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10 DOWNING STREET
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From the Private Secretary

25 February 1988

Dear Lyn.

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO TURKEY

We have had quite a number of press enquiries whether the Prime Minister intends to make a major effort to secure the contract for a third Bosphorous Bridge for a British company during her visit to Turkey. The matter seems bound to come up and the Turks will no doubt regard it as an opportunity to squeeze us as hard as possible on terms and price. I think we are going to need a very carefully worked out position, with a clear idea of just how far the Prime Minister should go in order to secure the contract (if discussions reach this point). I should be grateful if a note could be prepared on this point, in conjunction with DTI and Treasury in time for Ministers to consider it collectively if need be well ahead of the Prime Minister's visit.

I am copying this letter to Alison Brimelow (Department of Trade and Industry) and to Alex Allan (HM Treasury).

Yours sincerely,
Charles Powell

(CHARLES POWELL)

Lyn Parker, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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