

From: THE PRIVATE SECRETARY

~~CCFO~~



Prime Minister

HOME OFFICE
QUEEN ANNE'S GATE
LONDON SW1H 9AT

This seems to meet your
earlier concerns (see my
letter below). Brian Griffiths has

23 January 1990

no comments. Content now to
proceed on this basis?

Dear Paul

JP

BROADCASTING BILL: INDEPENDENT PRODUCTION

REC 6
26/1

The Home Secretary was grateful for your letter of 2 January setting out the Prime Minister's views; and for Nicholas Ridley's comments of 29 December.

Dealing first with the commencement date for the BBC provisions, the Home Secretary notes the Prime Minister's further views. He proposes now to tell the BBC that the requirement will be 25% transmission from January 1993. We will have to explain this as arising from a need for consistency with the requirement on the ITC licensees; and from Ministers' view that the independent sector needs to be strong enough by 1993 to move on to meet the further challenges of the new regime.

Y
no
no

The Home Secretary is content that separate current affairs programmes should be included within the initiative. That is the present position. The exclusion applies to news-related daily current affairs programmes, which will continue to be dealt with alongside the news bulletins to which they are so closely related.

A copy goes to the Private Secretary to members of MISC 128 and Sonia Phippard (Cabinet Office).

Yours sincerely
Sara

MS S J DENT

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BROADCASTING Policy P600

