



**BREAKING NEWS**

**FORMER U.S. AMBASSADOR TO U.N. TO  
SPEAK AT SPIRIT OF HOPE BENEFIT**



Toronto – February 4, 2009 - Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center is pleased to announce that Ambassador John Bolton will be one of three distinguished speakers at this year's Spirit of Hope Benefit, to be held on Sunday May 31, 2009. The announcement follows last week's confirmation of Michael Chertoff, former Secretary for Homeland Security (2005-2009), as the first of three speakers.

During his tenure at the UN, Ambassador Bolton was an outspoken advocate of preventing Iran from getting nuclear weapons, expelling Syria from Lebanon, and promoting peacekeeping efforts in Somalia and Darfur. He championed a strong resolution calling for sanctions against North Korea after its nuclear test in 2006 and led the Security Council to approve a unanimous resolution ending the 2006 Hezbollah war on Israel. Ambassador Bolton is the author of *Surrender is Not an Option: Defending America at the UN and Abroad* (2007).

“Ambassador Bolton is an outspoken leader whose recommendations often run contrary to conventional wisdom. His current belief that terrorism and civil strife continue to pose the greatest challenge to political and economic stability around the world is particularly poignant as focus turns to the economy,” said Avi Benlolo, FSWC President and CEO.

Over 2,000 people are expected to attend the spectacularly entertaining and thought-provoking function to be held at the Roy Thomson Hall in Toronto. On the heels of last year's incredible success, Friends encourages its members to register early for best seating. Please visit [http://www.fswc.ca/spirit\\_of\\_hope.aspx](http://www.fswc.ca/spirit_of_hope.aspx) for registration details or call 416-864-9735 ext. 21.

The Spirit of Hope Benefit raises funds to support and strengthen the important work of Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center in promoting a more respectful and accepting Canadian society. Join us on May 31, 2009 for an unforgettable evening.

**About Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies**

Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies is a Canadian human rights organization dedicated to fostering tolerance and understanding through community involvement, educational outreach and social action. It has 25,000 members across Canada, and confronts important contemporary issues including racism, antisemitism, terrorism and genocide. The Center is affiliated with the world-wide, Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Center, an accredited Non-Government Organization with status at international agencies, including the United Nations, UNESCO, OSCE and the Council of Europe. With over 400,000 members of all faiths around the world, the Simon Wiesenthal Center has offices in New York, Miami, Paris, Jerusalem, Buenos Aires and Toronto. Simon Wiesenthal died in 2005 after devoting his life to preserving the memories of the victims of the Holocaust, while simultaneously seeking justice for the war

criminals. Visit: [www.fswc.ca](http://www.fswc.ca).

**DIRECT ACTION**

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