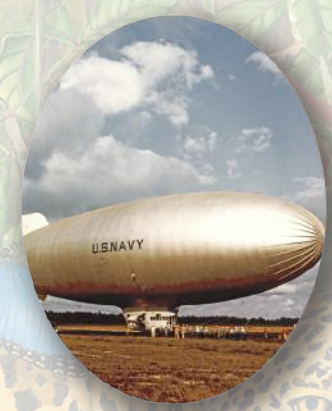






COMMON PAST, SHARED FUTURE

United States and Suriname
50 Connections





U.S. Embassy Paramaribo

Common Past, Shared Future

United States and Suriname
50 Connections

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Ambassador's Preface

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of Suriname's independence in 2025 and ahead of the U.S. 250th in 2026, I am honored to present this commemorative photobook celebrating not just five decades of diplomatic relations between the United States and Suriname but hundreds of years of shared heritage. This book reflects on the rich history between our two countries, which is rooted in shared values, mutual respect, and deep historical connections.

From the early days of the European exploration of the "New World," through the 17th and 18th century colonial era's transatlantic trade, and on to our collaboration during the 20th and 21st centuries, our ties have evolved into a dynamic and enduring friendship.



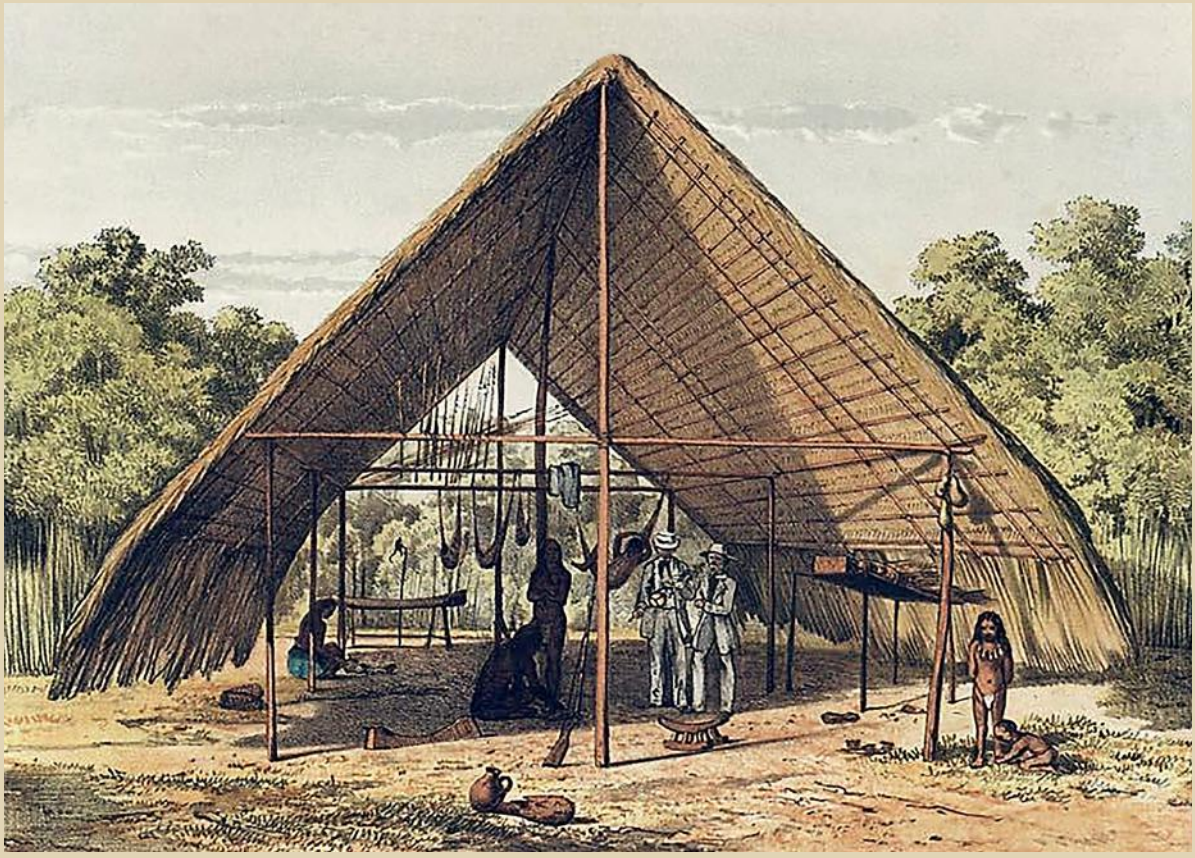
Ambassador Robert J. Faucher, United States Ambassador to Suriname.

As we celebrate Suriname's 50th and America's 250th milestones, we hope that this short book captures moments that highlight not only our shared achievements but also the extensive and sometimes surprising connections between our peoples. This book is not meant to provide a comprehensive history, but it is my hope that this collection of images and stories will inspire further research into our enduring friendship. It is meant to celebrate our two nations and the next 50 and 250 years of our continued friendship and partnership!

Chapter 1
Indigenous Ties and Colonial Connections

The connections between the United States and Suriname began long before the establishment of our two republics, rooted in the shared history of indigenous cultures and the transformative events of the colonial era. Before the first European settlers arrived, indigenous peoples thrived in the Western Hemisphere. In the territory that would become Suriname, the Caribs and Arawaks (now the Kalinha and Lokono) flourished along the coast. Their rich traditions and vibrant cultures echoed similarities with the indigenous communities in other parts of the Caribbean, including in Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and along the U.S. southern coast, as well as the broader North American continent.

The arrival of Europeans introduced new dynamics that would reshape the entire region. The establishment of Willoughbyland under English rule and the rise of New Amsterdam under the Dutch, highlight the entwined narratives of Suriname and the North American colonies. The 1667 Treaty of Breda marked a pivotal moment, cementing the exchange of control of the English and Dutch colonies, setting Suriname (formerly Willoughbyland) firmly within the Dutch sphere while New York (formerly New Amsterdam) became a cornerstone of the emerging United States.



Camp of the Arawaks.



Petroglyphs at the Deer Valley Petroglyph Preserve. Glendale, Arizona.

Indigenous Connections

The territories that are today Suriname and the United States share prehistoric ties thanks to their close geographic connections, with the United States lying on the northern edge of the Caribbean and Suriname on the southern edge. As two countries in the same neighborhood, Suriname and the United States both originally hosted Native American populations with shared histories, traditions, and languages.

Ancient petroglyphs, located in Arizona and at Werehpai, show the similarities of the artwork that our indigenous ancestors left behind over the ages.



Caves at Werehpai, Kwamalasamutu. Taken during Embassy visit in November 2024.

Columbus, Raleigh and Willoughby

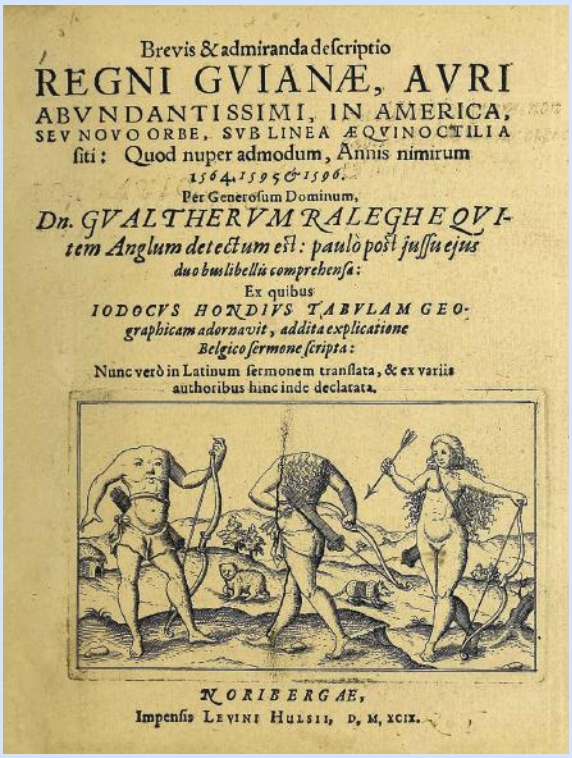
The travels of Christopher Columbus in 1492 profoundly changed the Americas. On his third voyage, in 1498, Columbus was credited as the first European to sight modern day Suriname, although he made landfall further west in what is now Trinidad on August 2, 1498. The territories that would become Suriname and the United States were initially both explored and settled by English colonists. Sir Walter Raleigh received a royal patent from Queen Elizabeth and explored the land that would become Virginia in 1584. His Jamestown Colony (1607) was the first permanent English colony in the Americas. Raleigh attempted a similar patent for the Guianas, which he visited in the late 1590s and later in 1618, opening Suriname to English colonization. His 1596 pamphlet popularized the Guianas (including Suriname) as the land of El Dorado and Lake Parima, a land of boundless gold and beauty. Although Walter Raleigh failed at his goal of establishing a colony in Suriname, his writings enticed the Leiden Pilgrims to consider establishing themselves in 1620 in Suriname. They chose instead to sail in the *Mayflower* to North America and establish the Plymouth Colony in modern-day Massachusetts. The English colony of Willoughbyland was later founded in Suriname in 1650 by Lord Willoughby, Governor of Barbados.



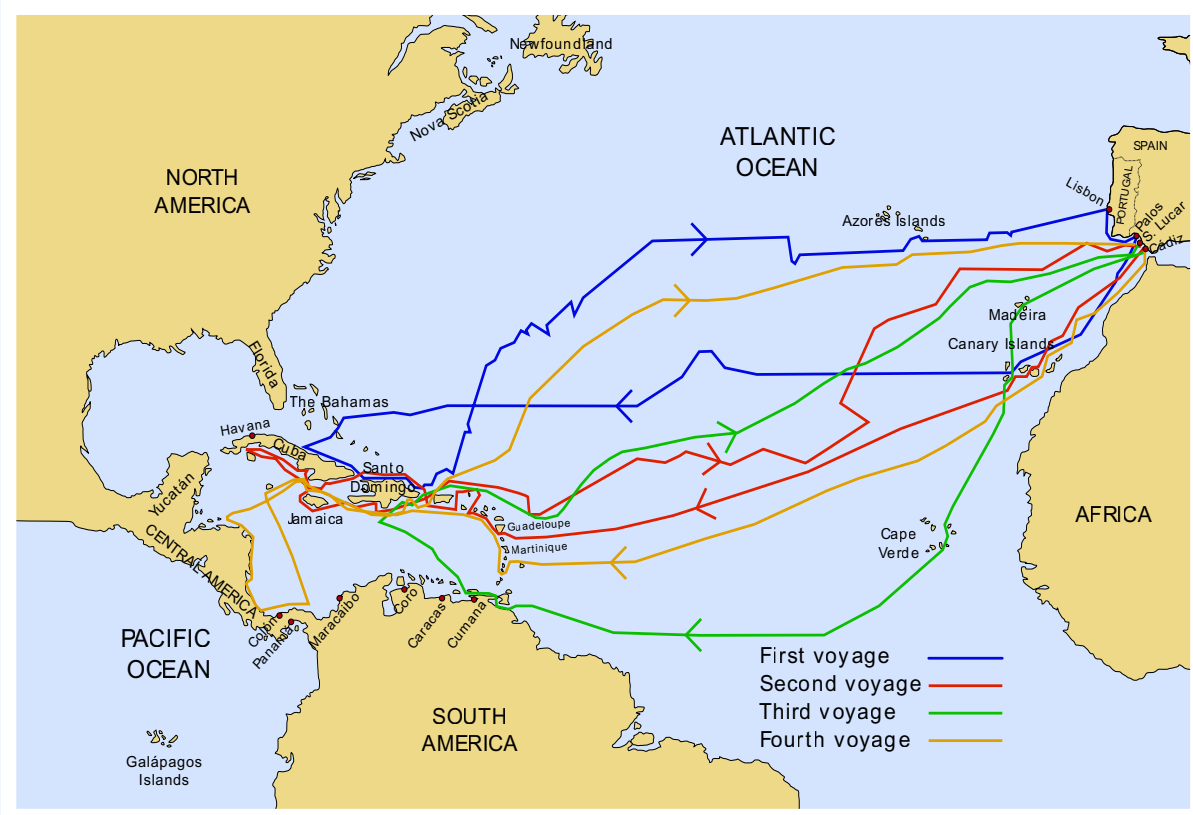
1599 Map of the Guianas.



