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PRIME MINISTER

MEETING OF MISC 128: 24 APRIL

You talked through some of the broadcasting issues with Brian and Bernard this morning. The MISC 128 meeting itself has now been rearranged for Monday afternoon.

You have already seen all the papers. These are organised as follows:

- immediately below this note is Bernard's minute and the Cabinet Office steering brief;
- then in the three folders are the papers relating to each of the agenda items; in each case the Home Secretary's proposals together with briefs from Brian and the Cabinet Office;
- at the back of the folder is the White Paper itself.

There are three others points to note:

- you agreed when you saw the papers last weekend that there was no need to discuss the detailed issues on local services and the possibility of a Channel 6. I have ✓ minuted out to that effect. I have not bothered to include those papers in the folder (although I will have them available at the meeting in case points are raised);
- you agreed to defer a final decision on Douglas Hurd's proposal for a meeting on quality with a group of outsiders until after the MISC 128 discussion. You were I think increasingly doubtful about the idea, and you may now wish to reach a firm decision not to hold it. Apart from the arguments on merits, it would be very difficult to find diary time for this;

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- at the end of MISC 128 meeting, you will need to reach a decision on which of the other specific issues will need to be discussed at later meetings.

*pcg.*

(PAUL GRAY)

21 April 1989

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