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10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

FILE DAS

bc: PC
Supt. Butler
Press Office
JR.

From the Private Secretary

21 February 1990

Dear Stephen,

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO TURKEY: 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF GALLIPOLI

Thank you for your letter of 20 February about detailed arrangements for the Prime Minister's visit to Turkey for the 75th Anniversary of the Gallipoli Landings. I have discussed this with the Prime Minister. She is prepared to travel by car (or coach) from Istanbul out to Gallipoli and back again, preferring this to the hazards of a frigate. She is also content to fall in with the Turkish Government's plans for the international ceremony and to follow the procedure proposed for our own national ceremony at Cape Helles. The form of service proposed by our Ambassador seems very much on the right lines. My own view is that it would be better for the Prime Minister to do the Reading and/or Sentences rather than give an address: but if the Ambassador does feel it would be appropriate for her to speak for say five minutes on the significance of Gallipoli and the great events which occurred there, I am sure she would be willing.

Clearly we should take the opportunity for a bilateral with Mr Ozal and possibly with Mr Hawke. I am fairly sure the Prime Minister would like if at all possible, to visit one of the frigates, if they are not lying too far off shore and the weather permits. One possibility would be to do so in company with Mr Hawke. Perhaps the Ministry of Defence could give some thought to this.

I hope this gives you enough to guide the reconnaissance party, who will no doubt report further.

I am copying this letter to Simon Webb (Ministry of Defence).

C. D. POWELL

Stephen Wall, Esq.
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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Prime Minister

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ccpc ①



The points for
decision are at X
on page 2.

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

20 February 1990

It will be a long & exhausting
day. But I think travel
by car is possible. After the Bush/Gorbachev
Jean Charles, experience in Malta, I think we
should steer clear of ships! Contact with

Prime Minister's visit to Turkey: 75th Gallipoli
Anniversary

Correspondence rests with your letter of 5 February.
We are now looking at the detailed arrangements, and
there are a number of points on which we need guidance,
please.

arrangements
proposed?

Transport

If the Prime Minister leaves by VC 10 after Question
Time on Tuesday 24 April, she should arrive in Istanbul
approximately 2200 hrs local time. She will need to be
at the VIP assembly point at Eceabat ('A' on map
enclosed) at 0900 hrs on the following morning. Having
looked at the options, we think that the best way of
getting there would be by car from Istanbul which, with a
Turkish motorcycle escort, should take 2½ hours. An
alternative would be to travel down overnight, using one
of the two RN frigates which will be present for the
ceremonies. The frigate would, however, have to maintain
a fairly high speed to get there on time. If the weather
were bad, which is a distinct possibility at that time of
year, the voyage would be uncomfortable and
disembarkation hazardous. Travel by helicopter would,
together with transfer, take about as long as the car
journey and would also be at the mercy of bad weather.

CB
20/2.
Yes
not

Participation in the Ceremonies

At Eceabat the Prime Minister will join
President Ozal, the Governor General of New Zealand, the
Australian Prime Minister and representatives from France
and possibly India, Canada and Malta. The group, which
will also include the Defence Secretary, CNS and CGS,
will then move on for the International Ceremony at the
Turkish Memorial ('B' on enclosed map). President Ozal
will probably make a speech there. The Turks may ask the
Governor General, as the ranking representative, to
reply.

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National ceremonies will be held at noon. Ours is at Cape Helles ('C' on map) where a guard of honour drawn from the frigates Broadsword and Argonaut, plus a military band, will be present. Both frigates will be anchored offshore within sight of the ceremony. The Ambassador, Sir Timothy Daunt, has drawn up a suggested form of service (copy enclosed) at which the Prime Minister might read the customary Binyon sentences ("They shall not grow old...") or give an address. Those present will include members of the British Legion and veterans being contacted by the Ministry of Defence. Weather permitting, this would represent the best opportunity for the Prime Minister to talk to the British and international press.

The Prime Minister and other VIPs are then invited to a lunch at Kabatepe ('D' on map) given by President Ozal. The Turks have not indicated whether there will be speeches. Nor have they yet confirmed arrangements for a bilateral between Ozal and the Prime Minister after lunch. There will be little opportunity for a formal bilateral with Mr Hawke, but the Prime Minister will meet him in the margins of the International Ceremony and at the lunch.

Return Journey

For the reasons outlined above, the Prime Minister will probably again need to travel by car to Istanbul, and then by VC 10 to London.

Conclusion

I should be grateful for confirmation that the Prime Minister is content:

- a) to travel by car; and
- b) to fall in with Turkish plans for the International Ceremony.

It would also be useful to know how you want to handle the national ceremony.

I shall write again after the reconnaissance party have visited the area with further details of the programme. This may also involve wreath laying at the French, Australian and New Zealand memorials.

