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Jorge Illueca (l.) receives award from Sri Chinmoy.

UN official honored in Jamaica

The president of the United Nations General Assembly, Jorge Illueca of Panama, received the U Thant Peace Award from Sri Chinmoy, the Indian guru of a Queens spiritual group, at a recent ceremony at Van Wyck Junior High School 217 in Jamaica.

Chinmoy, a meditation leader for members of the UN staff for the past 13 years, presented the award to Illueca "for his work exemplifying the spiritual values for which former UN Secretary General U Thant is remembered."

Chinmoy called Illueca a "roaring lion of the United Nations," and said the Panamanian serves as an "unparalleled brother in answering humanity's sorrowful cries."