

Gordon Reece

Prime Minister  
to see

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Dear Prime Minister

I understand from reliable and confidential sources within the BBC that yesterday the Director-General instructed all BBC outlets to interview the Director-General without any contrary opinion being broadcast - that is without balance of any sort.

Only one producer, David Dickinson of Newsnight, objected and refused to take the Director-General at all on those terms.

Great pressure was put on him. He continued to refuse and of course his job is in jeopardy.

As it happens, he is one of my candidates for a new head of BBC News if my proposal that I put to you last week should ever come to success.

He will be at my Christmas party tomorrow and I will make sure he meets you.

Another BBC man I want you to meet, this time in Radio, is Francis Hailwood, who has, I am informed, spoken up well for democratic process in broadcasting at internal BBC meetings. He is involved in News at One and the PM programme.

Yours  
Gordon

The Prime Minister.