

PRIME MINISTER

BROADCASTING OWNERSHIP

At the last but one meeting of MISC 128 you invited Douglas Hurd to prepare a revised draft announcement of the conclusions on ownership in the light of the changes agreed to his earlier proposed package.

His minute at Flag A fulfils that remit.

Lord Young's letter at Flag B broadly accepts the proposed statement, subject to:

- some detailed drafting comments;
- a more substantive comment that a similar restriction on national newspapers' shareholdings in non-terrestrial broadcasting (DBS) should be imposed as is proposed for their shareholdings in UHF frequencies.

Brian Griffiths (Flag C) supports Lord Young's proposal on newspaper shareholdings in DBS, and also recommends that you ask Douglas Hurd to clarify the takeover regime that will be in force between the date of the announcement and January 1992 (when the new ownership rules come into force).

Content to agree Douglas Hurd's proposed statement subject to the Lord Young/Brian Griffiths point on DBS and to clarification of the takeover regime between the date of announcement and January 1992?

PRG.

(PAUL GRAY)

12 May 1989

DA2AAY

Yes not