

From: The Rt. Hon. Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

22nd March, 1976

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter of 17th March about the BBC's invitation to Galbraith.

I entirely share your anxiety about the effect upon British public opinion of such a massive exposure of so plausible an advocate of the wrong approach. My anxieties about the influence of Galbraith were amply confirmed when I heard a Czech, free to come to this country during the brief era of Dubcek freedom, acclaiming that period as one in which his unhappy people were, for a time, allowed to read something of what was being said by Western economists other than Galbraith!

The proper balance to Galbraith might be provided by a series of talks from Hayek or Friedman. Of the alternatives you suggest, my own preference would be along the lines set out in the third paragraph on your second page - possibly linked with the suggestion that either of the people I have mentioned, or McFadzean, might be invited to give the next available series of Reith Lectures.

I am copying this letter to Margaret and Willie.

The Rt. Hon. Sir Keith Joseph Bt., M.P.