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Foreign and Commonwealth Office
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London SW1A 2AH

22 March 1988

Dear Charles,

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23/3

Prime Minister's Visit to Turkey: Programme

In your letter of 21 March you asked us to pursue with Timothy Daunt ^{at Flap} how the Prime Minister's wish to visit Scutari could be accommodated.

You will by now have seen Ankara telno 160 (copy attached) in which the Embassy report a discussion with the Deputy Head of Protocol at the Turkish MFA. The logistics remain to be worked out. But it seems that, if Mr Ozal can agree to the earlier time for the press conference, the Prime Minister may be able to fit in the visit to Scutari without throwing the rest of the programme agreed for the day in Istanbul out of joint.

Subject to eventual satisfaction over the Scutari arrangements, I hope that you can agree that the programme for the Prime Minister's visit may now be regarded as final.

Yours ever
L Parker

(L Parker)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

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FM ANKARA
TO DESKBY 221500Z FCO
TELNO 0160
OF 221440Z MARCH 88
INFO ROUTINE ISTANBUL

M. Henderson
[Signature]
22/3

YOUR TELNO 93: PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO TURKEY:

PROGRAMME:

1. HEAD OF CHANCERY DISCUSSED THE PRIME MINISTER'S WISH TO VISIT THE CEMETERY AT SCUTARI WITH EZEN, DEPUTY HEAD OF PROTOCOL AT THE MFA, THIS AFTERNOON, ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT SHE WOULD ALSO WISH TO VISIT THE ADJACENT FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE HOSPITAL.
2. EZEN UNDERTOOK TO CONSIDER HOW BEST THE VISIT COULD BE FITTED IN. STARTING AN HOUR EARLIER AS WE HAD PROPOSED WOULD HELP: HE WOULD CHECK THAT MR OZAL COULD MANAGE THE PRESS CONFERENCE AT ANKARA AIRPORT AT 0830 INSTEAD OF 0930. ON LOGISTICS IN ISTANBUL, HE THOUGHT THAT THE PRIME MINISTER'S PARTY, INCLUDING PRESS, WOULD BE TOO LARGE TO USE HELICOPTERS. THE BEST ALTERNATIVE MIGHT BE TO USE A HYDROFOIL OR FAST LAUNCH FROM THE LANDING FACILITIES NEAREST TO ISTANBUL AIRPORT. THIS MIGHT MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO VISIT THE CEMETERY AND THE HOSPITAL BEFORE TRAVELLING BY CAR TO THE MUNICIPALITY FOR A SHORT VISIT BEFORE LUNCH, AS PLANNED. EZEN AGREED THAT THE CALL AT THE MUNICIPALITY COULD IF NECESSARY BE PUT BACK TO THE AFTERNOON. (THERE SEEMED TO BE NO NEED AT THIS STAGE TO SUGGEST DROPPING IT ALTOGETHER).
3. THERE IS ONE FURTHER MINOR COMPLICATION: SCUTARI IS THE HQ OF THE TURKISH FIRST ARMY. IT WILL THEREFORE BE DIFFICULT FOR THE PRIME MINISTER TO AVOID SPENDING A FEW MINUTES WITH ITS COMMANDER AT THE BEGINNING OF HER VISIT TO THE HOSPITAL.
4. EZEN SAW NO DIFFICULTY IN ACCOMMODATING THE PRIME MINISTER'S WISH TO ARRIVE IN ANKARA AN HOUR EARLIER ON 6 APRIL (FCO TELNO 99).
5. THE MFA HAVE CONFIRMED TO US THAT THEY ARE CONTENT WITH THE

Pm DOR: Turkey Jan 88

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REVISED AGENDA IN FCO TELNO 80.

6. MAY WE NOW ASSUME THAT, APART FROM THE ISTANBUL ARRANGEMENTS, THE PROGRAMMES FOR THE PRIME MINISTER AND MR THATCHER SET OUT IN MY TELNOS 143 AND 154 RESPECTIVELY ARE ACCEPTABLE?

DAUNT

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