

HOOVER INSTITUTION

ON WAR, REVOLUTION AND PEACE

Stanford, California 94305



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AS/RSW

Mr. Ralph Harris
The Institute of Economic Affairs
2 Lord North Street, Westminster
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Dear Ralph:

This is the first chance I have had to reply to your letter of November 3.

> | The dates of our visit to Britain are now reasonably well fixed. We shall be there from something like March 18 to April 10. That is subject to change by a few days either way, but the central part of it will stay. As that suggests, so far as the Political Economy Group is concerned, that rules out both February 7 and March 7 but it does leave as a possibility April 7.

With respect to the Harry Johnson Memorial Fund, which I am delighted to know that you are establishing, it would not be feasible for me to make a special trip to Britain to give a public lecture for that fund. You are quite right that the fee is not a factor that would play much of a role one way or another. The more important factor is that I have spent most of the past five months on the TV series and in the process have accumulated an enormous amount of work that I have to do. In addition, Rose and I must complete before June a book to come out at the same time as the TV program, and the three or four weeks that we spend in England promise to be extremely busy weeks devoted to going over and dubbing the TV series which hopefully Video Arts will have ready for us then.

As a result I am most reluctant to undertake any obligations that I can possibly avoid. In particular, I would not really be willing to undertake more than one public performance during the period when I am in Britain for those three weeks. If that is not too late for the Harry Johnson Lecture, I would be delighted to give that instead of appearing at the Political Economy Group. Alternatively, on the other hand, if you would prefer that I appear at the Political Economy Group, that would be okay, too. But I feel it is essential for me to limit as narrowly as I can public performances of that kind if I am going to be able to devote my full attention to getting the TV series in proper shape.

This also applies to the Kaldor letter. It is a silly absurd letter, and I think it will die of its own weight. I don't really think it needs an authoritative answer.

With respect to the review by Michael Stewart, you called it a love-hate review. It obviously has both elements, but I was astounded at how favorable it was to

Mr. Ralph Harris

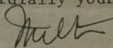
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you. I would regard it as almost a rave review given its source.

Rose and I both enjoyed our dinner with Margaret Thatcher and the two of you very much indeed. She is a very attractive and interesting lady. Whether she really has the capacities that Britain so badly needs at this time, I must confess, seems to me still a very open question but we shall I hope have some proof of that in the not too distant future.

Rose joins me in sending our very best to you and Josie as well as to the Seldons and all our other good friends. Look forward to seeing you in March-- assuming that you don't get over to this side of the water before then.

Cordially yours,



Milton Friedman

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Enclosure