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From the Private Secretary

15 February 1988

Dear Dgn.

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO TURKEY

I have seen Ankara telegrams 074 and 075 suggesting revised programmes for the Prime Minister's and Mr. Thatcher's visit to Turkey.

On the whole, the programme looks on the right lines. On 7 April I think it would be more appropriate for the Prime Minister to visit the Turkish primary school rather than the Embassy school. But my main concern is the lack of adequate time for the Prime Minister to change in the evening before the television interview, drinks with the British community and dinner. I can only suggest that this problem is overcome by dropping the second round of talks with Mr. Ozal, with whom the Prime Minister will presumably be able to talk over dinner, and bringing forward the call on President Evren to 1630, leaving the Prime Minister an hour or so to change and prepare for the television interview.

The programme for Istanbul looks on the right lines (although making a visit to what I assume is a sewage plant after Topkapi and Aya Sofia seems a bit of a let-down). I am also concerned that there seems to be no real opportunity for the Prime Minister to do a walkabout on either day. The various tourist spots will presumably be full of tourists rather than Turks. I should be grateful if this point could be looked at further.

The programme for Mr. Thatcher looks very much on the right lines except for the visit to the Hittite Museum. I think that Mr. Thatcher would prefer to visit another British company at that time, or the British Council or a military installation.

Yours sincerely,

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