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ITN SOURCE ARCHIVE FOOTAGE USED IN AWARD-WINNING TONY BENN HOMAGE ‘WILL & TESTAMENT’

ITN Source material and Tony Benn’s personal archive feature in Praslin Pictures’ film ‘Will & Testament’ a recent winner at the EIFF

Tony Benn film ‘Will & Testament’ was awarded the 68th Edinburgh International Film Festival Audience Award. The film’s producers paid tribute to the impact ITN Source archive footage made to the production.

The film tells the story of Tony Benn in his own words through the use of archive news material supplied by ITN Source, footage licensing division of ITN, and intimate quasi-confessional interviews with the veteran Labour Party MP to tell his life story and talk about his long political career. A 30” version has already won plaudits at screenings across the country, including at the Edinburgh Fringe and Miners’ Gala in Durham. Praslin Pictures now has the full-length film in post-production, due for cinematic release this summer, followed by broadcast and DVD release.

The archive elements of the film include previously unseen material from Tony Benn’s personal archive and substantial material from the ITN Source archive. 20 minutes of clips supplied by ITN Source include:

- Benn being interviewed in a studio about the Judge’s decision to keep him out of Parliament.
- The March for Jobs in 1988 where Benn states: “they can call me a flat earther, a Jesuit…I don’t care”.
- The speech he made during the Labour Party leadership campaign, where he says the Labour Party has tried to and failed to change the face of capitalism.

A spokesperson for Praslin Pictures paid tribute to the impact ITN Source archive material made to the film. He said: “Praslin Pictures owes ITN Source and Simon Wood, it’s Head of UK Sales (Simon became a friend of the Production) a huge debt of gratitude and we were proud to say this in-front of the sell-out screening at the World Premiere at the Edinburgh International Film Festival, where Tony Benn: Will and Testament was voted best film of the festival.”

“The rich ITN archive has footage of the defining moments of Tony Benn’s political life – from when he was one of the youngest MPs in Parliament, to his time at the heart of Government and then his role still in the public eye after he retired as an MP” said Simon Wood, Head of UK Sales at ITN Source. “Through our digitisation project, we’ve been able to make even more footage available to production companies such as Praslin Pictures, so they can search and access our content more easily for use in any programmes or films they’re developing.”
Ends.

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About ITN Source
ITN Source is the footage sales arm of leading news and multimedia content provider, ITN. ITN Source syndicates on-the-day and archive content to a global customer base. Its content spans multiple genres including news, drama, celebrity, environment, music, comedy, wildlife, natural history and film. ITN Source represents archive footage from ITN, Reuters, ITV, Fox Movietone, ANI and Channel 9 News, amongst many others. More information can be found at www.itnsource.com.