

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 06 March 2008 15:31
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Queen's visit to Turkey

[REDACTED]

I have asked London to forward any press articles they receive.

-----Original Message-----
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 06 March 2008 14:44
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Queen's visit to Turkey

[REDACTED] - an article in the Express, and [REDACTED] lines for Press office.

-----Original Message-----
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 05, 2008 1:53 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Queen's visit to Turkey

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On the reasons for the visit, I think we can say:

- will strengthen the already excellent relationship enjoyed by our two nations
- will highlight Turkey's key role as a bridge between East and West
- demonstrates the UK's strong continuing support for Turkey's EU accession process. In 1999 all EU members agreed unanimously that Turkey was a candidate for full membership of the EU, and negotiations began in 2005 . This process continues, and is helping to drive Turkey's comprehensive reform programme.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday March 06 2008 4:12 PM
To: [REDACTED]; 'HMS ILLUSTRIOUS-COMUKCSG [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE. Potential Visit to Istanbul

I fear that I may be the catalyst with respect to racing the issue again but it has been done so from a position of not having full visibility of the background dialogue to which [REDACTED] alludes.

Fully cognisant of CINC's part to play in the decision making process and the usual caveats about contingencies that apply to any operational vessel, the questions posed at the bottom of the email trail were simply seeking answers for 'what if planning purposes. At every opportunity we stress to hierarchy here that ship's programmes are notoriously fragile and that LUST presence can not be guaranteed -hence the Pera House (British Consulate General) option is bung worked in parallel and now it would seem should take priority. Nonetheless it is the consensus here that collectively we would kick ourselves to dismiss too early this potentially golden opportunity to provide a highly visible and positive RN image in front of the world media.

If direction is to 'turn-off' thoughts of ILLUSTRIOUS participation in the Royal Visit to Turkey then we shall do so but it does not accord with CINCFLEET's JDA/LDQ 031044Z MAR 08 (Port Visit Request) which awaits my attention and is the last instruction that I have received on the matter.

Yours aye

[REDACTED]

From: MS ILLUSTRIOUS-COMUKCSG [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 March 2008 09:03
To: FLEET-CINCEAPERSONAL
Cc: [REDACTED]; HMS WESTMINSTER-FOST3; HMS ILLUSTRIOUS-CSGSO [REDACTED] HMS ILLUSTRIOUS-CDR [REDACTED]
Subject : Release-Authoris d : FW: Potential Visit to Istanbul

[REDACTED]

I understand from [REDACTED] that CINC will make the call on this. There are several issues he would wish to consider in his judgement, the main one being potential effect on the Summer FTSP which could have significant unwelcome downstream programming implications. We will have a much clearer view on that next week.

There are other issues regarding presentation but I believe they are manageable although we would need some kit, hangar awnings and decorations, and people, small RM Band and sentries etc which may have some small financial cost.

The Ship can make it and can do it; fragility of the plant is not a concern although, again, results of tests expected next week will clarify some residual concerns with the starboard shaft.

In sum, please wait until next week, 5/6 Mar, and we will have a significantly better view of the factors.



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday March 06, 2008 4:16 PM
To: HMS ILLUSTRIOUS-CSGCOS [REDACTED]
Cc: HMS ILLUSTRIOUS-CSGSO [REDACTED], 'HMS ILLUSTRIOUS-CSGCOORD [REDACTED]
Subject: RE Potential Visit to Istanbul

As a Cc addressee I received today an email from [REDACTED] that somewhat 'rained on our parade' as it were. It contradicted quite forcefully the recent Port Visit Request that was received earlier this week. I have responded to him and [REDACTED] via gsi account but could not add your Unclass addresses. You may wish to track it down.

Best regards

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----
From: HMS WESTMINSTR-FOST3 [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 February 2008 14:22
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: HMS ILLUSTRIOUS CSGSO [REDACTED], IIMS ILLUSTRIOUS-CSGCOORD [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] HMS ILLUSTRIOUS-CSGCOS [REDACTED]
Subject : Potential Visit to Istanbul

[REDACTED]

We spoke earlier. Here are the email addresses for the Cdre's team in LUST, with mine for when I reembark on Monday evening.

As discussed grateful, if you could send all correspondence to [REDACTED], [REDACTED] can then ensure that [REDACTED] is apprised of all developments/requests/issues, and offer any D&G from the outset. We then let [REDACTED] loose on the ship's team (!) to get them to answer the detail or explore the art of the possible. Answers go back to you by reversing the process, i: ship's team to [REDACTED] to you.

Everyone accepts that formal CINC/1SL approval for the visit and use of the ship remains pending. [REDACTED] see attached email for the latest drawing received from [REDACTED] concerning depths at the intended berth. It is the one adjacent to, but to the NE of the berth which [REDACTED] looked at. No idea of provenance, accuracy or date of survey work which led to this diagram. ([REDACTED] can you help?). But if true, does this work for Lust? [REDACTED]

----- Original Message-----
From: HMS ILLUSTRIOUS -CSGSO [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 February 2008 07:49
To: HMS ILLUSTRIOUS-COMUKCSG [REDACTED]; HMS WESTMINSTER-FOST3
Subject: FW: Potential Visit to Istanbul

Sirs

Passed for your info. For COS, I do not believe Fleet Ops (at desk level) are aware although I believe you have spoken with FOO on the issue [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. Ultimately, I presume that CINC will have to make a decision on this taking any risks into account.

I am concerned that this issue will gather it's own head of steam rather quickly and we shall find our hands tied.

Aye
[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: MS ILLUSTRIOUS-OPS [REDACTED]

Sent: 28 February 2008 12:30

To: HMS ILLUSTRIOUS-CSGSO [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: Potential Visit to Istanbul

[REDACTED]

For info, the Cdr will pass on to you formally.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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I am concerned that this issue will gather it's own head of steam rather quickly and we shall find our hands tied.

Aye
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From: MS ILLUSTRIOUS-OPS [REDACTED]

Sent: 28 February 2008 12:30

To: HMS ILLUSTRIOUS-CSGSO [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: Potential Visit to Istanbul

[REDACTED]

For info, the Cdr will pass on to you formally.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]