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The Home Secretary will shortly be circulating his own paper on the ITV issues discussed in the report from the official group (MISC 128(87)1) and would like this to be considered before the end of March, if possible. We will now explore dates for such a meeting, at which the Home Secretary will doubtless also be able to report on progress with independent producers.

May I take your mind on another point? You may remember that at the Prime Minister's meeting on 25 June preceding the establishment of MISC 128 there was some discussion of the possibility of presentations on some of the technical aspects of the Peacock The main issue here is TV finance by subscription, on which consultants have been appointed by the Home Office. consultants are now scheduled to give an initial presentation to the Home Office at the end of March and, if you agree, I think that we should now arrange for them to make a presentation to the Prime Minister and the rest of MISC 128 as soon as practicable thereafter.

A J LANGDON 6 March 1987