

PRIME MINISTER

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Dubs
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The National Prosecution Service

As expected, H Committee decided in favour of the introduction of a national independent prosecution service despite the weight of opinion in consultation in favour of a local service. (H(82) 6th Mtg)

Some doubts were expressed about the Home Secretary's manpower and expenditure estimates. It was suggested that the forecast net saving of £3m might even become a net cost of about the same order. It was agreed that further attention should be paid to the scope for efficiency savings.

The Home Secretary will be working towards an announcement in the next few weeks. This will require careful handling, in relation both to the interests of the staff affected and in relation to the sensitivities of local authorities.

Dubs

5 March 1984