Sir Walter Raleigh (1552-1618).


Brevis & admiranda descriptio
REGNI GVIANÆ, AVRI
ABVNDANTISSIMI, IN AMERICA,
SEV NOVO ORBE, SVB LINEA ÆQVINOCTIALI A
siti: Quod nuper admodum, Annis nimirum
1564. 1595 & 1596.
Per Generosum Dominum,
Dn. GVALTHERVM RALEGHE EQVI-
tem Anglum detectum est: paulò post jussu ejus
duo hus libellis comprehensa:
Ex quibus
IODOCVS HONDIVS TABVLAM GEO-
graphicam adornavit, addita explicatione
Belgico sermone scripta:
Nunc verò in Latinum sermonem translata, & ex variis
authoribus hinc inde declarata.
NORIBERGAE,
Impensis LEVINI HULSII, D. M. XCIX.

Latin edition of Raleigh's *Discovery of Guiana* (1599).



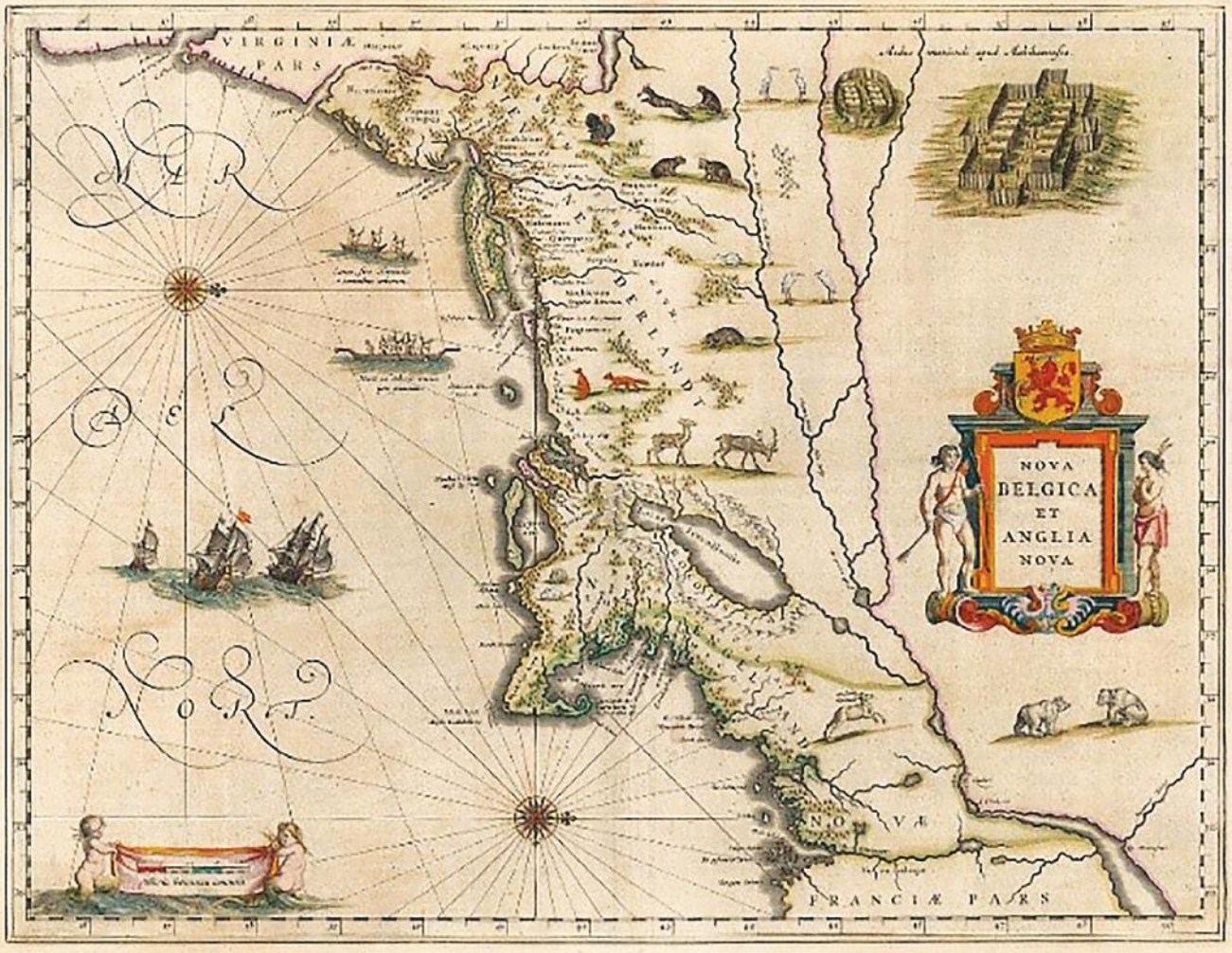
Map of the Four Voyages of Columbus.

Old Nieuw Amsterdam

While the English were busy founding colonies in the Caribbean, New England, Virginia, and Suriname, the Dutch were establishing Nieuwe Nederland on the east coast of North America. The capital of this trading colony was Nieuw Amsterdam, present day Manhattan. Founded in 1621 with a charter to the Dutch West India Company, Nieuw Nederland stretched from New Amsterdam north to Cape Cod, where the Dutch clashed with the English in Massachusetts, and south to the Delmarva Peninsula (the meeting point of modern day Delaware, Maryland and Virginia), where they clashed with the Swedish.



Map of New Amsterdam, 1660. North is to the right.



1635 map of New Netherlands (Nova Belgica) and New England (Nova Anglica). North is to the right.

Treaty of Breda and Territorial Exchanges

Transatlantic commercial rivalry grew between the Dutch and the English, resulting in the First Anglo-Dutch War from 1652 to 1654. When the conclusion of the war failed to settle the trade disputes, King Charles II of England granted the territory of New Netherland to his brother James, then Duke of York and later King James II. The English sent four warships to take control of New Amsterdam and kicked off the Second Anglo-Dutch War. In February 1667, the Dutch captured Willoughbyland, and at the war's end in July 1667, the Treaty of Breda made the exchange official – the Dutch would keep the lucrative plantation colony of Suriname and the English would keep the valuable trading port of Manhattan along with the rest of New Netherland.







Stamp set released in 1967 to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the Treaty of Breda.

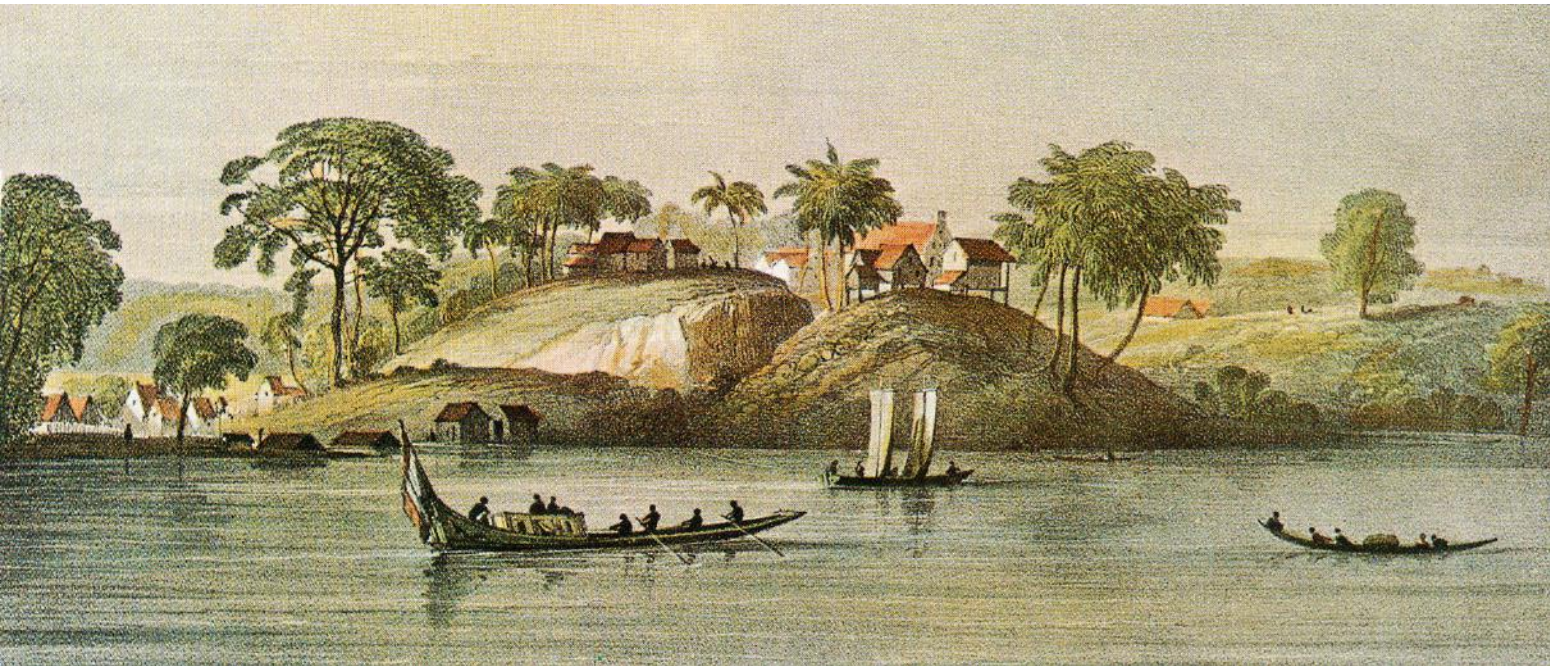
Early Jewish Connections

One of the first European communities in Suriname was the Jewish settlement of Jodensavanne. This Sephardic community was composed of members who originally hailed from the Netherlands, Portugal, and Italy, many of whom arrived via Brazil, and were originally given settlement rights and privileges by the English colony of Willoughbyland. When the Dutch arrived after the Treaty of Breda, they preserved the Jewish rights and privileges, and the community thrived, making Suriname one of the wealthiest European colonies in the Western Hemisphere.

Meanwhile, a Sephardic community was also growing in New Amsterdam (later Manhattan). Shearith Israel, the oldest Jewish congregation in the United States, built New York's first synagogue in 1730 with funds received from the Jodensavanne community. Every year at Thanksgiving, Manhattan's Shaerith Israel synagogue offers prayers and appreciation for Suriname's Jewish community as it commemorates its founding.

One Jodensvanne resident, David de Isaac Cohen Nassy, born in 1747, was a physician who traveled to Philadelphia in 1793 and helped address a yellow fever epidemic rampaging in the city. He published a book on his three years of efforts and was subsequently invited to join the American Philosophical Society, the first learned society in the United States, established by Ben Franklin. Nassy was the first Surinamer to write and publish in the United States.

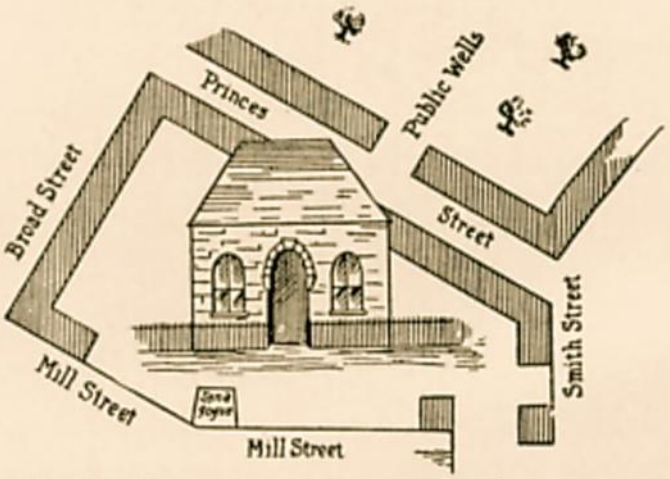
In recognition of the historical importance of Jodensavanne and the community's historical ties with the United States, U.S. Embassy Paramaribo supported preservation and documentation efforts at the Jodensavanne Archaeological Site in 2002 through the Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation.



