

PRIME MINISTER

Tony Parsons rang today to say that he would now not be carrying out a contract with the BBC in the New Year. The explanation is simply that he told the BBC that, because of his new appointment here, he would obviously have to be more circumspect than he would otherwise have been and if they wanted to choose someone else he would have no objection. The BBC decided to find an alternative.

This means that Tony Parsons' three days here need not now be Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. If you preferred, he could come from Tuesday to Thursday.

I do not think it matters much either way. But the advantage of him being here on Friday is that he will be able to look at the JIC output which usually becomes available on Friday morning.

If you agree, therefore, I shall suggest that he sticks to Wednesday to Friday.

As JIC meets on A.S.C.
Thurs. morning - surely
the output would be available
on Thurs afternoon. I would
be convenient for us for him if
he were here Tues. Wed. Thurs.
not.

26 November 1982

804
Govt. Mach.

29 November 1982

Following your telephone call on Friday, I discussed with the Prime Minister the question of whether you should arrange to be here on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday rather than the last three days of each week. Mrs. Thatcher thinks it would be best if you were indeed able to be here on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

A. J. COLES

Sir Anthony Parsons, KCMG, MVO, MC
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