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*File DS  
@ Tessa  
Sir PC  
Janice*

*From the Private Secretary*

11 October 1987

**PROPOSED VISIT BY THE PRIME MINISTER TO TURKEY**

Thank you for your letter of 9 October about the Prime Minister's prospective visit to Turkey next year. The Prime Minister would prefer to wait until after the Turkish Elections before reaching any decision about possible dates. But it would clearly be better if the visit were to take place before President Evren makes his State Visit to Britain in July 1988. We should therefore be looking for dates in April or May. It would have to be a fairly brief visit of two or at most three days. You may like to discuss with Mrs Gaisman the possible dates in the Prime Minister's diary at that time.

C D POWELL

Lyn Parker, Esq.  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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CCP  
①



Prime Minister

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

It would be better for you to visit Turkey before Evren came here. But powers to a date near Easter.

9 October 1987

Dear Charles,

Agree?

Await-<sup>the</sup> result before deciding  
CCP 107X

Proposed Visit by the Prime Minister to Turkey

The Prime Minister told Mr Ozal in Berlin on 24 September that, if he was re-elected on 1 November, she would like to take up in 1988 his invitation to her to visit Turkey; and that she would be in touch again before 1 November.

Although Ozal looks a good bet in the forthcoming general election, much could still go wrong. In these circumstances it is ~~too early to put dates to the Turks,~~ but it is not too early for us to explore what dates might be possible for the Prime Minister, and perhaps block off time in her diary. Ozal recommended she go in the Spring. But this timing could be difficult, since I understand that the Prime Minister's diary is already very crowded at that time.

The other factor to be taken into account is that there is a strong probability that President Evren will make a State Visit to Britain in 1988. Evren has not been invited yet, but we are working on the assumption of a Summer State Visit from 12-15 July as my separate letter of 9 October explains.

We clearly need to separate these two important visits if we possibly can. If, as is likely, Evren comes in July, this would fit with a visit by the Prime Minister either in the Spring or in, say, November. It would be helpful to know the Prime Minister's wishes.

Yours ever,  
L. Parker

(L Parker)  
Private Secretary

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