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TURKISH PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT

1. I RETURNED TO TURKEY YESTERDAY EVENING AND IT MAY BE USEFUL TO LET YOU HAVE MY IMPRESSIONS OF MR OZAL'S VISIT. THESE WILL BE SET OUT IN GREATER DETAIL IN SEPARATE TELEGRAMS.

2. OVERALL THE VISIT WAS A GREAT SUCCESS. THE REACTIONS MY STAFF HAVE OBTAINED HERE CONFIRMED THAT THIS WAS CERTAINLY THE CASE AS VIEWED BY MR OZAL AND HIS OFFICIALS. MR OZAL WAS IN EBULLIENT FORM WHEN HE STEPPED OFF THE PLANE HERE ON THE EVENING OF 20 FEBRUARY. ON OUR SIDE IMPORTANT POLITICAL POINTS WERE PUT OVER IN A WAY WHICH SHOULD ENSURE MAXIMUM IMPACT. MORE GENERALLY, BRITISH BUSINESS BOTH IN THE CIVIL AND DEFENCE FIELDS HAS BEEN GIVEN AS GOOD A BASIS ON WHICH TO BUILD, IN TERMS OF THE GENERAL ATMOSPHERE OF ANGLO/TURKISH RELEATIONS, AS THEY COULD WISH FOR.

3. THE TURKS MAY HAVE BEEN A LITTLE TAKEN ABACK BY THE VEHEMENCE AND PERSISTENCE OF SOME OF THE QUESTIONING ON HUMAN RIGHTS, EVEN THOUGH THEY KNEW THOSE QUESTIONS WOULD BE PUT. BUT OVERALL THEY WERE DEEPLY IMPRESSED FIRST AND FOREMOST BY MRS THATCHER HERSELF, BUT ALSO BY THE RANGE AND ATMOSPHERE OF THE FUNCTIONS ARRANGED FOR MR OZAL AND HIS PARTY. THE DINNER AT NO 10 WILL REMAIN FOR A LONG TIME A WARM MEMORY AND THE MAGNIFICENCE OF THE MANSION HOUSE LUNCHEON LEFT EVEN MR OZAL RATHER BREATHLESS.

4. A GREAT DEAL OF BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED OUTSIDE THE OFFICIAL TALKS. THE DORCHESTER WAS ALIVE WITH BRITISH BUSINESSMEN AND BANKERS AND THE MEETING AT THE CBI PROVIDED ANOTHER USEFUL PLATFORM FOR PUSHING FORWARD ANGLO/TURKISH TRADE. I WAS NOT ABLE TO FOLLOW ALL THESE MEETINGS (THOUGH I WAS PRESENT AT THE CBI) NOR THE VARIOUS SEPARATE MEETINGS THE TURKISH DEFENCE MINISTER HAD WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF BRITISH FIRMS. BUT IN THAT CONTEXT THE FOLLOW-ON VISIT BY MR VAHIT ERDEM, THE HEAD OF THE NEW DEFENCE INDUSTRIES FUND, WILL BE IMPORTANT IN SHOWING WHAT ARE THE REAL POSSIBILITIES FOR MAJOR DEFENCE COOPERATION WITH TURKEY.

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5. AS REGARDS MR OZAL HIMSELF, I WAS STRUCK ONCE MORE BY HIS CONFIDENCE THAT HE IS SETTING TURKEY ON THE RIGHT ROAD AND BY HIS IMPERTURBABILITY UNDER PRESSURE. MR KINNOCK, FOR EXAMPLE, DID NOT MINCE HIS WORDS, BUT MR OZAL REFUSED TO BE RUFFLED AND WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN AN AWKWARD MEETING PASSED OFF WELL. MR OZAL'S SCHEDULE WAS PUNISHING. HIS STAFF ALLOWED HIM NO REPSITE IN THE INTERVALS BETWEEN HIS OFFICIAL ENGAGEMENTS. HE WAS REQUIRED TO SEE A CONSTANT STREAM OF BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES AS WELL AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TURKISH COMMUNITY IN LONDON. BY THE EVENING OF 19 FEBRUARY HE WAS EXHAUSTED AND (WISELY) CANCELLED A LATE NIGHT ENGAGEMENT HOSTED BY A TURKISH BUSINESSMAN. IF AMERICAN DOUBTS ABOUT OZAL'S HEALTH ARE WELL FOUNDED, HIS STAFF OUGHT TO PROTECT HIM BETTER. BUT BY THE FOLLOWING DAY HE HAD RECOVERED, AS HIS PERFORMANCE WITH THE LEADERS OF THE OPPOSITION AND AT THE BANK OF ENGLAND LUNCH SHOWED. HE CONFIRMED THAT HE HAD INDEED BEEN VERY TIRED BUT WAS 'NOW FEELING FINE'.

6. OVERALL AND WITHOUT EXAGGERATING WHAT WAS ACHIEVED, I AM SURE THAT THIS VISIT HAS PROVIDED US WITH A FIRST-CLASS PLATFORM ON WHICH TO BUILD.

FCO PLEASE PASS SAVING ADDRESSEES

(REPEATED AS REQUESTED)

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PLANNING STAFF

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