CONFIDENTIAL

NFA

MAP

NATURE MINISTER

Vou have asked M

whiletaw to keep open the

rossibility of levy changes

He canaws.

MAD

PRIME MINISTER

LEVY ON INDEPENDENT TELEVISION CONTRACTORS

I recognise the force of the points made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his recent minute to you about the television levy and I am willing, as he asks, to keep open the option of making Government amendments to the Broadcasting Bill during its later stages if a practical scheme for making changes in the levy has been decided by then.

In practice, we shall need to be pretty clear about this by the time of the Second Reading of the Bill and I will consult the Chancellor about the form of words which it would be appropriate to use during that debate.

I am sending a copy of this minute to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

15 January 1980