



Celia Sandys

Celia Sandys, granddaughter of Winston Churchill, has a well-established reputation as an authority on the life of Churchill. She has lectured in America, Britain, Canada, South Africa, and Japan. Celia has appeared many times on television, including C-Span, Hardball, the Charlie Rose Show and numerous TV documentaries about Churchill. She is the author of five books on Churchill, a trustee of the Churchill Centre, and founder of Churchill Leadership, Inc.

In July 2008, PBS aired a three-part mini-series, *Chasing Churchill*, based on Celia's book of the same title. In 2003, as part of her research for her book, Celia retraced many of Churchill's worldwide political and private travels, meeting with people who recalled Churchill. Mirroring the man and his interests, the book combines travel, history, and art.

As a teenager, Celia had memorable travels with her grandfather. Particularly noteworthy was a three-week cruise in 1959 aboard Aristotle Onassis' extraordinary yacht, the *Christina*. Onassis, then married to his first wife, Tina, openly began his famous affair with Maria Callas during the cruise. Celia said, "Tall, dark, and striking in a reptilian sort of way was my first impression of Maria Callas."

In the aftermath of September 11, 2001, Celia was inundated with letters from leaders throughout the world. These leaders all conveyed the same message: the words and inspiration of Winston Churchill provided enormous strength for them as they dealt with the leadership challenges presented by this unprecedented trauma. Rudy Giuliani wrote, "Your grandfather was a great source of inspiration and strength to me following the tragic events of September 11th."

The full significance of Churchill, already heralded as the greatest leader of the 20th century, was brought to the forefront. As Celia commented, "After 9/11, it was if Churchill literally stepped out of the history books onto the international stage. As a result, Celia was inspired to write her book, *We Shall Not Fail; the Inspiring Leadership of Winston Churchill*.

With her authoritative knowledge of Churchill, Celia delights audiences on a variety of topics. These include Churchill's traits as a leader, his remarkable younger years, his lifelong support of the Jews and a Zionist state, his extraordinary wit and humor, and his relevance to the present.