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From the Private Secretary

25 April 1988

In your letter to Bernard Ingham you enclosed details of your efforts in respect of the Omerli contract in Turkey.

In her talks with Prime Minister Ozal, Mrs Thatcher mentioned United Kingdom interest in this water project, stressing our companies' qualifications to undertake projects of this sort. It was evident from the talks that took place that for economic reasons few new infrastructure projects will be approved for direct finance by the Turkish government in the next year or so. It seems likely that they are more inclined to press ahead with projects of the "Build Operate Transfer" type which you will have read about in the press.

All one can add is that there is no doubt that Turkey has the potential to be a growth market for British goods and services in the long term and that perseverance will eventually pay off.

C.D. POWELL

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