



*file* DTS

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*From the Private Secretary*

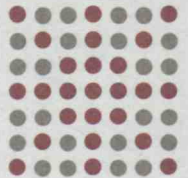
29 March 1988

The Prime Minister has asked me to thank you for your note about the British Council's work in Turkey. She was grateful to have this as part of the preparation for her visit.

C D POWELL

Sir David Orr, M.C.

DTS.



R29/3

From the Chairman  
Sir David Orr MCLLD

Promoting cultural, educational  
and technical co-operation between  
Britain and other countries

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The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP  
10 Downing Street  
LONDON  
SW1

25 March 1988

Dear Prime Minister

I would like you to see this note on our work in Turkey before your departure.

It is a good story of promoting Britain's commercial interests on the back of cultural relations work - and we have a real entrepreneur as our Representative there.

I know that your programme will be frantically busy, but I hope you will have time to see or hear something of what we do.

Yours sincerely  
David Orr

The British Council



Note for the Prime Minister's visit: April 1988

### 1. Aims

The aim of the British Council in Turkey is to promote British achievements and Britain as it is today and to complement political and commercial relations.

### 2. Priorities

Turkey is a priority country for the Council. Sources of funding are shown below. The Council has a good record in revenue earning and has won two World Bank contracts in vocational and technical education:

- (1) "YOK I", a tertiary education project, involves 5 British technical colleges and is worth £2.5m. Under this project British firms have won substantial orders.
- (2) Industrial Schools Project, Ministry of Education, worth £1.7m.

#### Current priorities include:

- winning more contracts for projects: the prospects are good for one in industrial training and the Council has been shortlisted for another in non-formal education
- the promotion of British higher education with the aim of increasing the number of Turks studying in the UK at their own expense. Between 1983 and 1987 the Council placed 200 trainees from the State Highways Department, which paid £402,000 for the service
- improving the quality of English teaching in Turkey particularly for those with a professional need for English
- developing links between British and Turkish universities especially in marine sciences, biomedical engineering, construction management and veterinary science
- identifying, with the British Embassy, those working in areas of special interest to Britain who would benefit from exposure to developments in this country - eg microcomputers.

### 3. Premises

The Council has offices in Ankara and Istanbul. It moved to new premises in Ankara in 1986, and in May 1988 the Istanbul office will be moved to new premises in the city centre. They will offer increased space and better facilities for library users and other visitors.

4. Budget	(1988/89)	£,000
Government grant		1,022
Government agency (ODA) including administration costs		775
Other agency (mainly World Bank and other paid projects)		805
Revenue (mainly science projects)		299
		<u>2,901</u>

### 5. Staff

Representative - Edmund Marsden  
6 other British and 45 Turkish staff in the two offices. Additionally there are 3 KELT (Key English Language Teaching) posts throughout Turkey and 2 project officers working on the World Bank funded projects.