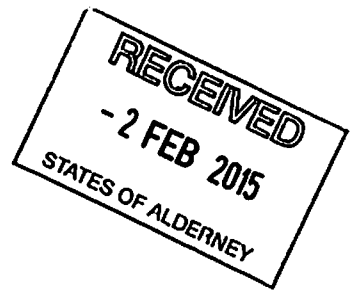


AMBASSADE DE FRANCE  
LONDRES



L'AMBASSADEUR

15 January 2015

Dear President Trought,

I would like to thank you very warmly for your letter of condolence following the Paris terror attacks. I and my team were very touched by your message.

France was attacked for three consecutive days: on Wednesday 7 January, with the attack against the satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo, which killed 12 people; on Thursday 8 January, with the murder of a municipal policewoman and the assault on an employee in Montrouge; and on Friday 9 January, with two hostage-taking incidents, which killed four people.

Many victims of this barbaric violence – cartoonists and journalists – were killed for daring to express themselves freely. They died defending a right that sits at the heart of the values of the French Republic, and as such they, as President Hollande declared, are our heroes.

Following this atrocious attack on free speech, we must unite in defiance and solidarity. Freedom, democracy and the right to expression will always triumph over violence and cruelty.

The displays of solidarity we have seen here in the United Kingdom and around the world have been remarkable and are a testament to the power of unity in the face of attempts to divide us. Millions of people the world over have gathered, whether on social media or on the streets, to reject this attack on freedom and reaffirm their shared belief in the values we cherish.

France will continue to fight for the message of freedom, in the name of those who died defending it and in the name of all that we hold dear.

In this fight, we must act together, and this is why, in these difficult times, your support is very important to us.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sylvie Bermann".

Sylvie Bermann

Mr Stuart Trought  
President  
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