minister Nakasone. I must tell you with all candor that the Japanese Prime Minister did not appear to be forthcoming. I am sure you also had the opportunity to sound out the Japanese stand in your encounter with Mr. Nakasone in Bonn.

However, I would like to submit to your consideration that there are further possibilities for British firms to join their efforts with their Turkish counterparts to carry out other large infrastructure projects in Turkey.

There are many similarities between our economic experiences and our approaches to our economic difficulties in the recent past.

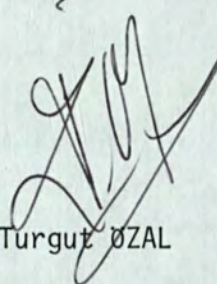
The Right Honorable
Margaret THATCHER, M.P.
Prime Minister of the
United Kingdom
LONDON

./.

Please also be assured of our appreciation of the mutually beneficial Turkish-British economic cooperation to this date and our determination to build upon this heritage in the future.

I would be most glad to have the opportunity of sharing our experiences and discussing with you the possibilities of increased economic cooperation and trade and other subjects of common interest, which would further strengthen the excellent relations and bonds of friendship between our countries. To this end, it would be a great pleasure and an honor to play host to you in Turkey.

Sincerely



Turgut ÖZAL



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

Prime Minister

17 June 1985

CDP
18/6

Dear Charles,

Turkey: Bosphorus Bridge

I enclose a letter from the Turkish Prime Minister to the Prime Minister which was delivered today by the Turkish Ambassador to Lady Young. The Turks seem to have done little to put our case to the Japanese during Mr Ozal's visit to Tokyo. During the discussion with Lady Young, the Turkish Ambassador filled out somewhat Mr Ozal's reference to further possibilities for British firms in Turkey. He referred to highways and railways and expressed concern about what he described as ECGD's "timid" approach to Turkey. He singled out Rapier where the Turks were looking for credit to finance their second contract (we understand, incidentally, that British Aerospace are at present in negotiation with the Turks on this contract).

We will let you have advice shortly on Mr Ozal's invitation to the Prime Minister to visit Turkey.

mr

Yours ever,

Peter Ricketts

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street