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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

1 March 1984

Review of BBC External Services

We had a word about this on the telephone the other day.

I should be grateful for a brief letter which would enable me to show the Prime Minister where the proposal for a review now stands.

I should also be glad to know what is proposed in the way of public handling. I have heard from one source that it is intended that the review shall be secret - but I rather gathered from you that the FCO expect the BBC to make an announcement to their own staff about it. Is it intended to make it clear publicly (if this is the case) that the purpose of the review is not to cut the external services further but to secure value for money?

ALL COLES

Brian Fall Esq
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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