

# U THANT ISLAND:

COMPASSION FRIEND



United Nations Meditation Group  
Sri Chinmoy, Director  
16 September 1977

## PROGRAMME

### *Silent Invocation*

Sri Chinmoy  
Director  
United Nations Meditation Group

### *Commemorations*

Sri Chinmoy

Robert Muller  
Director and Deputy to the Under-Secretary-General  
for Inter-Agency Affairs and Co-ordination

Sita Simian  
Staff Aide  
to the Honourable Governor Hugh Carey

Sylvia Fuhrman  
Special Representative of the Secretary-General  
United Nations International School

Donald Keys  
Representative  
World Association of World Federalists

Louis F. Mastriani  
Commissioner  
Department of Ports and Terminals  
City of New York

Nancy Neal  
Project Co-ordinator  
Department of Ports and Terminals  
City of New York

Kevin Keefe  
UNICEF staff member  
On behalf of the 'International Year of the Child', Secretariat

*Dedication-Song*  
United Nations Meditation Group

*Unveiling of Plaque*  
Mrs. Myint U

### *Enshrining of Cornerstone*

With the permission of Colonel H.A. Trimble, Chief, Security and Safety Service, Officer Carlos Stozek, who worked very closely with the late Secretary-General U Thant while he was in Office, is representing the Security and Safety Service.

Officer Stozek will break ground for the enshrining of the cornerstone.

### *ENSHRINED IN THE CORNERSTONE*

#### *— Personal artifacts*

A gold pen and tie clasp belonging to U Thant,  
both inscribed with his name.

#### *— Commemorative offerings*

- Photograph of U Thant and Sri Chinmoy*
- Book: "U Thant: Divinity's Smile—Humanity's Cry"—Sri Chinmoy*
- Pamphlet: "The Example of a Great Ethical Statesman: U Thant"*
  - Robert Muller*
- Flag of the United Nations*
- American Flag*
- Flag of the State of New York*
- Reproduction of official letter of soulful dedication from the Honourable Hugh Carey, Governor of New York State, on the life of U Thant, the dedication of U Thant Island and the world-service of the United Nations*
- Copy of permit to beautify U Thant Island issued by New York State, Real Estate Division*
- United Nations Meditation Group banner*
- Photograph of U Thant at the United Nations International School and historical record of U Thant's close relationship to the school*
- UNICEF emblem and emblem of the International Year of the Child*
- Resolution A/Res./31/169 of the 31st Session of the General Assembly proclaiming 1979 as the Year of the Child (14 February 1977)*
- Insignia and historical record of New York City's waterways (New York City Police Department, Harbor Unit)*
- Insignia and Statement of Purpose of the Marine Division, Fire Department, City of New York)*
- Photograph of U Thant Island*
- Copy of letter of support from the Metropolitan Transportation Authority*
- Small bust of U Thant by Mazzone in bas-relief—"Marmo tenero verde cipollino" (Sculpture in tender green onyx)*
- Song sheet: "Hymn to the United Nations," music by Pablo Casals, poem by W.H. Auden*
- Songbook dedicated to the soul of the United Nations: United Nations Meditation Group*



EXCERPTS FROM  
SPEECHES AND WRITINGS  
OF U THANT

There is no peace in the world today because there is no peace in the minds of men.

\* \* \*

One of the great tasks of education all over the world is to educate the young for peace because, on the question of peace, no man of good will can be neutral.

\* \* \*

We have already begun to realise that in modern war there is no such thing as victor and vanquished: that there is only a loser, and that loser is mankind.

\* \* \*

In the wake of the most catastrophic war in the history of mankind, humanity had a new vision: it saw the glimmer of dawn in a warless world.

\* \* \*

Pure intellectual development unaccompanied by a corresponding moral and spiritual development will lead mankind from one crisis to another. Moral qualities of friendship, humility and the desire to understand the other point of view are as important as intellectual excellence.

\* \* \*

Every man or woman should not only ask himself or herself what he or she is going to do in the world, but also ask, "Will there be a world in which I can live?"

\* \* \*

The revolution brought by science and technology to the developed nations is a revolutionary extension of human freedom. Freedom is choice. Freedom is the ability to act. . . .

\* \* \*

. . . the teachers are the true architects of minds, and the students are the true builders of peace. If the teachers instruct the younger generation in the ways of peace, not only will their work succeed, but the basic idea of peace in our time will triumph.



EXCERPTS FROM  
"THE EXAMPLE OF A GREAT ETHICAL  
STATESMAN: U THANT"  
BY ROBERT MULLER

I am forever thankful to U Thant for having reminded me of the teachings of all great religions, namely, that man finds bliss in seeing himself as part of an eternal stream of life and betterment rather than as a god-like, arrogant, self-contained cluster of material interests and greed. Spirituality and righteousness were to him infinitely more important than intelligence and success.

\* \* \*

Humility and the lowering of one's ego lead in the end to righteousness, happiness and the full mastery over oneself, enriched by the thoughts, dreams and feelings of others. Together with meditation, it is perhaps the clue to serenity in our bewildered, complex world. U Thant was a living proof of it.

EXCERPTS FROM  
*U THANT: —DIVINITY'S SMILE—HUMANITY'S CRY*  
BY SRI CHINMOY

Simplicity was U Thant's life. Sincerity was U Thant's mind. Purity was U Thant's heart. His was the approach of serene and illumined dignity.

\* \* \*

Trumpet-dynamism U Thant was not. Flute-dynamism he was.  
A stranger was he to sound-life, an eternal friend of silence-life.  
Might is right: That can be the goal of countless individuals. Right is might: That was his only goal, the goal of goals.

\* \* \*

U Thant was a man of illumining and fulfilling determination. This determination was born of his disciplined life.

Some people are apt to distinguish academically between the earth-bound and the Heaven-free realities. Nevertheless, they do not or, rather, cannot come out of the snares of ignorance-life. Indeed, to our deepest joy and pride, U Thant was a very rare exception.

\* \* \*

Time and again the soul of the United Nations unreservedly clasped her beloved son, U Thant, to her heart.

\* \* \*

Each member of the United Nations basks in the sunshine of U Thant's supreme glory.

\* \* \*

What U Thant gave to the United Nations was nothing short of God's bountiful Concern-Light.

\* \* \*

U Thant was a perfect stranger to anger and rancour. What he offered was forgiveness. What he was, was a flood of compassion.

DEDICATION  
TO  
U THANT



Beloved Brother,  
man of silence,  
man of peace,  
may the Supreme grant your soul  
Eternity's Silence,  
Infinity's Peace.

— Sri Chinmoy

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Police Officer James J. Chambers, Special Projects Co-ordinator, N.Y.P.D. Harbour Unit  
Thomas J. Rush, Jr., Deputy Chief in Charge, Marine Division, Fire Dept., City of New York  
Mr. Harold L. Fisher, Chairman, Metropolitan Transportation Authority  
Col. John T. O'Neill, Executive Officer and Chief Engineer, New York City Transit Authority  
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— photos - United Nations