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29 March 1988

Den Phil

MISC 128

As you know, we have been taking stock of the meetings that are needed to dispose of outstanding MISC 128 work, and Paul Gray has now taken the Prime Minister's instructions on how she would like this handled. The arrangement that the Prime Minister has now approved is for additional programme services (MISC 128(88)4 and 5) to be the subject of a discussion over two meetings (21 and 25 April) starting with a presentation at the first meeting; and for Channel 4, the transmission system and subscription/night hours to be discussed at a meeting on 5 May.

The Prime Minister would be content for the remaining items that we forecast (networking; performance bonds; monitoring the independent production initiative; the role of the IBA in the light of all the decisions taken) to be discussed at meetings chaired by the Home Secretary. The papers for those items should be circulated in good time for the meetings and the Prime Minister would like a report from the Home Secretary on the discussions.

I am copying this to Paul Gray, Alex Allan and Alison Brimelow. I am also sending copies to Wilfred Hyde (Home Office) as chairman of the official committee and to Alastair MacDonald (DTI) who will be dealing with the presentation on additional services.

Town Anthony

A J LANGDON