Painting of Jodensavanne, 1830.



THE MILL STREET SYNAGOGUE ERECTED IN NEW YORK IN 1730.
From an old Newspaper Print.



Sketch of the first synagogue erected for the congregation made from memory by an old resident.

A similar sketch showing the synagogue in 1744 appears on a map made by David Grim in possession of the New York Historical Society. This was reproduced in Valentine's *Manual* for 1854 at p. 246.

Drawing of the Congregation Shearith Israel's 1730 Mill Street Synagogue, Manhattan.



Ruins of the synagogue Berachah ve Shalom ('Blessing and Peace') that was erected in 1685.



Aerial view of the Beth Haim Cemetary in Jodensavanne, preserved via a 2002 grant from the Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation.

Hoe Duur was de Suiker

Hoe Duur was de Suiker, translated into English as *The Cost of Sugar,* is a historical novel set in the 18th century Jewish plantation society in colonial Suriname. Published in 1987, it was written by Cynthia McLeod, while her husband was serving as Suriname's Ambassador in Washington D.C. It is the first novel published in an independent Suriname. Mrs. McLeod reports that she was inspired to write the book by conversations she had with young neighbors in their D.C. apartment building who were Jewish but unaware of the Jewish history in Suriname.

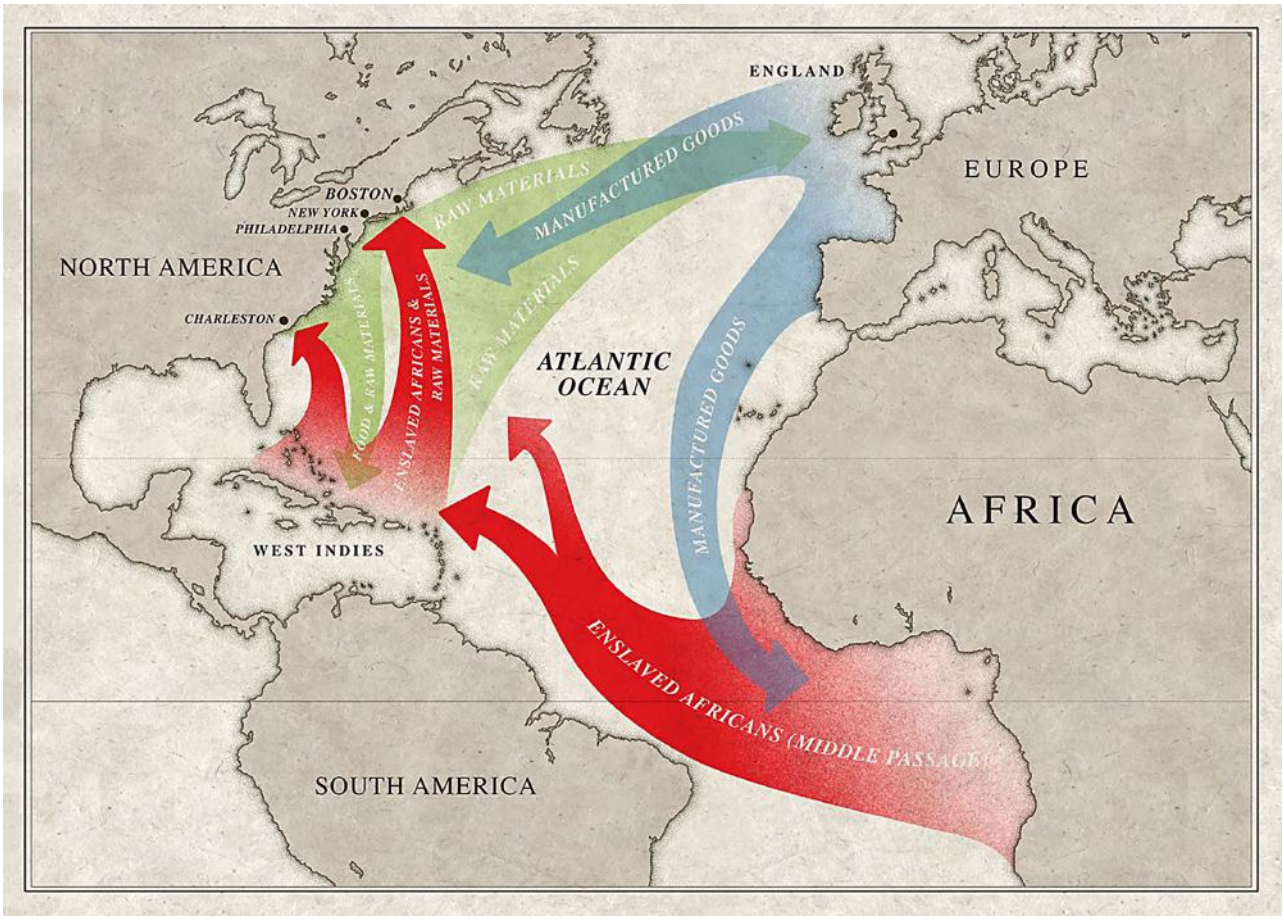


Cover of *The Cost of Sugar*.

Slavery and Race

The slave trade was the backbone of the colonial economies in both English and Dutch North America and in Suriname. From 1650, between 250,000 and 300,000 enslaved Africans were brought to Suriname, and from 1619 nearly 400,000 were brought to what became the United States. Remarkably, upon slavery's abolition in 1863 in Suriname, only 35,000 enslaved people received their freedom, while nearly 4,000,000 people in the United States received their freedom with slavery's abolition in 1865.

The legacy of slavery is a complicated one. Born in 1715, Elizabeth Samson was a free-born Afro-Dutch woman and a descendant of slaves. She became a plantation owner, owned slaves, and rose to become the wealthiest woman in Suriname. It is likely that products from her plantations, including coffee, sugar and indigo, would have helped fuel the trade between Suriname and the colonies in North America. Samson was also a race pioneer who broke the color barrier to marry a white Dutchman despite the objections of Suriname's authorities. In honor of her legacy, the U.S. Embassy in Paramaribo supported the restoration of her historic home in downtown Paramaribo in 2022 through the Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation.



Map of the Transatlantic Slave Trade.



Photo of the Samson House, 1923.



Photo of the Samson House, 2024.

Triangular Trade

Throughout the colonial period, trade connections grew among the English and Dutch colonies. A pattern of triangular trade developed, including the transport of enslaved people from Africa to the Caribbean, and sugar and molasses from Suriname to New England. In return, fish, lumber, livestock, cloth and grain flowed south to Suriname.

Captain Newark Jackson arrived in Paramaribo from Boston in March 1736 aboard the Merry Christmas, with his cargo including a horse due to a 1704 ordinance allowing British North American ships to trade with Suriname only if they brought horses. Suriname needed horses for transportation and to power mills. New England merchants bred a short, muscular horse, known as the "Suriname horse," specifically for this trade. By the end of the 18th century, New England had exported over thirty-one thousand horses to Suriname, despite the trade restrictions and a five percent duty on imports and exports.



1764 advertisement by Nicolas Brown and Company for "Surinam horses".



In exchange for horses and other goods, Surinamese sugar and molasses landed in New England, where it became rum. Surinamese molasses was favored by New England distillers over all others. During the 18th century, many colonists in British North America frequented rum houses to drink, discuss, network, and conspire. Contemporary commentators identified New England's rum houses as the caldrons of the American Revolutionary War and the spark for American independence!

The 1752 painting *Sea Captains Carousing in Surinam*, by early American painter John Greenwood, depicts American merchants and sea captains from Rhode Island enjoying themselves in a Surinamese tavern. It is considered to be the first American genre painting. Some twenty years after the events in the painting, two of the subjects – Joseph Wanton and Nicholas Cooke – would go on to be governors of Rhode Island; another, Esek Hopkins, would become the first



Sugar Processing display at the
Fort-Nieuw Amsterdam Open Air Museum.

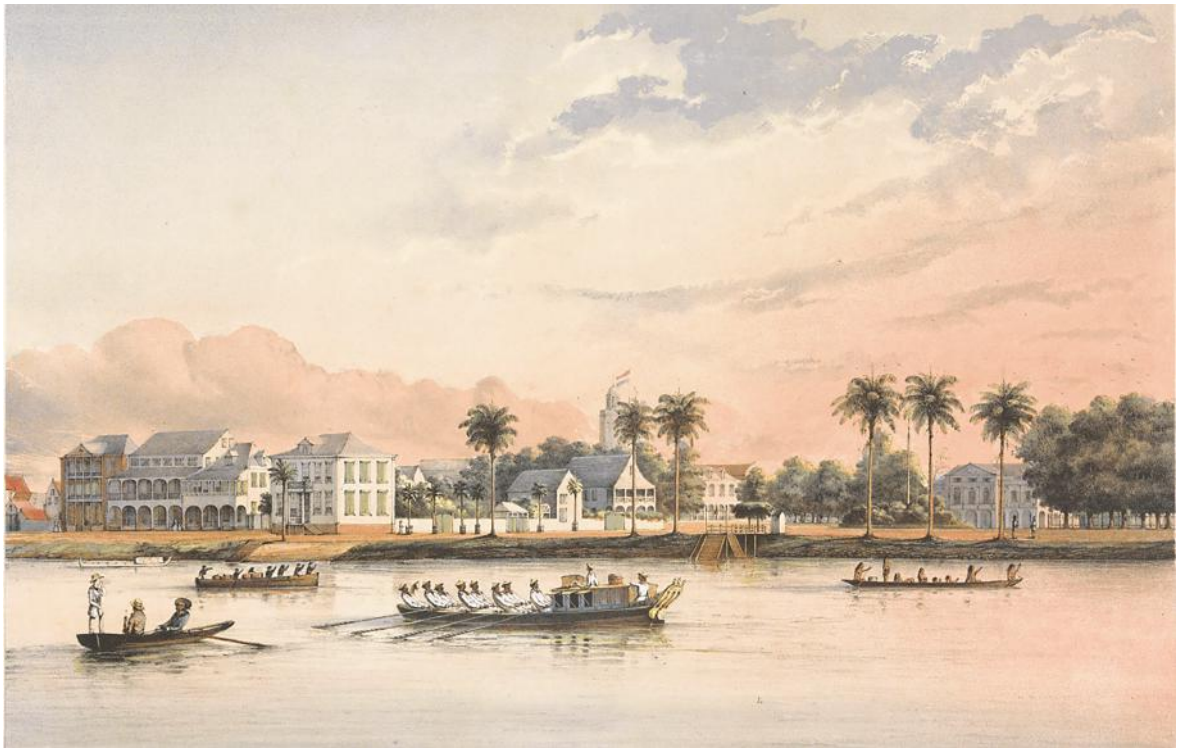
commodore of the Continental Navy; and a fourth, Stephen Hopkins, would sign the Declaration of Independence in 1776 on behalf of Rhode Island. The painting also included a self-portrait of John Greenwood himself, who moved to Suriname from Boston for 5 years and painted some 115 portraits. Four American sea captains from that period are known to be buried in Paramaribo's Oranjetuin cemetery. In 1996, the U.S. Embassy contributed to a cleanup and documentation of the graves in Oranjetuin.



Sea Captains Carousing in Surinam by John Greenwood, 1752-1758.



Chapter 2
Merchants, Envoys and Emissaries



Nineteenth-century view of the government house and adjacent square of Paramaribo

During the American Revolutionary War and following independence, the young U.S. republic's connections to Suriname deepened through trade, diplomacy, and shared struggles shaped by the Atlantic world. America's war of independence became part of an international struggle among Great Britain, France, Spain, and the Netherlands. Suriname was not immune, and soon its economy suffered as trade dried up. Recognizing the importance of commerce with Suriname, one of the Continental Congress's first diplomatic acts in 1776 was to send an emissary to the Dutch colony—signaling that even in its infancy, the United States saw Suriname as a vital partner.

