



World Peace Prize

**2010
TOP HONOR PRIZE**



Hon. Benjamin A. Gilman



Honorable Benjamin A. Gilman

Hon. Benjamin A. Gilman is recognized by the World Peace Prize Awarding Council for being a life-long champion of human rights: fighting world hunger, narcotic abuse and trafficking. He has made many successful efforts to bring about "prisoner exchanges" which resulted in freedom of American citizens in East Germany, Mozambique, Cuba and several other nations. Congressman Gilman served 15 terms (30 years) in the U.S. Congress. Prior to that, he served 6 years in the New York State Legislature as Assemblyman, and several years as Assistant Attorney General in the New York State Department of Law. While in Congress, he has served as Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and as Congressional delegate to the United Nations with title of Ambassador, and later the Ukrainian Famine Commission and Vice Chairman of the committee on POW's. Mr. Gilman has been the recipients of numerous honors including the President's Certificate of Outstanding Achievement "for continued, demonstrated vision, initiative, and leadership in the effort to achieve a world without hunger" and has annually received the "Peace Through Strength" Award presented by the American Security Council.

Prior to retiring from the 107th Congressional session (January 2003), Benjamin A. Gilman had accumulated thirty years of experience, applying his seniority and compassion for his constituents in upper New York. From 1995 to 2002, Gilman served as Chairman of the House International Relations Committee, applying his seasoned leadership experience having served as a member of this Committee since his Congressional inauguration in 1993.

During his federal tenure, Gilman served as the Congressional Delegate to the UN under Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick during the 1981 UN Session. He also served on the Ukraine Famine Commission, the US European, US Canadian, and US Mexican Interparliamentary Conferences in addition to membership as a Congressional Advisor to the UN Law of the Sea Conference, Co-Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Irish Affairs and the International Task Force on Narcotics. Subsequently, Ben was reappointed by President Bush as a Public Delegate to the 28th UN General Assembly as a Senior Advisor to U.S. Ambassador, John Negroponte.

In Gilman's extensive advocacy for Human Rights, he successfully concluded prisoner exchanges, providing freedom for prisoners in East Germany, Mozambique, Cuba, and the Soviet Union during which he also served as the Congressional Human Rights Caucus Executive Member.

During the 101st Congress (1989-1991), he chaired the Emigration of Soviet Jewry House Task Force. Speaker Foley appointed Gilman to the US Holocaust Memorial Council in 1993 and he was re-appointed by Speaker Gingrich in 1997.

Gilman served as the Senior Republican on the Government's Reform and Oversight



Committee and co-founded the House Select Committee on Narcotics, on which he was ranking Republican (1977-1989) actively serving that Committee until its abolition in 1993. Gilman also took part in fighting World Hunger and Malnutrition during the mid 1970's working with Hunger Champion singer-songwriter, Harry Chapin. Gilman authored legislation creating the Presidential Commission Against Hunger, subsequently serving on the Select Committee on World Hunger.

Congressman Gilman was a member of the Select Committee on POWS and MIA in Southeast Asia (1975-1977), subsequently serving as Chairman of the MIA and POW Task Force, and leading our nation's fight for an accounting of our POWs and MIAs in Vietnam, Laos, and China.

Born in Poughkeepsie, NY on December 6, 1922, Gilman was educated in the Middletown public schools, receiving his B.S. in Economics from the University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School of Business and Finance (1946) and earning his L.L.B. from New York Law School (1950) and honorary degrees from St. Thomas Aquinas College, Mercy College, Yeshiva College, Dominican College, and the INJE University of South Korea.

During WWII, Gilman served as Staff Sergeant in the 19th Bomb group of the 20th Air Force, flying 30 missions over Japan and earning his Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with Oak Leaf Clusters.

In the NY State Government, Gilman served as Assistant Attorney General in the NY State's Law Department and as Counsel to the State Assembly's Committee on Local Finance, having been elected a member of the NY State Assembly, serving from 1966-1972.

Gilman is a Member of the American Legion, the Disabled War Veterans, the Jewish War Veterans, the Masonic Veterans, is a former County Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and is a member of the Hudson-Delaware Boy Scout Council, the B.P.O. Elks, and the 33rd Degree Mason of Hoffman Lodge, a Colonel in the New York State Guard, a member of the International Enforcement Officers Association, and a Co-Founder of the NAACP chapter in Middletown, NY.

Gilman is currently serving on the Board of Directors for the International Medical Relief Foundation, Cooperation Ireland, the Humpty Dumpty Institute serving the UN, the American University of Antigua, Benai Zion, the American Friends of Shakespeare, and is an advisor to the U.S. Institute of Peace, the World Hunger Year, the Population Institute, and the New York Law School.

Ben Gilman married the former Georgia Nickles Tingus and they reside at the Fairways in Middletown, New York and have five children and three grandchildren.



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2010

ROVING AMBASSADOR FOR PEACE



Civil Air Patrol



Civil Air Patrol

Civil Air Patrol is a non-profit organization making a huge impact going above and beyond to make a profound difference in America's communities; saving lives and preserving liberty for all.

In the late 1930s, more than 150,000 volunteers with a love for aviation argued for an organization to put their planes and flying skills to use in defense of their country. As a result, the Civil Air Patrol was born one week prior to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Thousands of volunteer members answered America's call to national service and sacrifice by accepting and performing critical wartime missions. Assigned to the War Department under the jurisdiction of the Army Air Corps, the contributions of Civil Air Patrol, including logging more than 500,000 flying hours, and saving hundreds of crash victims during World War II, are well documented.

After the war, a thankful nation understood that Civil Air Patrol could continue providing valuable services to both local and national agencies. On July 1, 1946, President Harry Truman signed Public Law 476 incorporating Civil Air Patrol as a benevolent, nonprofit organization. On May 26, 1948, Congress passed Public Law 557 permanently establishing Civil Air Patrol as the auxiliary of the new U.S. Air Force. Three primary mission areas were set forth at that time: aerospace education, cadet programs, and emergency services.

Today, with 61,000 members nationwide, Civil Air Patrol handles 90 percent of inland search and rescue missions, as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center and was credited by the AFRCC with saving 113 lives in fiscal year 2010. They provide disaster relief and emergency services following natural and manmade disasters, including such phenomena as 9/11, Hurricane Katrina, Texas and Oklahoma wildfires, tornadoes in the south and central U.S., North Dakota flash flooding and the October 2006 earthquake in Hawaii, as well as humanitarian missions along the U.S. and Mexican border.

The members play a leading role in aerospace education and serve as mentors to more than 26,000 young people currently participating in CAP cadet programs. Civil Air Patrol has been performing missions for America for 69 years.



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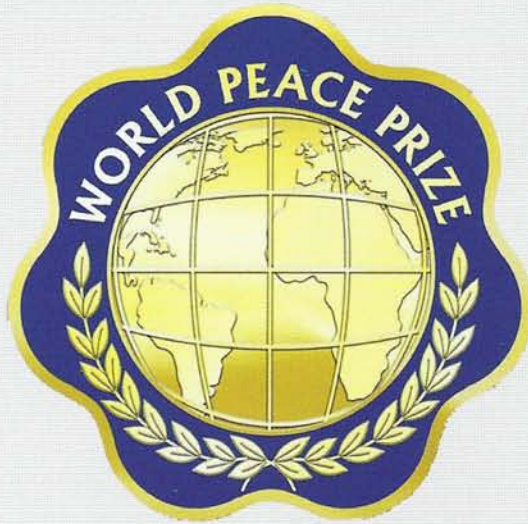
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