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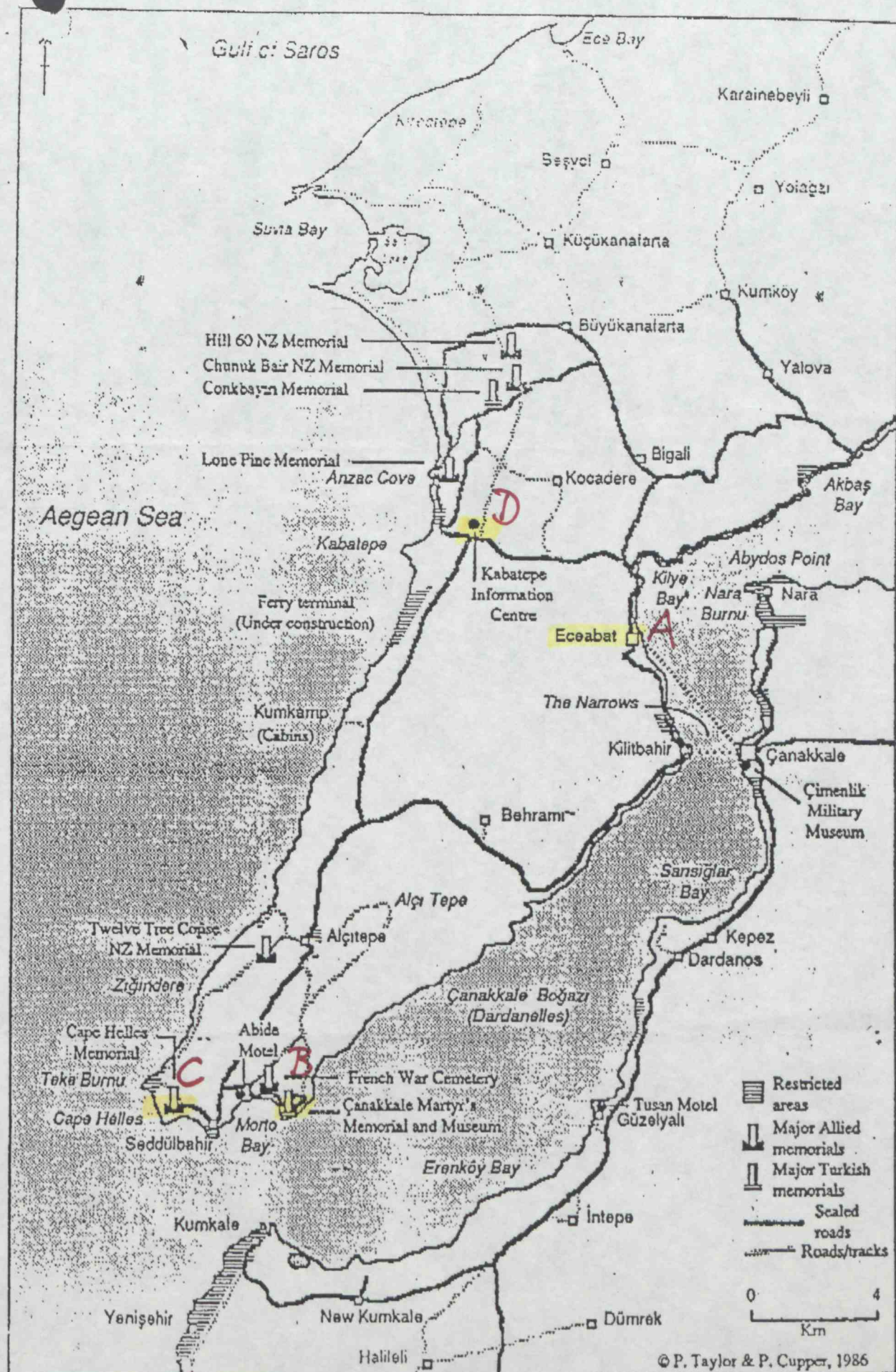
I am copying this letter to Simon Webb (MOD).

*Yours,
Stephen Wall*

(J S Wall)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

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GALLIPOLI

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ANZAC 1990

COMMEMORATION AT CAPE HELLES

(British - plus Canadian, Indian etc)

MEMORIAL

To be conducted by the Venerable Geoffrey Evans, Archdeacon of the Aegean and the Danube and Chaplain to HM Ambassador. (He was invited to officiate when MOD advised that no CF available).

Following march past, or assembly, of band, guard and veterans etc at 1155, the Prime Minister arrives, signs the book and takes her place within the enclosure in front of the main memorial obelisk.

Others laying wreaths to her left (possibilities: Defence Secretary, CGS, Rep of Turkish Government, leaders of pilgrimage parties, private individuals).

Opening hymn (eg 'O Lord of Life!')

Reading (Possibly PM, perhaps Isaiah 2, 2-5)

Prayers

Address (if PM to make one)

Hymn (eg 'O Valiant Hearts')

Sentences (Binyon)

Last Post - Reveille

National Anthem.



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PM TOURS: Tunari, Nov 89

