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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

12 June 1987

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Dear Mike,

Visit of the "Prime Minister" of the "Turkish Republic
of Northern Cyprus" (TRNC) (12-22 June)

Colin Budd wrote to you on ^{*at 11am*} 12 November last year about the visit of Mr Denktash, "President" of the "TRNC", suggesting that Private Secretaries warn their Ministers not to accept invitations which might involve meeting Mr Denktash. I enclose a copy for ease of reference.

We now understand that the "TRNC Prime Minister" Dr Dervis Eroglu will be in the United Kingdom from 12-22 June and that his engagements will include meetings with some MPs, a public lecture and a reception at the Sheraton Park Tower Hotel on 18 June. For the reasons given in Colin Budd's letter I should be grateful if you could advise your Ministers not to accept any invitations which might involve meeting Dr Eroglu.

I am copying this letter to Charles Powell at No. 10 and to Private Secretaries to Ministers in Whitehall Departments.

Yours sincerely,
L Parker

(L Parker)
Private Secretary

Mike Eland Esq
PS/Lord President of
the Council

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

12 November 1986

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Dear Joan,

Meeting at House of Commons Between
Sir Frederick Bennett MP & Mr Denktash

The Leader of the Turkish Cypriot community in Cyprus, Rauf Denktash, is visiting London from 16-17 November. Ministers in your Department may receive invitations from Sir Frederick Bennett MP to the House of Commons on 24 November for a meeting with Denktash, who is apparently described on the invitations as "President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus". As you know, we do not accept Denktash's claim to be "President" of a separate state in Cyprus; nor does any other country apart from Turkey.

The Greeks and Greek Cypriots are objecting strongly both to the fact of the Sir Frederick Bennett meeting, and in particular to the wording of the invitations. We have made clear to them that Sir Frederick Bennett is perfectly entitled to hold a meeting at the House of Commons with Denktash, and that this has no implications for HMG's policy, which is not to recognise the "TRNC". However, the Foreign Secretary believes it would be wise on this occasion entirely to disassociate HMG from the meeting and I should be grateful if you would advise your Ministers not to accept this invitation or any other which might involve a British Government Minister meeting Denktash during his visit.

I am copying this letter to Charles Powell (No 10) and to all Private Secretaries to Ministers in Whitehall Departments.

Yours Sincerely,
Colin Budd

(C R Budd)
Private Secretary

Miss Joan MacNaughton
PS/Lord President of the Council

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