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From The Secretary of State for Wales

Rt Hon Peter Walker MBE MP

10 June 1988

MBM

*REG
13/6*

Douglas Hurd

I have seen your minute of 6 June to the Prime Minister and I agree with all that you say. At an earlier stage in our considerations we agreed that our proposals for C4UK should not affect S4C which would continue to transmit its output as at present.

I am anxious to ensure that no unfounded and unnecessary rumours about S4C emerge as a result of your discussions with the BBC and ITV. S4C as you know has a statutory obligation to re-schedule C4UK programmes in Wales. In going satellite we must ensure that whatever technical changes C4UK have to make do not affect S4C's capacity to transmit its programmes terrestrially. In deciding that we would not alter S4C's existing transmission arrangements I assumed that these would not be a problem. I would like to be assured on this, and I believe we should stand ready to make that assurance public at an early stage once our proposals for C4UK become known to the industry. I am anxious that this does not become an issue here in Wales at this time as I am shortly to make an important announcement regarding my future plans for the Welsh Language.

/ I am copying this letter to other members of MISC 128 and to Sir Robin Butler.

[Handwritten signature]

Rt Hon Douglas Hurd CBE MP
Secretary of State for the Home Department

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