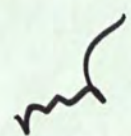
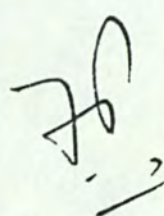




FCS/83/51

CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE TREASURY

1. Thank you for your letter of 21 February.
2. I doubt whether there is any advantage in asking our officials to go over the ground again. They have already considered various solutions over a period of months, including the ones you mention. I can see no possibility of separating External Services' pay from BBC pay generally given that the BBC is an indivisible entity as regards staff. Nor could the BBC Home Services be expected to absorb excess External Services' costs; of course this is a matter primarily for Willie Whitelaw, but I would point out that the services are financed in completely different ways and there would be considerable resentment from the BBC lobby and the licence fee-paying public.
3. I should therefore like to propose, if you agree, that we get together to discuss the matter with the Home Secretary. The Defence Secretary may also wish to attend in view of his interest in the BBC Monitoring Service.
4. I am copying this minute to the Prime Minister, the Home Secretary and the Defence Secretary.

*cc TV Broadcast*  
*Prime Minister<sup>2</sup>*  
*Mus 14/3*  
  
  
 (FRANCIS PYM)

114 MAR 1944

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