Over the following century, connections between the two nations grew more complex and intertwined. Diplomats, entrepreneurs, and visionaries moved across oceans in pursuit of opportunity and influence. From early architectural exchanges and agricultural innovations to efforts to combat slavery and secure vital shipping routes, Suriname became an unexpected but important stage for the United States' expanding global presence. Even President Lincoln's consideration of Suriname as a site for resettling freed African Americans highlights how debates reverberated across borders. At the same time, U.S. interest in Suriname's natural wealth—from gold to bauxite—ushered in a new era of economic partnership that would shape both nations' trajectories well into the 20th century.

The “First Salute”



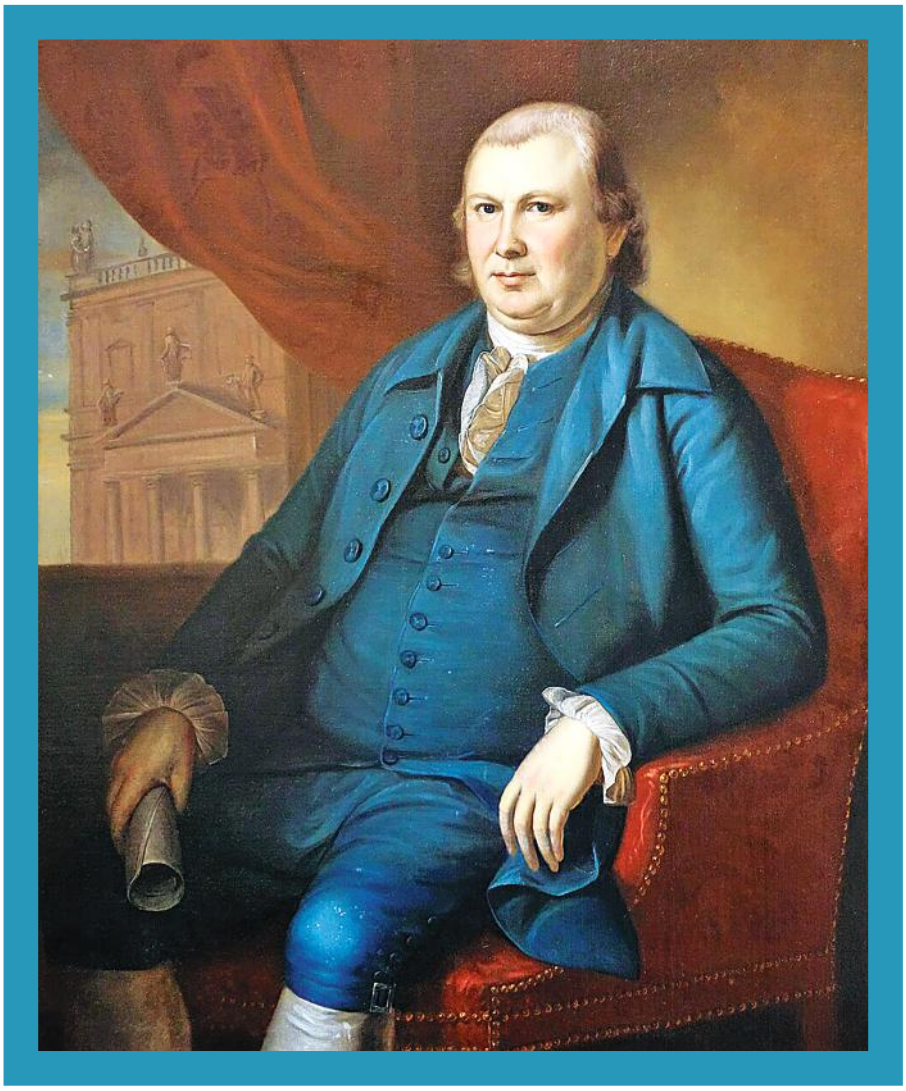
Portrait of
Johannes de Graeff

On November 16, 1776, during the earliest days of the American Revolution, the American naval ship *Andrew Doria*, commanded by Captain Isaiah Robinson, arrived in St. Eustatius, a Dutch-controlled island colony in the Caribbean. The ship carried the American Declaration of Independence and upon arrival, its captain fired a salute to the Dutch flag at Fort Oranje. Governor Johannes de Graaff responded with eleven gunshots, marking the first time the United States of America was recognized as a nation by a foreign entity. This act of recognition infuriated the nearby British, leading to de Graaff’s temporary recall to the Netherlands. De Graaf was named a “Hero of the Revolution” by the new government of the United States. American F.W. Cragin of New Hampshire, commissioned a painting of de Graaff while living in Suriname in 1834 as a merchant. His brother donated it to the New Hampshire State House in 1837, where it still hangs today. Admiral George Rodney, the British commander responsible for this region of the Caribbean, was so committed to destroying St. Eustatius in retaliation and plundering its warehouses and homes, that he reportedly failed to observe the arrival of the French fleet under Admiral De Grasse, which made its way to Virginia and blocked the escape of the British forces under General Cornwalis at Yorktown, marking the end of the American War of Independence.



Painting *“First Foreign Salute to the American Flag”* by Phillips Melville.

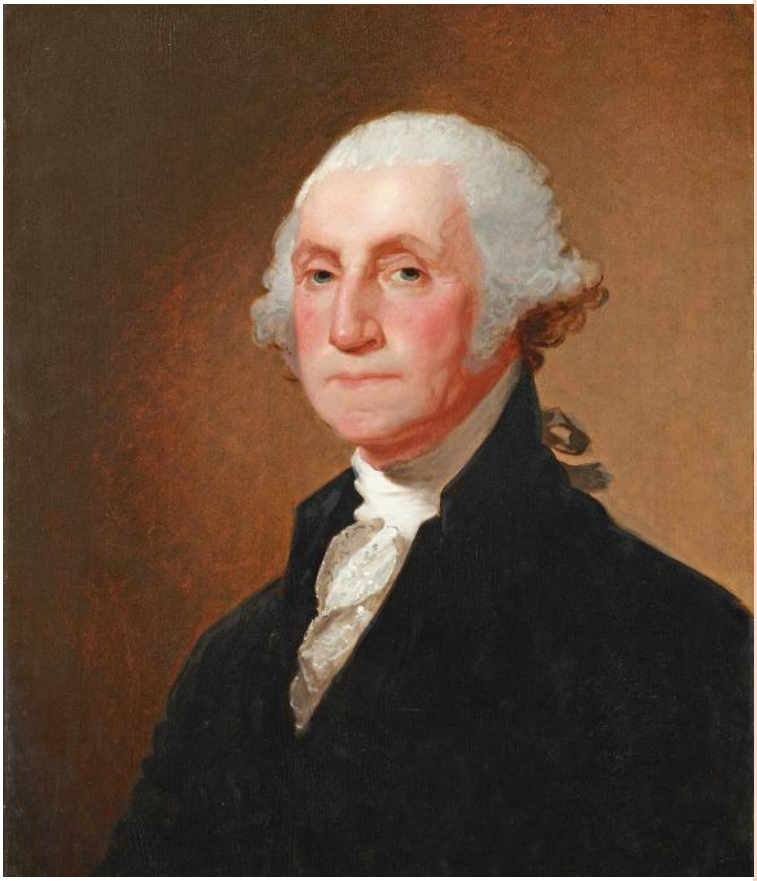
American Emissaries in Paramaribo



Portrait of Robert Morris by Charles Willson Peale, from life, c. 1782.

Following the U.S. Declaration of Independence, one of the first acts of the Second Continental Congress, the governing body of the newly created United States, was to name diplomatic emissaries to potential allies and partners around the world. Benjamin Franklin departed for France and John Adams went to the Netherlands. Lesser known was Hendrick Fischer, who traveled to Paramaribo in 1776 as America's agent. He was succeeded in 1777 by Robert Morris, one of the richest men in the United States. Both agents had a similar purpose – to establish trading networks with Suriname and to procure gunpowder and muskets from Suriname and the Dutch islands. Fischer and Morris were successful in establishing trading networks, and after the end of the Revolutionary War in 1783 their work paved the way for greater diplomatic ties, with the first recorded U.S. Consular Agent in Paramaribo, Ebenezer Brush, arriving in 1790.

George Washington's Mules



George Washington (after Gilbert Stuart's Athenaeum portrait, 1796).

George Washington, Commander of the Continental Army and the first American president, had a special interest in mules, earning him the title "Father of the American Mule". His political and military experiences brought him into contact with agriculturalists worldwide, leading him to recognize the potential of donkeys for breeding high-quality mules, which were ideal for working the hilly lands of the United States.

Washington's quest for the best donkeys led him to import at least one exceptional donkey from a plantation in Suriname circa 1785. This donkey was described as "undoubtedly one of the best kinds that could be procured," highlighting Suriname as a valuable source for donkeys that were "very good, though not of the first race of these animals." This importation was part of Washington's broader efforts to enhance agricultural practices in the newly founded United States.


GENERAL WASHINGTON'S JACK ASS.

THIS is the true picture of that Celebrated Animal which his Most Catholick Majesty the King of Spain Bought with his own money and Shipped at his own Expence, for a present to our beloved General.

Here merit takes, and Gallant Actions shine.
Or Mighty Sir, this Ass had ne'er been thine,
Though droll the Gift, yet from a King 'tis' good;
Alike Kings, Ministers are all one blood.

"General Washington's Jack Ass" in Weatherwise's 1786 Town and Country Almanack.

Waterkant's Taste of New Orleans

After a fire in 1821 destroyed much of Paramaribo, only to be followed by another fire in 1832, the city needed to be rebuilt. The architect in charge, Johan August Voigt, based his designs on what he had seen traveling in the United States, namely in Charleston, South Carolina and New Orleans, Louisiana. Voigt, born in Suriname in 1809, was inspired by the stately buildings in the American South with their large balconies on the upper floors. In 1833 he was named the master architect of Paramaribo and gave the Waterkant its new American-inspired look. Even buildings that hadn't been destroyed were eventually renovated with balconies in the new American style. The beauty of Paramaribo's unique architecture was recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site in 2002.

Two buildings dating from this period, the Hoekhuis (Corner House) and the Dixie Bar have an even deeper U.S. connection. The Hoekhuis and Dixie Bar belong to Suralco, Surinamese subsidiary of the U.S. company Alcoa, and have hosted visiting U.S. representatives for generations. The interior of the Dixie Bar is inspired by the *Sea Captains* painting!



Diorama of the Paramaribo Waterfront (Waterkant), Gerrit Schouten, 1820.



Waterkant in
Paramaribo, 1955.

