



## Jimmy Carter Library & Museum News Release

441 Freedom Parkway, Atlanta, GA 30307-1498  
404-865-7100

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**Contact: Tony Clark, 404-865-7109**

[Tony.Clark@NARA.gov](mailto:Tony.Clark@NARA.gov)

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### **FORMER AMBASSADOR TO LEBANON TO VISIT CARTER LIBRARY** *AMBASSADOR JOHN GUNTHER DEAN AVAILABLE FOR MEDIA INTERVIEWS*

**ATLANTA, GA.-** FORMER LEBANON AMBASSADOR JOHN GUNTHER DEAN WILL BE AVAILABLE TO DISCUSS THE CURRENT SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST AT AN 11 AM NEWS CONFERENCE ON THURSDAY APRIL 26<sup>TH</sup> AT THE CARTER PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY. DEAN'S BACKGROUND AS U.S. AMBASSADOR TO LEBANON, INDIA, THAILAND, DENMARK AND CAMBODIA GIVES HIM A KEEN UNDERSTANDING OF THE CAUSES FOR CURRENT WORLD EVENTS, PARTICULARLY CONCERNING AFGHANISTAN AND THE MIDDLE EAST.

"AMBASSADOR DEAN CAN PROVIDE INSIGHT INTO THE CONFLICT IN MIDDLE EAST, BECAUSE OF HIS LENGTHY FOREIGN SERVICE CAREER AND HIS SERVICE IN THE WORLD'S HOT SPOTS," CARTER LIBRARY DEPUTY DIRECTOR BOB BOHANAN SAID.

JOHN GUNTHER DEAN, WHO CURRENTLY LIVES IN PARIS, SERVED AS U.S. AMBASSADOR TO CAMBODIA, DENMARK, LEBANON, THAILAND, AND INDIA DURING A FOREIGN SERVICE CAREER THAT STRETCHED FROM 1956 TO 1989.

AMBASSADOR DEAN'S DIPLOMATIC PAPERS AND ORAL HISTORY HAVE BEEN DONATED TO THE CARTER PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND ARE AVAILABLE TO RESEARCHERS. THE CARTER LIBRARY IS ALSO PREPARING TO MAKE THE DEAN PAPERS AVAILABLE ONLINE. THE COLLECTION DOCUMENTS HIS ROLE IN SOME OF THE MOST IMPORTANT DIPLOMATIC EVENTS OF THE COLD WAR, INCLUDING THE VIETNAM WAR, THE PARIS PEACE TALKS, AN ATTEMPTED COUP IN LAOS AND THE FINAL YEAR OF AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC PRESENCE IN CAMBODIA. RESEARCHERS WILL GAIN A BETTER KNOWLEDGE OF AFGHANISTAN TODAY AFTER READING DEAN'S PAPERS BEGINNING IN THE LATE 1980'S ON U.S. INVOLVEMENT IN SETTING A TIMETABLE FOR SOVIET WITHDRAWAL FROM AFGHANISTAN. IN ADDITION, AMBASSADOR DEAN'S MATERIALS PROVIDE NEW INSIGHTS ON INDIA'S RELATIONSHIP WITH RUSSIA AND ISRAEL.

"THIS IS ONE OF THE BEST COLLECTIONS OF PERSONAL PAPERS ON DIPLOMACY I SEEN IN MY TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AS A PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY ARCHIVIST," BOHANAN ADDED. THE PAPERS DESCRIBE DEAN'S ROLE IN COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE CARTER WHITE HOUSE AND THE PLO, AS WELL AS THE 1980 ATTEMPT ON DEAN'S LIFE WHILE HE WAS AMBASSADOR TO LEBANON. IN ADDITION, THE MATERIALS PROVIDE INSIGHT INTO NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION IN SOUTH ASIA AND DEAN'S WORK WITH INDIA'S PRIME MINISTER RAJIV GANDHI.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE CARTER LIBRARY AT (404) 865-7109.