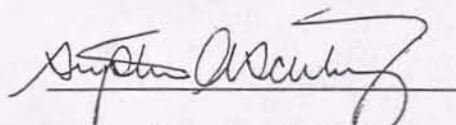


TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

21 July 2000

During the past two years, as Director of the China Desk, I have received a number of reports from DRL consultant George Lister regarding his contacts with the Chinese dissident community in the United States.

It has been useful for us on the desk to have this "outside look" at the activities and motivations of exiled dissidents. In addition, having George be the person in the Department who maintains regular, frequent contact with members of the US-based community, gives my human rights and other political officers an appropriate degree of separation from the day-to-day concerns of exiles. Our crushing workload would, in any event, preclude us from doing the same kind of thorough coverage of this topic that George does.



Stephen A. Schlaikjer
Director, Office of Chinese &
Mongolian Affairs
Department of State