

K01786

MR NORRGROVE

MISC 128

A. Langdon *cc DG*

Thank you. But I don't think the Prime Minister would wish to clear independent producers in correspondence. She would want to hear what they had to say. DEW 2/11

You may like to know that, following yesterday's meeting, the Home Secretary is arranging a meeting with the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Trade and Industry Secretary with the aim of agreeing a line on the various ITV issues (or, at least, identifying any points where they do not agree). The Home Secretary has it in mind to suggest that Professor Griffiths should ^{attend} ~~take~~ this meeting.

2. In the light of that, the Home Secretary will put in a fresh paper that will aim to be as short and crisp as the subject matter allows. We will not circulate any more Official Group papers on these issues.

3. A White Paper next Spring will mean a number of MISC 128 meetings in the meantime. The Home Secretary wants to devote the meeting on 19 November to radio, and I think we should do that.

4. Since yesterday's meeting did not consider the Home Secretary's minute on independent producers, I wonder if the Prime Minister might now be prepared to clear it in correspondence. You could perhaps note that the Prime Minister still awaits advice on the separate but related question of fair terms of trade for independents. This formally stands remitted to the Official Group (see MISC 128(87) 1st meeting) but I would expect the Trade and Industry Secretary to speak to it in MISC 128.

A/L

A J LANGDON

29 October 1987