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10 DOWNING STREET
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From the Private Secretary

30 March 1990

ANZAC DAY: PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO TURKEY

Thank you for your letter of 29 March about the arrangements for the Prime Minister's visit to Gallipoli. The Prime Minister would be content to read the lesson following the opening hymn at the British ceremony, leaving the President of the Royal British Legion to read the Binyon sentences.

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

C. D. POWELL

Richard Gozney, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

29 March 1990

Dear Charles,

ANZAC Day: Prime Minister's Visit to Turkey

Thank you for your letter of 15 March. You were worried about the proposal that the Prime Minister should make the journey from Istanbul to Gallipoli and return by road, and asked us to look into the possibility of travel by helicopter.

I understand that you have seen the programme prepared by the reconnaissance team which visited Turkey last week, and will know that the Turks have agreed to provide four helicopters for the Prime Minister's party. The Embassy are nonetheless preparing for the possibility that the helicopters will be grounded by poor weather, and are arranging for a suitable protected car to be standing by for the Prime Minister's use for this leg of the journey if need be.

You agreed in your letter of 21 February that it would be better for the Prime Minister to do the reading and/or say the Binyon sentences at the British ceremony rather than give an address. I enclose a copy of a fax from Ankara setting out in full the service prepared by the Archdeacon of the Aegean and the Danube, the Venerable Geoffrey B Evans. The Ambassador suggests that the Prime Minister should read the lesson following the opening hymn and that the President of the Royal British Legion, Sir Edward Burgess, should read the Binyon sentences following the wreath laying ceremony. I should be grateful if you would confirm that the arrangement is acceptable to the Prime Minister.

I am copying this letter to Simon Webb at the Ministry of Defence.

Yours ever,

Richard Gozney

(R H T Gozney)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

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