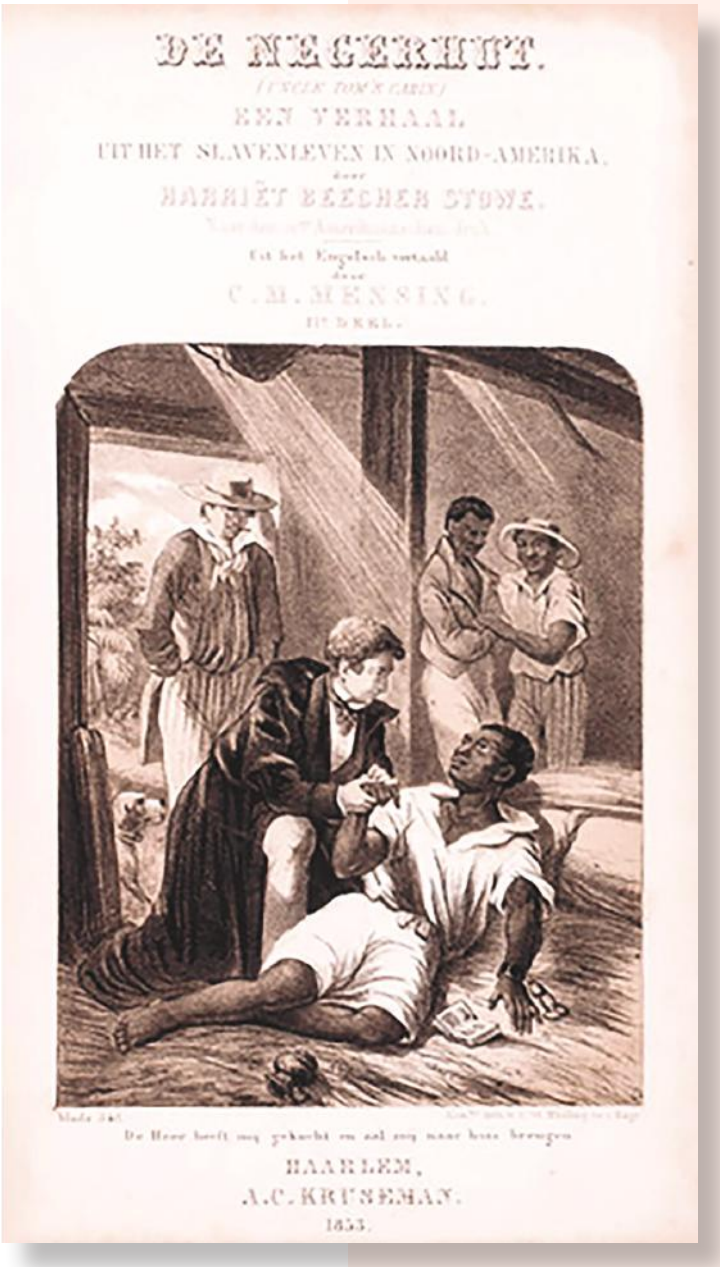


Corner of Waterkant and
Heiligenweg, 1962.

Abraham Lincoln's Colonies

During the U.S. Civil War (1861-1865), U.S. President Abraham Lincoln initially considered a plan with U.S. Secretary of State William Seward to settle about 30,000 freed African Americans in Suriname. Seward negotiated a treaty to that effect with the Netherlands, but the treaty was never ratified or entered into force. Following the September 17, 1862, battle of Antietam, the bloodiest day in U.S. history, the "colonization plan" was ultimately abandoned after Lincoln adopted the position of Frederick Douglas that the freed African Americans were indeed Americans, whose home should remain in the United States.

The 1852 novel Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe was translated into Dutch and helped spark the Dutch Abolition movement, which would eventually contribute to the 1863 abolition of slavery in Suriname, commemorated and celebrated each year as Keti Koti.


DE NEGERHUT.

EEN VERHAAL

UIT HET SLAVENLEVEN IN NOORD-AMERIKA.

HARRIËT BEECHER STOWE.

C. M. MENSING.

HAARLEM,
A.C. KRUSEMAN.
1853.

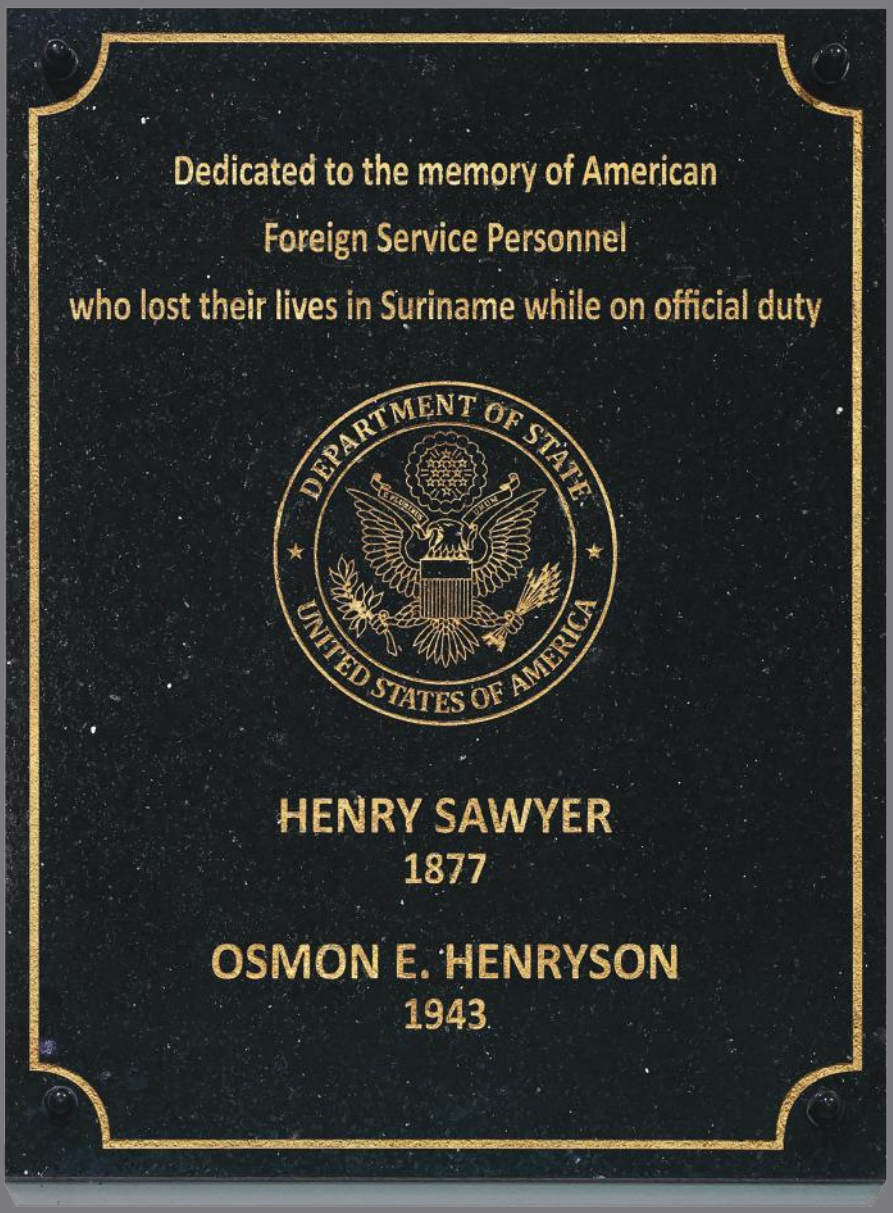
De negerhut. (Uncle Tom's cabin.)
Dutch translation of "Uncle Tom's cabin".



U.S. President Abraham Lincoln sits for a portrait February 5, 1865. (Image from the U.S. Library of Congress).

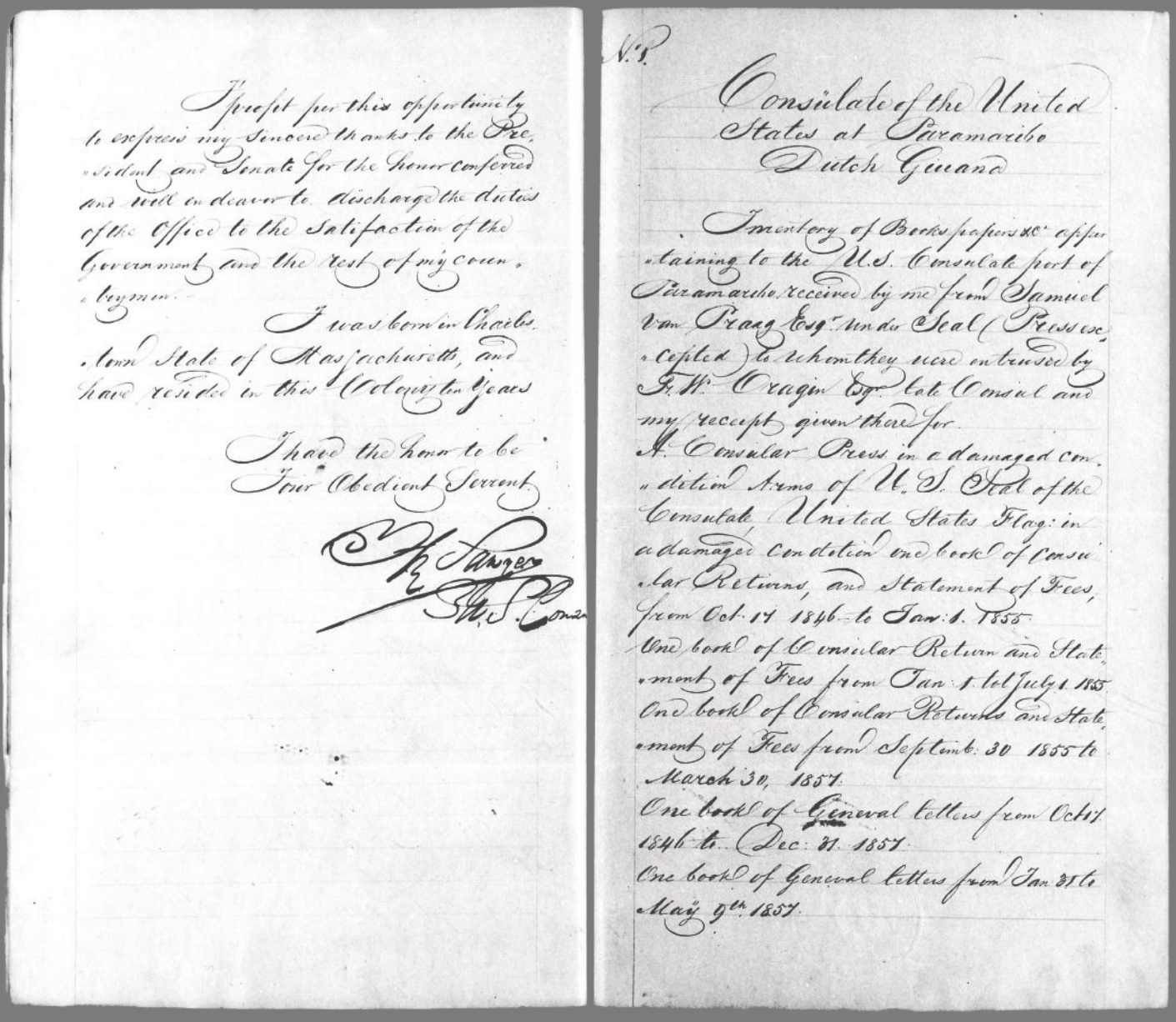
U.S. Civil War Comes to Suriname

U.S. Consul Henry Sawyer arrived in Paramaribo in 1858. During the Civil War (1861-1865), he facilitated the recruitment of 123 Surinamers to join the Union Army against the Confederates. He also alerted the Union Navy about a Confederate warship seeking coal and supplies in Paramaribo. He attempted to thwart the Confederate efforts by buying up all available coal supplies. Sawyer was also involved in negotiations with Dutch colonial authorities in Suriname regarding President Lincoln's



Memorial plaque on display in the entrance hall of the U.S. Embassy in Suriname.

plan to resettle freed African Americans in Suriname. In 1877, Sawyer was injured by a "ruffianly sailor" he had to detain and later died from his injuries. He is honored by the American Foreign Service Association Memorial Plaque at the State Department's headquarters in Washington D.C. and a similar plaque at the U.S. Embassy in Paramaribo.



I avail per this opportunity to express my Sincere thanks to the President and Senate for the honor conferred and will endeavor to discharge the duties of the Office to the Satisfaction of the Government and the rest of my countrymen.

I was born in Charlestown State of Massachusetts, and have resided in this Colony ten years

I have the honor to be
Your Obedient Servant

H. Sawyer
U.S. Consul

No. 1.

Consulate of the United States at Paramaribo Dutch Guiana

Inventory of Books papers &c. appertaining to the U.S. Consulate port of Paramaribo, received by me from Samuel Von Praag Esq. Under Seal (Press &c. excepted) to whom they were entrusted by F.W. Oragin Esq. late Consul and my receipt given therefor.

1. Consular Press in a damaged condition Arms of U.S. Seal of the Consulate United States Flag: in a damaged condition one book of Consular Returns, and Statement of Fees, from Oct. 14 1846 to Jan. 1. 1855.

