



(from left): Ambassador Gil Fernandes of Guine-Bissau, Paulo Almeida d'Eça, Domenick G. Scaglione, Prime Minister Pintasilgo.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HOSTS DINNER IN NEW YORK IN HONOR OF THE PRIME MINISTER OF PORTUGAL

On October 1st, the Chamber of Commerce hosted a dinner at The Pierre Hotel in honor of the Prime Minister of Portugal, Eng. Maria de Lourdes Pintasilgo, on the occasion of her visit to New York to address the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Other honored guests were the Foreign Minister of Portugal - Dr. João Freitas Cruz, Under Secretary of State Dra. Teresa Santa Clara Gomes, Mrs. Sharon Ahmad and Harry Cole from the U.S. Department of State, Dr. João Hall Themido - Ambassador of Portugal to the U.S., Dr. Futscher Pereira - Permanent Representative of Portugal to the U.N., and Dr. Inácio Rebello de Andrade - Consul General of Portugal in New York.

The reception in the Gold Room started promptly at 7:00 PM and the Board Members had the opportunity to greet the 300 invited guests.

In the Grand Balroom, the dais was presided by Mr. Domenick Scaglione, President of the Chamber. The portuguese wines served were well appreciated by our guests who enjoyed a true spirit of portuguese-american friendship.

Mr. Scaglione was the first speaker, introducing the dais guests and other honored personalities. He briefly outlined the past and future activities of the Chamber of Commerce and its importance in promoting commercial ties between Portugal and the U.S.. And finally, Mr. Scaglione introduced the guest of honor, Eng. Maria de Lourdes Pintasilgo, Prime Minister of Portugal, highlighting her achievements both in private and public life.

In replying, the Prime Minister spoke in very warm terms of the ties that unite both countries, of the difficulties that Portugal has had to face in the not distant past, and went on to mention the opportunities her country can offer both as a commercial and as an investment partner. The Prime Minister struck a particular note

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with regard to the attitude and performance of her government team in general, and the economic institutions in particular, in all matters concerned with the development and improvement of trade relations with the U.S., stressing the aggressiveness of measures adopted to facilitate the process of balancing the trade account and providing a strong basis in Portugal for U.S. companies looking to the E.E.C. Prime Minister Pintasilgo impressed our guests not only as an intelligent leader, but also as a very able speaker with a perfect command of the English language.

According to the press reports in both countries, the affair was considered another great success for our young and growing

Chamber of Commerce. And finally, we wish to print in full the kind telegram received from P.M. Pintasilgo upon returning to Lisbon:

'I sincerely express my gratitude for the excellent meeting promoted by the Chamber of Commerce during my trip to New York, in particular the true feeling of Portuguese-American friendship.

To the Board of Directors I thank the honor given to me, and I wish your Chamber of Commerce great success in achieving the goals that are our also, strengthening the ties between the United States and Portugal'.

Signed Maria de Lourdes Pintasilgo
P.M.