

PRIME MINISTER

M. DUMAS' VISIT

Geoffrey Howe gave Dumas dinner tonight. Dumas said he had just been to Bonn and it was clear to him that the Germans would not be putting up a candidate for President of the Commission. He had then made a case for Cheysson but abandoned it very rapidly. When Geoffrey Howe put forward Davignon's name, Dumas had simply walked past it. Geoffrey Howe's impression is that the whole exercise was mounted so that Dumas could report that he had done his best for Cheysson but failed and the field was open to Delors.

Duty Clerk

PP

C D Powell

16 July 1984