One book of Consular Return and Statement of Fees from Jan. 1 to July 1. 185

One book of Consular Returns and Statement of Fees from Septemb. 30 1855 to March 30, 1857.

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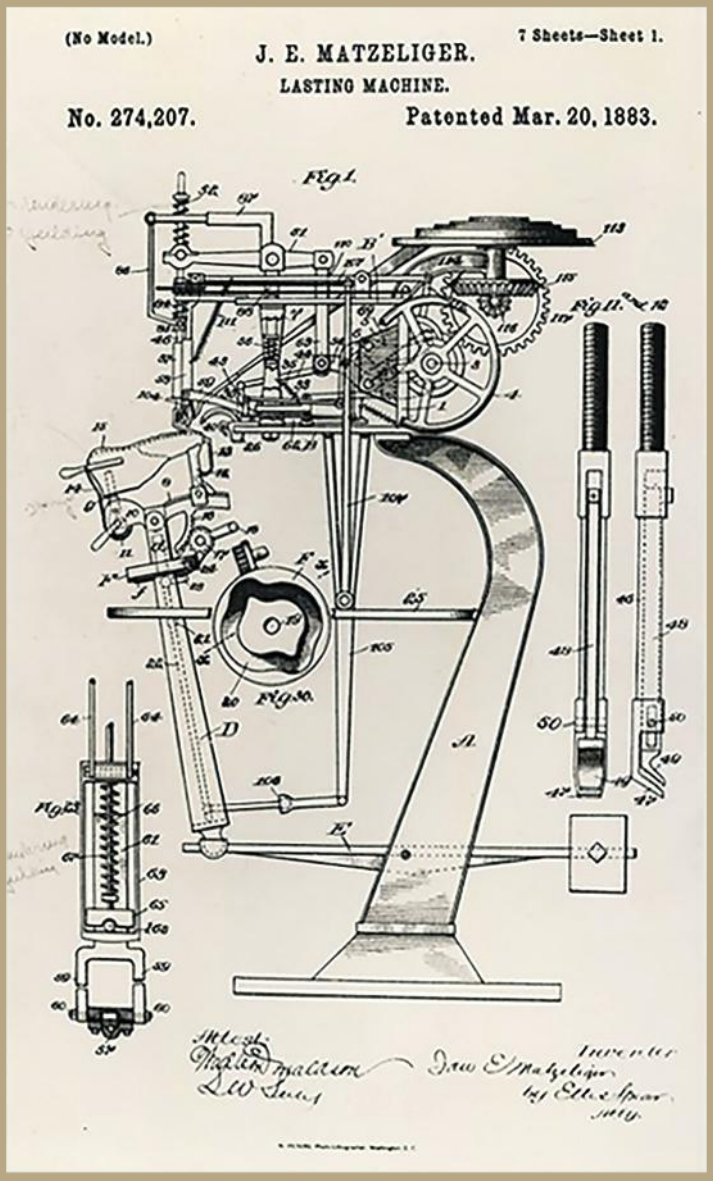
Dispatch of Henry Sawyer.

America's Surinamese Soul-iere

One of the pioneers of the American Industrial Age that followed the Civil War was a young Surinamer who made his mark in the United States. Born enslaved in Suriname in 1852, Jan Ernst Matzeliger was manumitted by his aunt in 1863 and later moved to the United States at the age of 19, settling in Philadelphia, where he started working in the shoe trade. By 1877 he had moved to Lynne, Massachusetts and started working for the Harney Brothers Shoe Factory. While in Massachusetts he invented the machine that would make modern shoe factories a reality - the automated shoe lasting machine. He received a U.S. patent for his invention in 1883. Matzeliger's invention made shoes truly affordable for the masses, an achievement that is even more remarkable given that Suriname law at one time had forbidden Matzeliger the right to wear shoes due to his enslaved status. Matzeliger sadly passed away in 1889 at the age of 36. On Matzeliger's birthday, September 15, 1991, the U.S. postal service released a postage stamp featuring the inventor, the first and only Suriname-American to be honored with a U.S. postal stamp.



Mr. Matzeliger's portrait and the patent drawing of Matzeliger's Shoe-Lasting Machine in 1883.



(No Model.) 7 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. E. MATZELIGER.

LASTING MACHINE.

No. 274,207. Patented Mar. 20, 1883.

Fig. 1.

Fig. 11.

Fig. 10.

Fig. 12.

Inventor

Jan E. Matzeliger

by Edw. Spar

Atty.



A 29-cent stamp honoring Matzeliger was issued on September 15, 1991, in Lynn, Massachusetts.

Chapter 3
Runways and Resources

The 20th century ushered in a transformative era of innovation and partnership between Suriname and the United States, driven by enterprise, aviation, and cultural exchange. The United States began the exploitation of Suriname's rich bauxite deposits. Aviation pioneers like Charles Lindbergh and Amelia Earhart helped shrink the distance between the two nations, while Hollywood stars and iconic American brands, like Coca-Cola, made their mark on Surinamese society. These developments not only strengthened economic ties but also deepened the cultural relationship between the United States and Suriname, laying the groundwork for a partnership that blended creativity, commerce, and mutual opportunity.

World War II cemented these growing bonds through a shared struggle for freedom and security. When the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands threatened Suriname's security, the United States took swift action to defend its ally. American forces built vital infrastructure, including the airfields at Zorg en Hoop and Zanderij, the latter becoming the largest airport in South America at the time, and protected Suriname's bauxite mines that supplied the raw materials essential to Allied war production. The wartime alliance also left a human legacy: American soldiers gave their lives on Surinamese soil and First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt's wartime visits reflected the closeness of the partnership. At the same time, stories like that of Josef Nassy, a Surinamese-American artist imprisoned by the Nazis, offered a personal lens into the shared sacrifices and enduring ideals that linked both nations in their pursuit of justice.

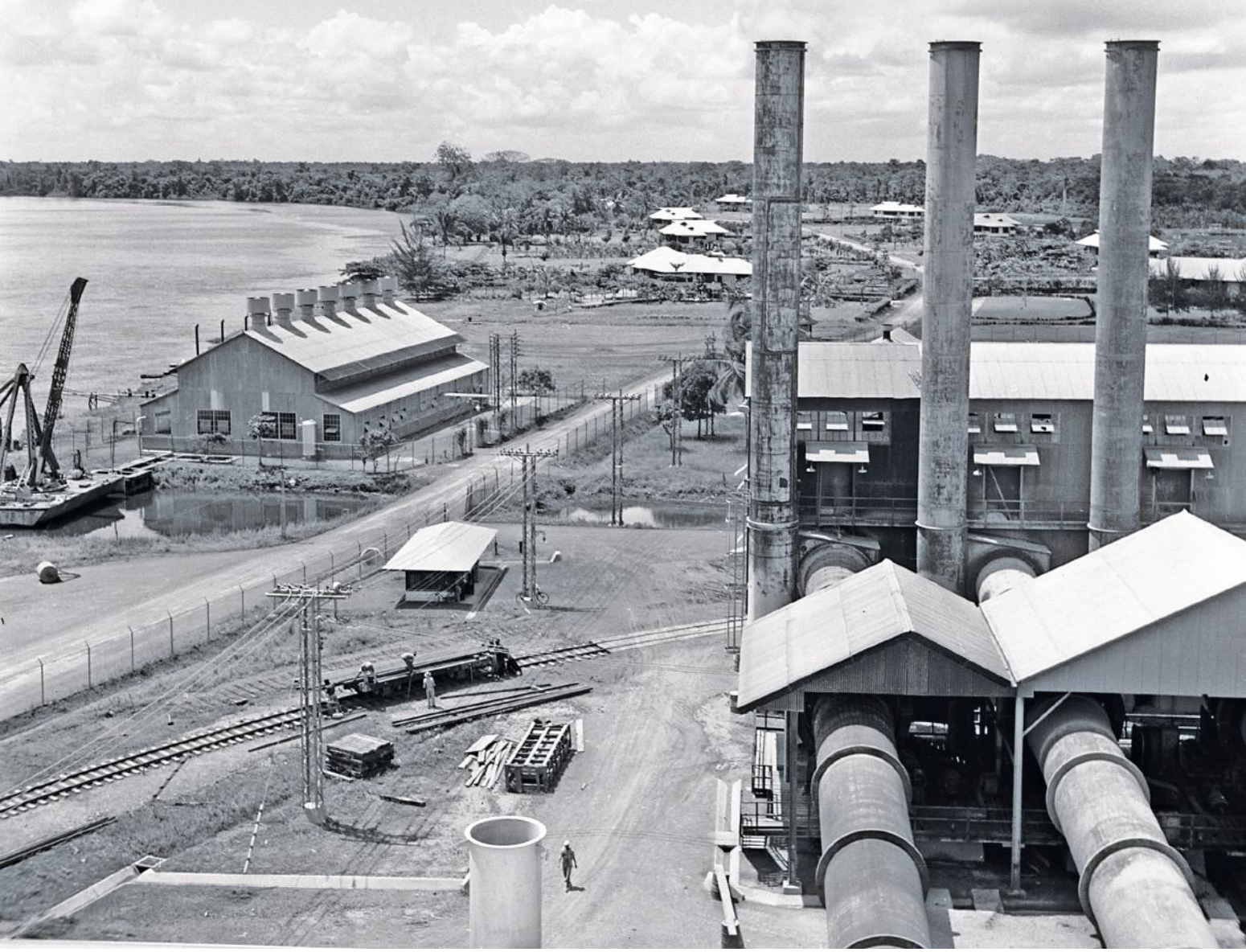


Advertisement from 1942 by Alcoa Aluminum, celebrating their contribution to the war effort by producing vast amounts of aluminum for aircraft. The ad is addressed to Hitler and Yamamoto, mocking their underestimation of Alcoa's production capacity.

Aluminum (and Gold)

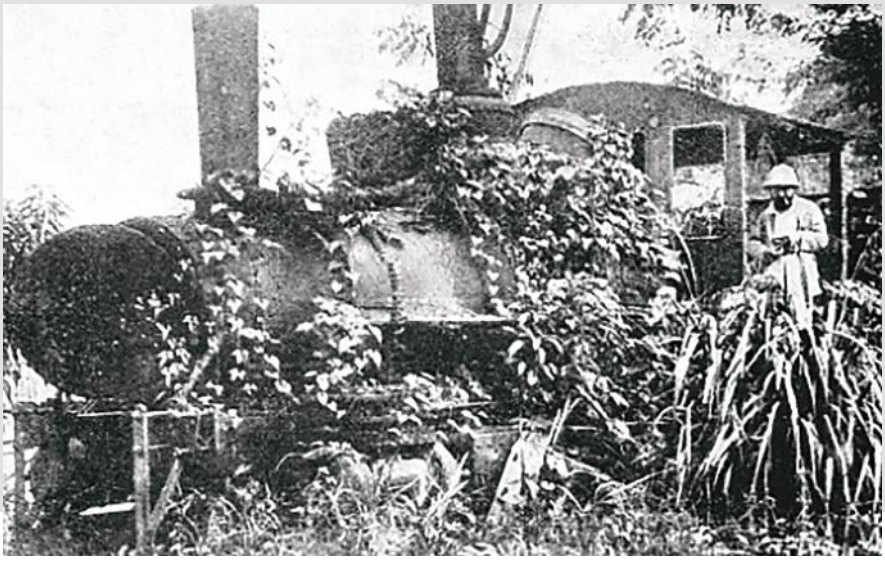
The 20th century was transformative for Suriname's economy, driven by the bauxite industry and significant U.S. investments. Alcoa, the Aluminum Company of America, began exploring bauxite deposits in Suriname in 1915, with processing starting in 1916. The demand for Suriname's high-quality bauxite soared in the 1920s and 30s, deepening economic ties with the United States.

In the late 1800s and early 1900s, American investors also came to Suriname in search of another valuable metal – gold. The story of "Jungle Gold" comes from this period, telling the tale of an American industrialist who established a gold mine in the Marowijne District. Although this attempt ultimately failed, gold mining would later attract serious U.S. investment, bringing companies like Newmont to Suriname.

