

10 DOWNING STREET LONDON SWIA 2AA

From the Private Secretary

10 July 1990

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ANKARA SUBWAY PROJECT

The Canadian Prime Minister's Chief of Staff, Stanley Hartt, approached me in the margins of the Economic Summit in Houston, about the bid by a British/Canadian/Turkish consortium for the construction and operation of the subway system for Ankara. By his account, negotiation of the contract is well advanced and the only outstanding issue is the British share of the financing package. It appears that no decision has yet been reached on this and - in the Canadian view - there is a danger of a contract being lost as a result. Hartt claimed that the Canadian Government had done detailed analysis of the feasibility and other aspects of the project and were prepared to support it. The Canadian company had asked the Canadian Prime Minister to intervene with us to do likewise.

I said that I knew nothing of the project, but would ask for a report and would let him have a reply as soon as possible. I should be grateful if you could let me know what the position is by 13 July.

I am copying this letter to Martin Stanley (Department of Trade and Industry) and to Eamoinn Taylor (Overseas Development Administration).

CHARLES POWELL

Richard Gozney, Esq., Foreign and Commonwealth Office.