

CITATION IN HONOUR OF H.E. MRS MARY CARLIN YATES

**THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA CONFERS STATE HONOUR,
GRAND MEDAL, HONARARY DIVISION, ON
H.E. MRS. MARY CARLIN YATES,
AMBASSADOR OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO GHANA,
UPON THE COMPLETION OF HER
TOUR OF DUTY – FRIDAY, 19TH AUGUST, 2005**

YOUR EXCELLENCY, MARY CARLIN YATES

You were born on 23rd December, 1946 in Portland in the State of Oregon in the United States of America. Your friendship with Africa dates back to the year 1991 when you assumed duty as a Political Officer in the United States Embassy in Kinshasa, The Democratic Republic of Congo and with Ghana in January, 2003 when you became Ambassador of the United States to our country.

You obtained a Bachelor's Degree in English from Oregon State University and a Master's Degree in East-West Humanities from New York University (NYU) where you also completed Doctoral Studies in Asian Affairs.

You began your Diplomatic career in 1980 and have worked in various capacities in the Republic of Korea, the Philippines, Democratic Republic of Congo and France in addition to assignments in Washington D.C. You were U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Burundi from December, 1999 to June, 2002.

Among the honours and awards you have earned are the following:

- UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE MERITORIOUS HONOUR AWARD – 1998
- UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY'S SUSTAINED SUPERIOR HONOUR AWARD – 1994
- UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE SUPERIOR HONOUR AWARD – 1995
- UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY'S LOIS ROTH AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN INTERNATIONAL AND CULTURAL DIPLOMACY – 1996

Since your assumption of duty in Ghana as Ambassador in January, 2003, you have made tremendous efforts to enhance even further the warm and

cordial relations that exist between Ghana and the United States of America.

In this regard, you facilitated His Excellency President J.A. Kufuor's invitation to meetings involving President George W. Bush, including the Special Summit of ECOWAS Heads of State held in July, 2003 in Dakar and the meeting held in the White House with five African Heads in June, 2005.

Through your efforts, the United States Government assisted Ghana with the amount of \$3.6 billion towards the December, 2004 Elections.

During your duty tour, Ghana benefited considerably from the United States Government's financial and logistical assistance in the Military, Transport, Trade and Energy Sectors. Of particular mention was the selection of Ghana to be included in the United States Government's National Guard's State Partnership Programme (SSP) with the State of North Dakota in May, 2005.

Furthermore, you demonstrated admirable skills in the acquisition of the appropriate property to build the new American Embassy Complex in Accra and have followed closely the construction phase that has begun.

The Government of Ghana recognizes your singular contribution towards the establishment of:

- THE GHANA – UNITED STATES RESOURCE CENTRE AT THE INSTITUTE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT STUDIES IN TAMALE and
- THE VOA FM BROADCAST STATEION IN ACCRA

Your time as Ambassador in Ghana saw the selection of Ghana as one of the sixteen eligible countries to benefit from the US\$ 5 billion Millennium Challenge Account (MCA), established by the United States Government to provide additional Resources for developing countries that practice good governance, invest in their people and expand Economic freedom for their citizens. Ghana stands to benefit to the tune of US\$290 million for the modernization of her agriculture when she signs the compact with the Millennium Challenge Corporation.

Your tour of duty also saw the inclusion of Ghana among a number of African countries that were chosen, because of their credentials for good governance and sound economic management, by the G8 industrialized countries to benefit from the 100% cancellation of debts owed to the

International Development Agency (IDA) and the African Development Bank (ADB).The Government of Ghana appreciates the strong collaborative role of the United States towards this momentous decision by the G8 countries.

In recognition of your contribution, dedication and determination to strengthening the bonds of friendship and cooperation between Ghana and the United States of America, the Republic of Ghana hereby confers on Your Excellency, Mary Carlin Yates, the State Honour of Grand Medal, Honorary Division.

JOHN AGYEKUM KUFUOR
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA