

The Rt. Hon. David Cameron MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1A 2AA

February 13, 2012

Dear Prime Minister,

Following a meeting with His Holiness the Dalai Lama last June in Westminster Abbey, we have come together as a unique group of British people with direct family ties to Tibet going back over 200 years. We are writing to urge Her Majesty's government to take a leadership role in addressing the grave situation in Tibet today.

As the on-going self-immolations attest, all parties involved with the current impasse are paying an immense price. Tibetans are paying with their lives, but China is paying with lost goodwill around the world. This is unnecessary and avoidable and, as a friend to both parties, we would urge you to promote genuine dialogue so that the Tibetan and Chinese peoples can live alongside each other in mutual respect, acting as a beacon of peace and reconciliation to the region and to the world.

Britain has extensive experience in Asia. It has also played a notable role in conflict resolution in Northern Ireland. Our country and government have demonstrated a capacity to achieve astounding results in establishing dialogue where none seemed possible. We are confident that a concerted effort by the government to address the current situation in Tibet at this critical time will yield positive and substantial results. We would like to suggest the following affirmative actions:

- Offer assistance to the new Chinese leadership to overcome the deadlock in their talks with the Tibetan Government in Exile;
- Review and strengthen UK policies to ensure that Her Majesty's Government's position on Tibet both effectively reflects our nation's standards on human rights, and grants a commensurate value to the national historical culture of the Tibetan people;
- Work to ease the security clampdown on Tibetans, and petition the United Nations General Assembly, perhaps requesting an investigative human rights team be sent to Tibet.

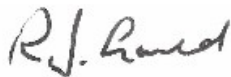
The majority of the British people support the restoration of human rights in Tibet. The UK has an on-going responsibility and duty to Tibet, having signed treaties with this nation in the past.

We trust that our suggestions meet with your broad approval. We would like to request a meeting with you at the earliest convenience to discuss these affirmative strategies and how we might also be involved.

We would also like to inform you that a copy of this letter has been sent today to the Daily Telegraph.

Yours sincerely

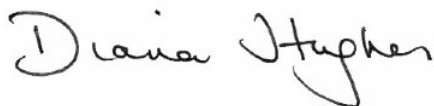
The Undersigned, **Friends of British in Tibet**



Richard John Gould (90 years old)
Eldest Son of the Late Sir Basil John Gould
(British Political Officer Sikkim,
Bhutan and Tibet 1935-1945)



David Gould
Decoder, British Office,
Phari, Tibet



Diana Hughes
Daughter of Captain (Dr) Harry Staunton
IMS Civil Surgeon for Tibet, Sikkim
and Bhutan 1940-42)

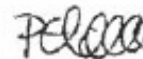


Dorothy Staunton
(Dr Harry Staunton, 1940-42)

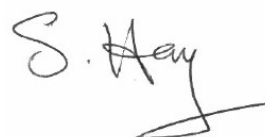
David Hughes



Giles Ford
(Son of Robert Ford,
Radio Operator in Tibet until 1950)



Peter E. Odell
(Grandson of Noel E. Odell,
Everest Expeditions 1924 and
1938)



Dr Phillip Hay
(Grandson of Geoffrey Bruce,
Everest Expeditions 1922 and 1924 Expeditions
Indian Army)



Rebecca Hay
(Great Granddaughter)

Sima Hay
(Daughter-in-Law)



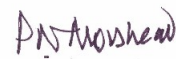
Kate Wentworth (nee
Hopkinson)



Ben Hopkinson
(Children of AJ Hopkinson
last British Political Officer
and
Resident in Sikkim, 1944-48)



Patricia Shepherd Rogers
(Daughter of General Ken Shepherd
Tibet, Lhasa 1938)



(Piers) Nigel Morshead



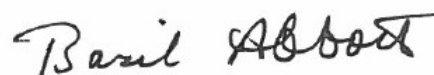
Alastair Pailthorpe
(Sons of Desmond Pailthorpe
British expedition to Tibet 1946)



M Pailthorpe



Robin D Almond
Great Grandnephew of
ST George Littledale



Basil Abbott
Thomas Manning, the first European
to meet the Dalai Lama

Late 19th Century Explorer



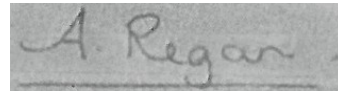
Anne Battye
Daughter of Captain Keith Battye,
Political Agent Gyantse 1935
Travelled to Lhasa with Derrick Williamson



Maya Sprigg (Smith)
Great Granddaughter of David
MacDonald British Trade
Agent to Yartung and
Gyantse)



(Rev) Richard Thornburgh
Nephew of Major D Thornburgh
Political Office at Gyantse and one of the
British Representatives at the enthronement of
The 14th Dalai Lama, Lhasa 1940



Aileen Regan
Granddaughter of
John Nelson-Turner 1910

Joanna Lumley
Actress
(signatory in absentia)

Pemma Fox
(signatory in absentia)

Michael Rank
(signatory in absentia)

Friends of British in Tibet

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