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*cc Chief
Wings
Off*

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From the Private Secretary

25 May 1987

INDEPENDENT PRODUCERS

The Prime Minister has seen the Home Secretary's minute of 19 May. She has also noted views of the Lord President (Mike Eland's letter to David Norgrove of 20 May).

The Prime Minister agrees, subject to the views of other colleagues, that the broadcasters should be asked to proceed with their plans, with a view to an announcement in due course when the details have been agreed with the independent producers.

I am sending a copy of this letter to the Private Secretaries to the members of MISC 128 and to Trevor Woolley (Cabinet Office).

MARK ADDISON

Philip Mawer, Esq.,
Home Office.

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PRIME MINISTER

INDEPENDENT PRODUCERS

The Home Secretary's minute seeks agreement that the IBA and the BBC should be told that the Government are content with the initial plans they have drawn up to increase the proportion of programmes provided by independent producers. The minute needs to be seen in the light of the Manifesto commitment:

"We will ensure that at least 25 per cent of programmes broadcast on both ITV and BBC will be supplied by independent producers as soon as possible."

The Lord President agrees with the Home Secretary that the voluntary approach, which seems to have met with a very good response so far, is the best way of proceeding.

Agree, subject to the views of colleagues, that the broadcasters should be asked to proceed with their plans, with a view to an announcement in due course when the details have been agreed with the independent producers?

Mark Addison

Yes

MARK ADDISON

22 May 1987

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