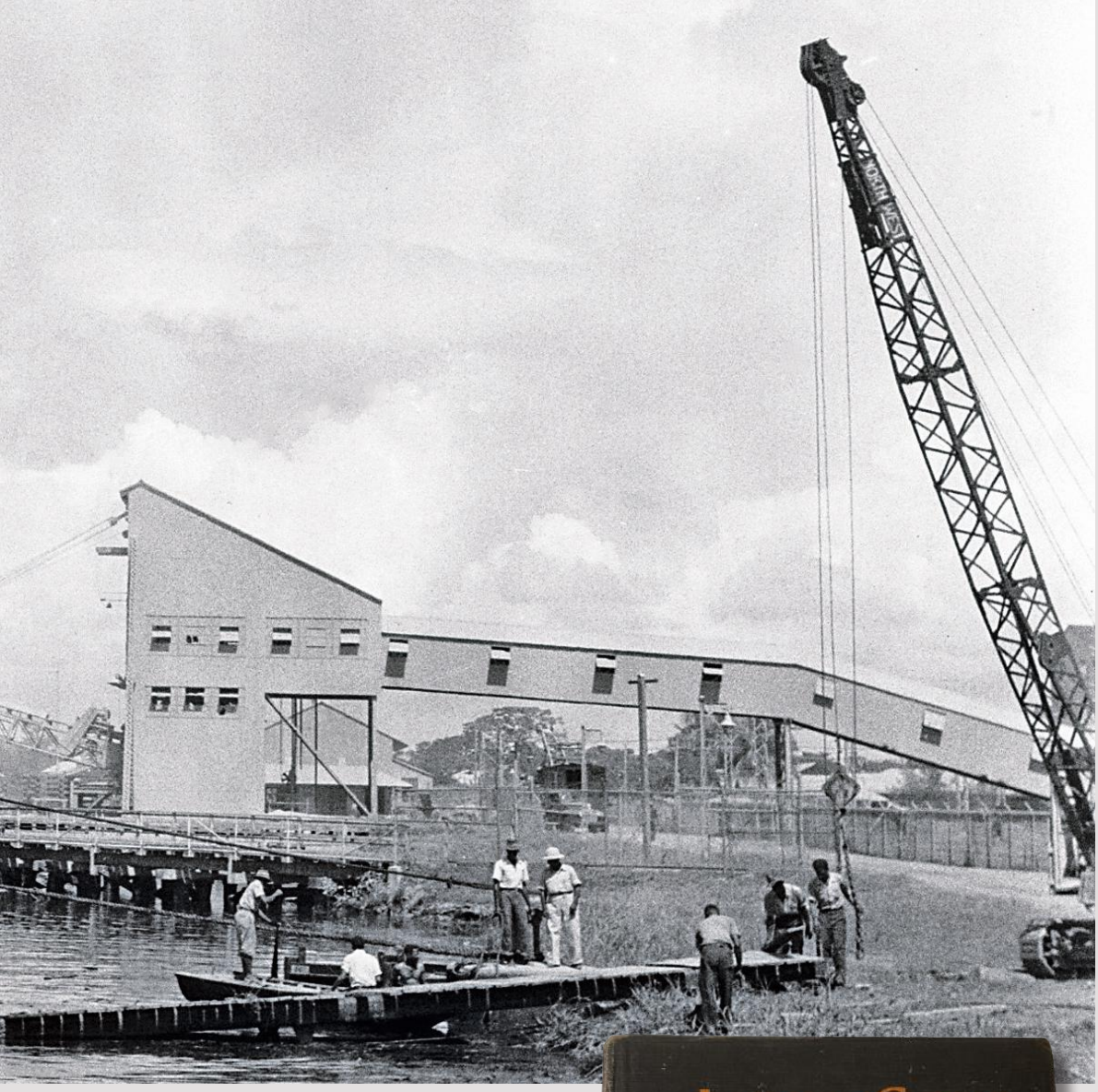


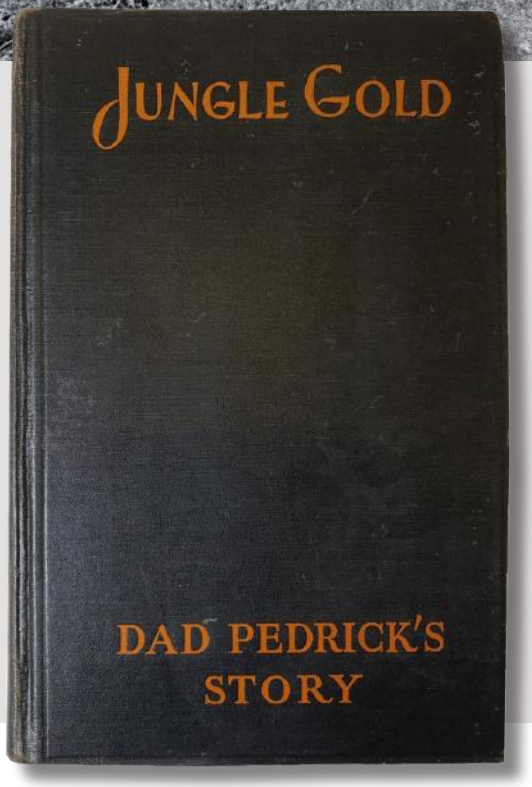
The factory of the Surinamese Bauxite Company in Paranam 1947.

A ship of the Alcoa Mining Corp. in the Suriname River at the jetty of the Surinamese Bauxite Company in Paranam 1947.



Abandoned gold mining steam locomotive near the Marowijne in Suriname.



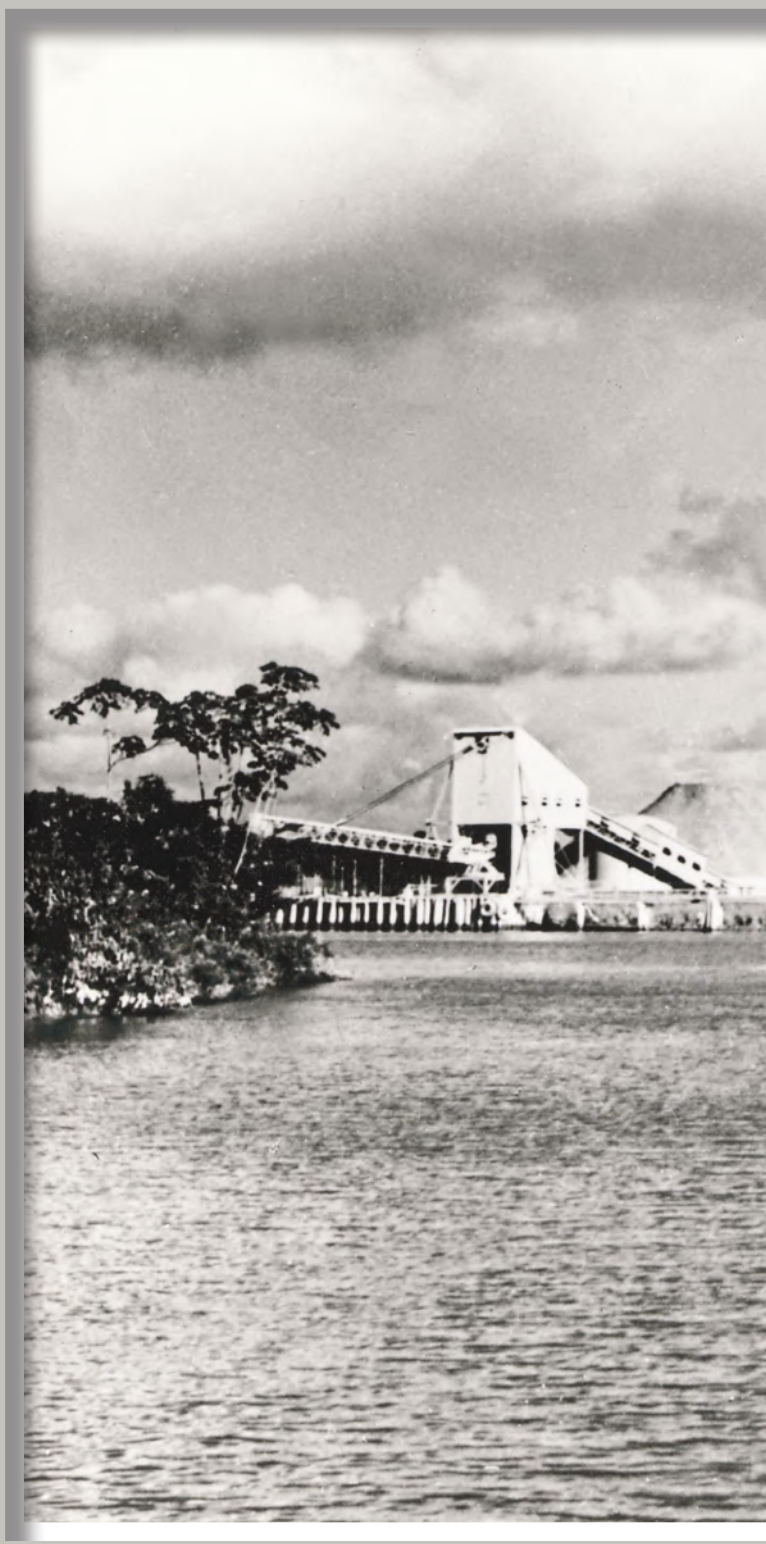


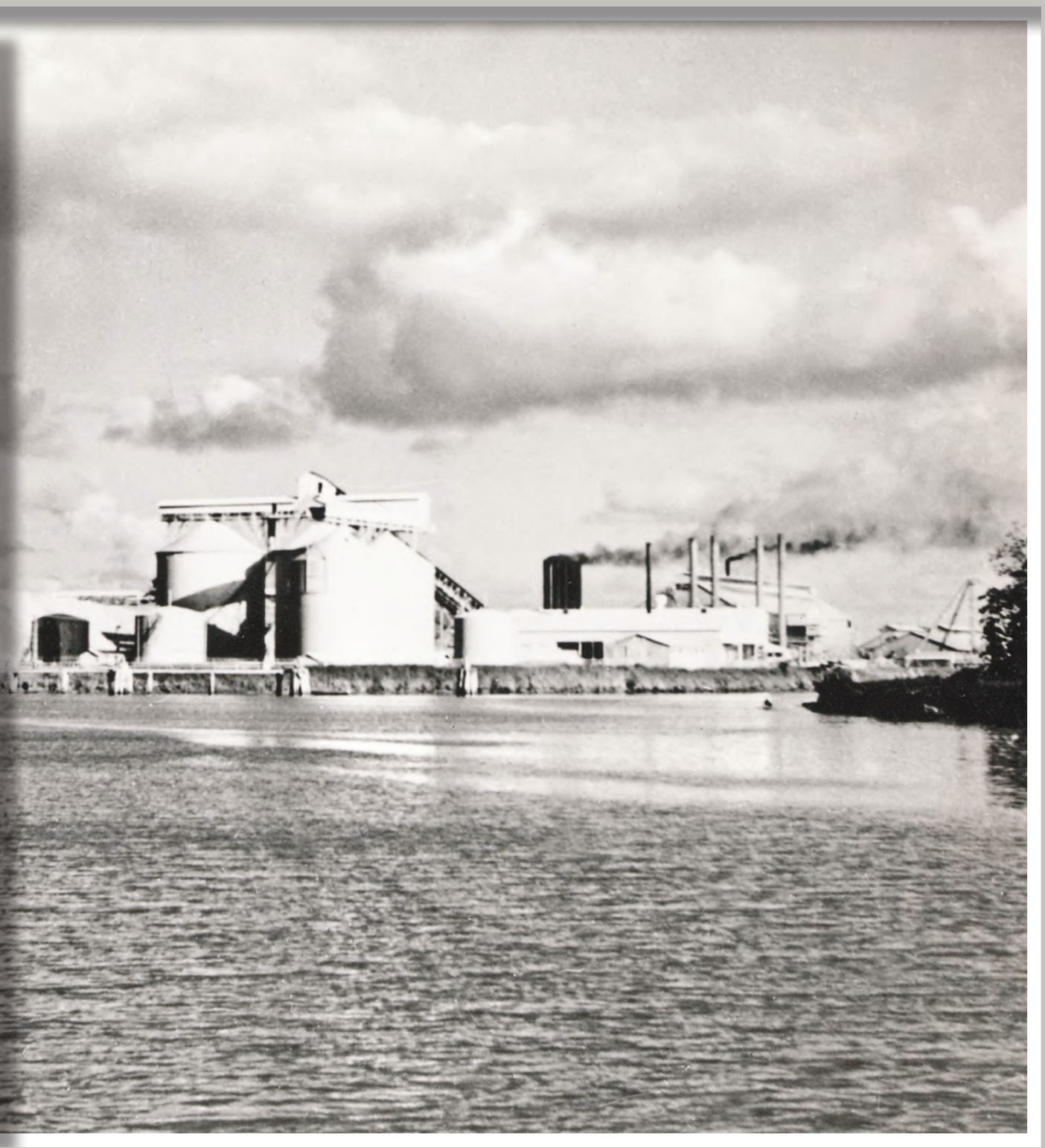
Jungle Gold book.

