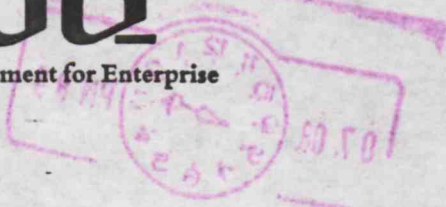


celph

dti

the department for Enterprise



The Rt. Hon. Nicholas Ridley MP
Secretary of State for Trade and Industry

Rt Hon Douglas Hurd CBE MP
Secretary of State for the
Home Department
Queen Anne's Gate
London SW1H 9AT

**Department of
Trade and Industry**

1-19 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0ET

Enquiries
01-215 5000

Telex 8811074/5 DTHQ G
Fax 01-222 2629

Direct line 215 5422
Our ref PS4CNG
Your ref
Date

7 August 1989

Dear Douglas

see with CS

You copied to me your minute of 28 July to the Prime Minister about the powers you propose should be given to the Independent Television Commission (ITC) in respect of political broadcasts.

Your proposals seem to strike the right balance between the need to ensure access to television on particular occasions with our general wish to reduce the burden of regulation on the broadcasters, and, as such, I support them. I think we should recognise, however, that it is quite possible that they will mark the end of networked party political broadcasts on commercial television and lead to a more ad hoc system in which individual Channel 3 licensees or groups of them will feature such broadcasts in a way best suited to their own schedules, if at all.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, Geoffrey Howe, other MISCL28 colleagues, David Waddington and Kenneth Baker.

Johnson
Andrews

BROADCASTING: BBC Finance PT3

