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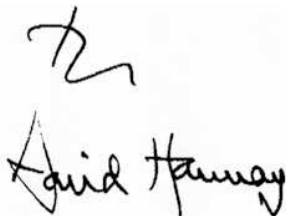
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Dear Mark,

You may recall that, some time ago, I raised in the House of Lords the possibility of the Government giving its backing to the idea of a memorial being erected to the memory of British peacekeepers and humanitarian workers who have in the past or will in the future lose their lives while serving in UN peace operations. You said at the time that you would give further thought to the idea.

I wonder if you could let me know where your thinking now stands. In that context, I enclose a copy of a resolution which was adopted at the UN Association's annual conference in Edinburgh last weekend and which supports the idea of such a memorial. In addition, the resolution urges the Government to support at the UN the idea of establishing a UN award for exceptional merit or bravery while serving on a UN peace operation. Our thinking is that something more is needed than the present system of giving UN peacekeepers a routine medal simply for serving in such operations, although that routine award should certainly be retained. An award for exceptional merit or bravery would, among other things, be a way of drawing to the attention of the general public the quite remarkable service of many UN peacekeepers and humanitarian workers which currently all too often passes unnoticed.



Lord Hannay of Chiswick
Chair, UNA-UK