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Press Section

American Embassy

Tel Aviv

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Release

Jam Session: America's Jazz Ambassadors Embrace the World

Photographic Exhibit Featuring Legendary American Jazz Greats

**ZOA House
26 Ibn Gvirol St., Tel Aviv
March 10 – April 20, 2010**

Over 50 years ago, at the height of the Cold War, the U.S. Government found an original way to warm its relations with the world: diplomacy through jazz. For more than two decades leading American jazz artists were sent by the State Department to perform in far-flung countries around the world as “ambassadors” of goodwill.

The legacy of Benny Goodman, Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, and many other fine artists is documented in this fine exhibit of photographs from 25 countries. Surrounded by fans, local artists, and government officials, these “ambassadors” brought an appreciation for American culture and creativity through their talent, humanity, and joy.

Sponsored by the State Department’s Bureau for Educational and Cultural Affairs, the exhibition has been seen in Uzbekistan, the Philippines, Hungary and many other countries. The show arrives in Israel from Bahrain and will continue on to Damascus.

The exhibition is open daily from 7:00 A.M. through 11:00 P.M from March 10, 2010 through April 10, 2010. Attendance is free.

Exhibition curator is Doron Polak.

For further information contact: Ayelet Cohen 054-7669167, Polina Levy Eskenazi 057-4206842.

Public Affairs Section

Migdalar Building, 1 Ben Yehuda Street, Tel Aviv

Tel: (03) 5103822, Fax: (03) 5103828

Email: io@pd.state.gov