CONFIDENTIAL



Prime Minister

White Paper will assume

Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SWIP 3AG 01-233 3000

before 31 March.

FOREIGN SECRETARY

PUBLIC EXPENDITURE WHITE PAPER: NET CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONS

Thank you for your minute of 30 January in reply to mine of 24 January about the vexed question of the £42 million and the PEWP.

- I am sorry that you were not entirely happy with my compromise. I myself still think it the right solution, and one which - by dropping the references in the text - took account of your points. But I fear that we can now only agree to differ, for the fact is that it is now too late to change the figures in the White Paper, for there would have to be consequential changes to most of the tables in Part I, and a new computer run.
- Copies of this minute go to the Prime Minister and Sir Robert Armstrong.

(N.L.) 1 February 1984

Euro Por Budger Prezz

