

PRESS RELEASE

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DR. JOHN DUKE ANTHONY KNIGHTED BY KING OF MOROCCO

(Washington, June 21, 2000) Upon the conclusion of his first official state visit to the United States since succeeding his late father Hassan II on July 23, 1999, Moroccan King Muhammad VI bestowed one of Morocco's highest awards for civil excellence upon Dr. John Duke Anthony. In addition to being the publisher of GulfWire, Dr. Anthony is founder, president and chief executive officer of the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations.

Established in 1913 by Moroccan Sultan Moulay Youseff, the "Order of Ouissam Alaouite" is awarded in five classes in recognition of exceptional civil and military accomplishments. It is the premier Order of Morocco. Previous American recipients of the award include General George S. Patton.

The award was presented at a special ceremony following a meeting between the Moroccan King and Dr. Anthony at Blair House, the U.S. official residence for visiting heads of state. Among the 500 distinguished guests present were Members of Congress, representatives of the Administration and the diplomatic corps, and U.S. and foreign media.

Morocco is one of America's oldest allies, having recognized the fledgling U.S. Republic during the administration of President Washington. It remains in the forefront of Middle Eastern nations seeking reconciliation between Arabs and Jews pursuant to an effective resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

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A Richmond, Virginia native, Dr. Anthony is a graduate of VMI. In 1963, he won the Richmond Community Ambassador Award, a scholarship granted by local civic, religious, business, and professional groups. In fulfillment of the award, he lived with a family in an Egyptian village, from whence his career began as a Middle East specialist. He received masters and doctoral degrees from Georgetown's School of Foreign Service (With Distinction), and the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. A consultant to the U.S. Departments of Defense and State for the past 25 years, he has taken more than 200 Members of Congress and their chiefs of staff on familiarization visits to Arab, Middle Eastern, and Islamic countries.

Dr. Anthony is founder, president and chief executive officer of the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations, a nongovernmental educational foundation dedicated to enhancing American awareness of Arab culture and heritage and U.S.-Arab bilateral relations. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the founding president of the Middle East Educational Trust, a founder of the Commission on Israeli-Palestinian Peace, the founding president of the Society for Gulf Arab Studies, a founder and board member of the National Commission to Commemorate the 14th Centennial of Islam, founder of the annual U.S. MidEast Policymakers Conference, a founder of the U.S.-GCC Corporate Cooperation Committee, and chairman of the U.S.-Morocco Affairs Council.

In 1983, Dr. Anthony received the Distinguished Achievement Award of the

Department of Defense's Institute for Security Assistance Management, one of two granted to Middle East specialists in the Institute's history. In 1993, he received the Department of State's Distinguished Visiting Lecturer Award, one of three awarded over a span of 25 years in recognition of his preparation of American diplomatic and defense personnel assigned to the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf states. In 1994, he received the Stevens Award for Outstanding Contributions to American-Arab Understanding.

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