

PRIME MINISTER

The Chief Whip telephoned to let you know of two developments that might appear in tomorrow morning's newspapers:-

1. The Labour Party decided at the Shadow Cabinet this evening to ask for more "Short money". The Chief Whip does not take this request very seriously.
2. There is a row brewing over the Home Secretary's reluctance to serve on the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill Committee. He is already on the Prevention of Terrorism Bill Committee and the Opposition refuse to give a firm date by which this committee will have concluded. The Chief Whip has advised the Home Secretary nevertheless to go on the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill Committee, on the understanding that he will only attend occasionally. Mr. Brittan is mulling over this suggestion and promises to give Mr. Kaufman an answer tomorrow. If the answer is "no", the Labour Party will make a fuss.

F.R.B.

9 November 1983