

Sri Chinmoy: The Peace Meditation
at the United Nations
and the UNSRC Society of Writers
request the honour of your presence

to celebrate the life and work
of **John Fitzgerald Kennedy, Jr.**

with musical and video tributes

Tuesday, 27 July 1999 1 p.m.
Dag Hammarskjöld Auditorium, United Nations

RSVP: (718) 739-4332

Date: 7/30/99
Page 1 of 3 pages

From: Chameli Herdes Phone: 212-415-4275
To: Harry Cahill FAX 703-827-7550

Thank you again for your kind response to my "last minute" request. Attached is a wire story that went out about the event, which I thought you would like to see
Regards, Chameli.

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July 27, 1999; Tuesday 21:28 Eastern Time

SECTION: Domestic, non-Washington, general news item

LENGTH: 434 words

HEADLINE: U.N. Pays Tribute to JFK Jr.

BYLINE: EDITH M. LEDERER

DATELINE: UNITED NATIONS

BODY:

An Indian guru played the flute. A choral group sang a song he wrote that began "John, John, John Kennedy." And tributes were read from around the world from Nelson Mandela, Elie Weisel and Carl Lewis, to name a few.

There were no famous faces in the audience, just ordinary people who came to the United Nations Tuesday to honor an American president's son who made his own mark during his 38 years.

The celebration was organized by guru Sri Chinmoy, who runs The Peace Meditation group at the United Nations, and the U.N. staff's Society of Writers. It included tributes from around the globe for John F. Kennedy Jr., who died with his wife and her sister when their plane crashed into the Atlantic Ocean.

After Chinmoy spoke of every person being "a traveler on eternity's road" and played a mournful flute solo, members of the meditation group read more than 20 tributes including one from Mandela, who was described as a hero of Kennedy's.

"John F. Kennedy Jr. should be celebrated in death even as he was celebrated in life," the recently retired South African leader said in a message from Johannesburg.

When Kennedy was a sophomore at Brown University, Andrew Young, former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, recalled that the young Kennedy visited South Africa and led an effort at the college to end apartheid.

"I was invited to be the keynote speaker and saw that, for his own speech, he wore his father's sport coat. Here was this tall, skinny 19-year-old

preparing himself to fill his father's shoes," said Young, a former Atlanta mayor.

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan said he shared "the widespread admiration for John's compassion, humanity and the fortitude which he showed from an early age."

Others spoke of Kennedy's international impact.

"I hope that his life of concern for his fellow human beings will be an enduring inspiration not only to Americans but to people the world over,"

said Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien.

Many tributes focused on Kennedy's charitable works.

"We all wish we could be like John to be in the spotlight and yet to lead a life that everyone is extremely proud of," wrote Olympic runner Carl Lewis.

Weisel, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, asked: "Were the gods jealous of him? Jealous of his youthful grace and exuberance? Jealous of his love of life? Or jealous perhaps of a nation's admiration of his desire to give hope rather than evoke remorse?"

Cardinal Jaime Sin, archbishop of Manila, had an answer: "Maybe God wanted him to come to him earlier. Maybe God needed him in heaven."

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: July 27, 1999

From Chameli Herdes, U.S. Mission to the United Nations
Remarks by Mr. Harry Cahill
Former U.S. Consul General - Bombay India
And former Deputy U.S. Representative on the United Nations
Economic and Social Council

One hundred years ago
A world-famous English writer,
Who was born in India and lived in America,
Wrote a poem
that describes John.

"If you can dream – and not make dreams your master,
If you can think – and not make thoughts your aim;
If you can meet with triumph and disaster
And treat those two impostors just the same ...
If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
If you can walk with kings – nor lose the common touch
... You'll be a Man, my son."

We remember John for his smile, his warmth,
His intelligence and humor,
His courage and joyous embrace of life,
His heritage from two great parents.

But there was far more.

There was a seriousness behind that sparkle.
And a steady, constructive effort to make this world a better place.

He worked hard to show us the real face of politics and how
Crucial it is to all of us. He pioneered a magazine that gave
Fresh political insight and awareness.
He worked hard in the Kennedy school at Harvard to strengthen our
Knowledge and understanding of government and the needs of society.
He worked long and hard in charitable foundations to help
Underprivileged children, the mentally disabled, the needy and neglected.
He worked with citizens of many countries to understand and
Support their views and reinforce world peace.

He did this quietly, never calling attention to what he did.

But in all he did, one thought was dominant – the Brotherhood of Man.

He reached out to all people
Regardless of race, stature, background.
He wanted to do all he could to lift up all people to a better life.
He humbly, tirelessly did this in many ways.

John is his father's son.
He is our son too.
We can keep him close
By moving forward to the same goals –
To truly know and love mankind,
To truly try to make this world a better place.

To: Chameli Herdes, U.S. Mission to the United Nations
From: Harry Cahill
Date: July 27, 1999

Here is a suggested text. My warmest good wishes go to you and Sri Chinmoy.

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a world-famous English writer,
who was born in India and lived in America,
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*Chameli Herdes
151-01 84th Drive
Jamaica, New York 11432
September 1, 1999*

Dear Mr. Cahill:

I am pleased to enclose the two books I had promised you. One is a copy of the messages read out during the John F. Kennedy, Jr. memorial service at the UN on July 27, which you so kindly contributed to. The other is a tribute to John Kennedy written by Sri Chinmoy.

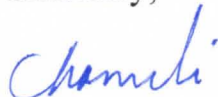
This week ended the two-week birthday celebration for Guru's 68th birthday. We had 1500 disciples assembled together from all over the world. It was a true Oneness-World-Family, filled with inspiration and aspiration, as only Guru can orchestrate. Sri Chinmoy's Millennium Peace concert is scheduled for November 13th in Central Park. Guru's encouraging words for the New Millennium:

*In the New Millennium
God's Compassion-Rain shall again descend
In Measureless measure.
And this time it will be greeted by
Humanity's wide open receptivity-heart-door.*

I look forward to seeing you again, soon, in New York. I know that Guru would also find great joy in seeing you again as well. Please call if you have the chance. I still have my same office number – 212-415-4275

Please stay well. Love to Nickie. And again thank you so much for your beautiful words.

Sincerely,



Chameli



UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

799 UNITED NATIONS PLAZA
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

HENRY A. CAHILL

Harry A. Cahill, a career Foreign Service Officer with the rank of Minister-Counselor, joined the United States Mission to the United Nations as Deputy Representative to the Economic and Social Council on September 8, 1987.

Prior to his appointment, Mr. Cahill was United States Consul General in Bombay, India. His previous duty tours were as Director of the United States Commercial Service in the Department of Commerce in Washington and as Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy at the U.S. Embassy in Sri Lanka.

Joining the Department of State in 1956, Mr. Cahill has also served in Norway, Poland, Yugoslavia, Uruguay and Nigeria. His Washington assignments have included duty at both the Departments of State and Commerce.

Mr. Cahill was born in New York City and studied at Manhattan College, Johns Hopkins University and George Washington University. He also attended the National Defense University and the Senior Seminar. He has a master's degree in Management. He is married to the former Angelica Ravazzoli McDermott of Argentina.

September 1987