Nationalist sentiments

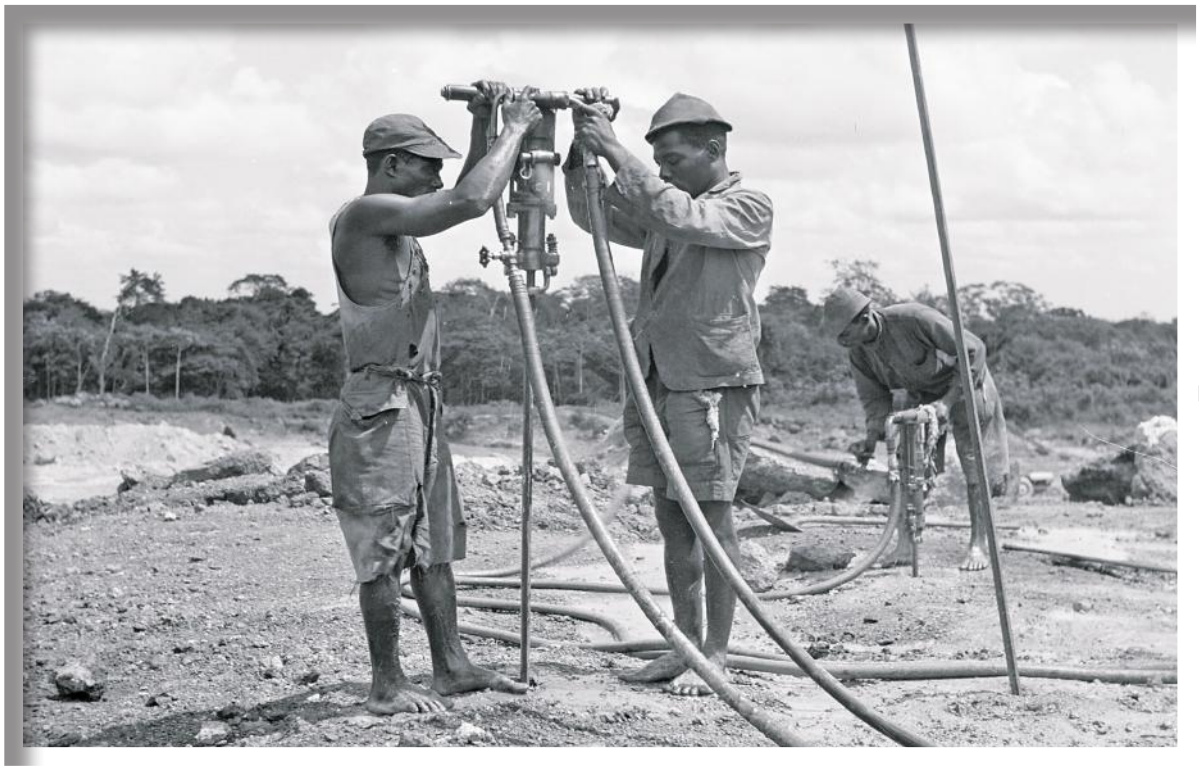
Economic growth in the early 20th century planted the seeds of early nationalist sentiment in Suriname. With the growth of the bauxite industry, Alcoa established the company town of Moengo in 1916 and set modern standards in Suriname for infrastructure, health services and education. This was contrasted with what was perceived as Dutch colonial neglect, sparking ideas for what else could be in an independent, prosperous Suriname.

In 1919, Alcoa proposed that the United States purchase Suriname from the Netherlands, similar to the American acquisition of the Danish Virgin Islands in 1917. This idea was seriously considered but ultimately abandoned. Alcoa's growing influence and the idea of the Netherlands' selling Suriname sparked resistance among Suriname's growing Creole population, which highlighted a feeling of betrayal by the Dutch colonial authorities and increased calls for self-determination and local control. Reportedly, these sentiments were reflected by Anton de Kom in his iconic book, *Wij Slaven van Suriname (We Slaves of Suriname)*, which characterized the Dutch consideration of the sale of its colony to the United States as yet another vestige of slavery: the idea that, although slavery had been abolished years before, the land and all the people in Suriname could be sold once more.





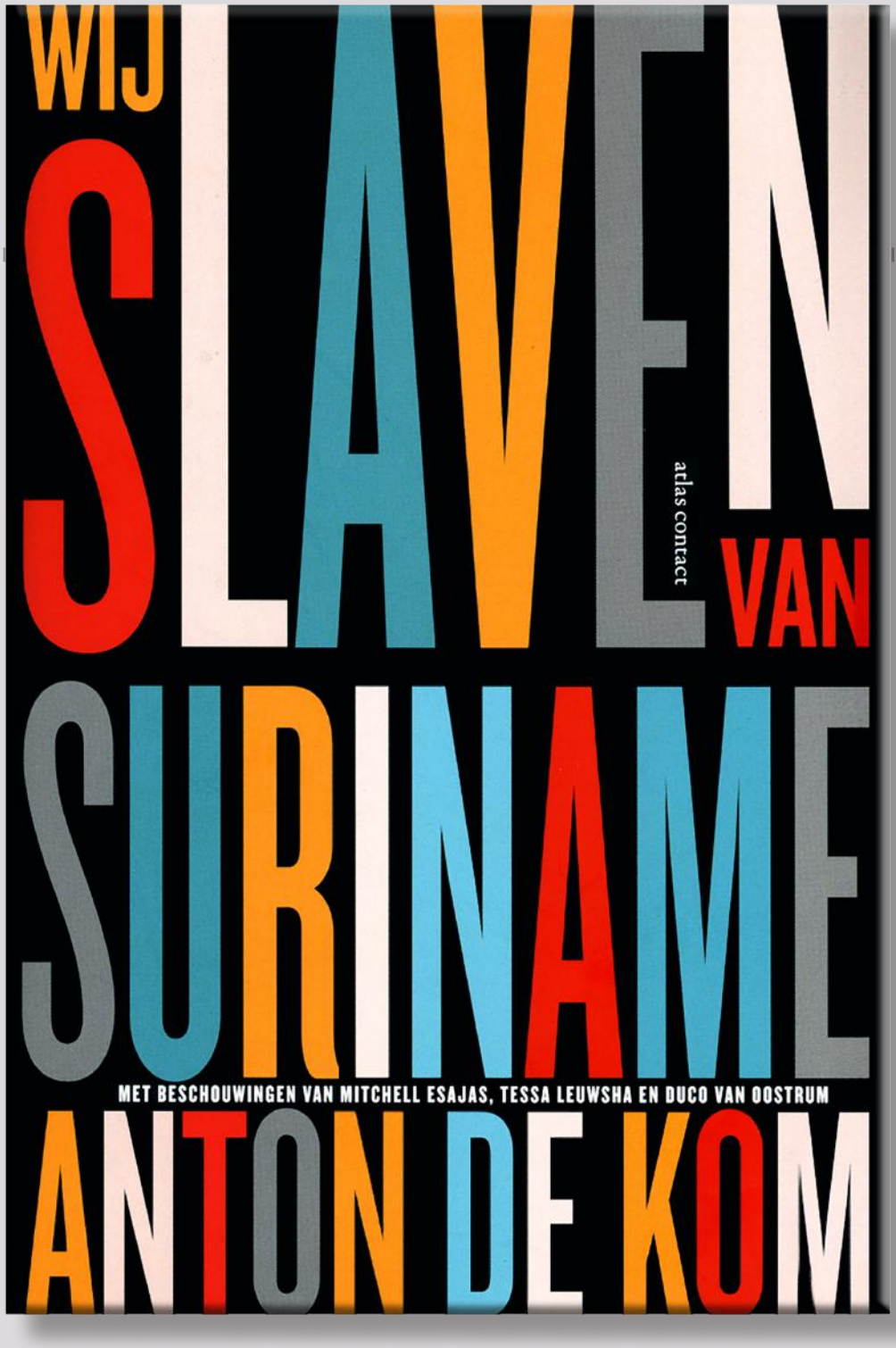
Suriname. View of the town of Moengo, centre of bauxite mining by Suralco (subsidiary of Alcoa).



Placing explosives on the site of the Surinamese Bauxite Company in Paranam.



Director's Residence "Casa Blanca," 1961.



Wij Slaven van Suriname by Anton de Kom, 1934.

Charles Lindbergh Delivers

Following the advent of air travel in the 1910s and the rise of passenger planes in the 1920s, Suriname and the United States became connected by air. At the urging of Alcoa Corporation, world famous U.S. aviator and PanAm consultant, Charles Lindbergh, flew to Suriname in September 1929 with his wife Anne Murrow to open up the country to air travel. He flew a Sikorsky S-38 to Suriname, landed in the Suriname river by the Waterkant, and delivered Suriname's first air mail letter ever.



THE LINDBERGHS, THE TRIPPES, AND BILL DEL VALLE WITH SIKORSKY S-38 ON TRIP AROUND LATIN AMERICA 1929

Pictured here are Lindbergh his wife Anne (center) with Juan Trippe, founder and CEO of Pan Am and his wife Betty (r). To the left is Bill Del Valle, Station Manager at Paramaribo.



1929 “First Flight” airmail cover commemorating the inaugural flight from San Juan, Puerto Rico to Paramaribo, Dutch Guiana.



Paramaribo Crowd Awaiting Lindbergh, September 1929.



Amelia Earhart and Fred Noonan arrive at Zanderij, June 3, 1937 (Stichting Surinaams Museum).



Nearly a decade after Lindbergh, Amelia Earhart landed in Suriname during her final attempt to be the first woman aviator to circumnavigate the globe. She arrived from Caripito, Venezuela, with navigator Fred Noonan, at Zanderij on June 3, 1937, on the sixth leg of her journey. After staying overnight in Paramaribo, she left for Fortaleza, Brazil. Weeks later, during the 29th leg of her 30-leg journey, Earhart disappeared on July 2, 1937, and is believed to have crashed into the Pacific Ocean.



1967 Suriname postage stamp commemorating Amelia Earhart's visit to Suriname on her last flight.

Hollywood in the Amazon

The movie *'Too Hot to Handle',* starred Clark Gable and Myrna Loy and was partially filmed on location in Santigron, Wanica in 1938. The movie is typical Hollywood fare about two rival newsreel photographers who join forces to find an aviatrix's missing brother, who has disappeared in the Amazon rainforest. It is the first known Hollywood movie filmed on location Santigron, Wanica. Clark Gable was then the "King of Hollywood." He returned to the United States to star in *'Gone in the Wind'* in 1939, one of the most successful Hollywood movies from the studio's golden age.

The 1962 *Spiral Road*, starring Rock Hudson, presents the story of a Dutch physician treating leprosy patients in the jungles of Indonesia. The film includes location shots of Paramaribo and Suriname's interior and includes numerous Surinamese extras.



Rock Hudson among Surinamese extras during the recording of Spiral Road in 1962.

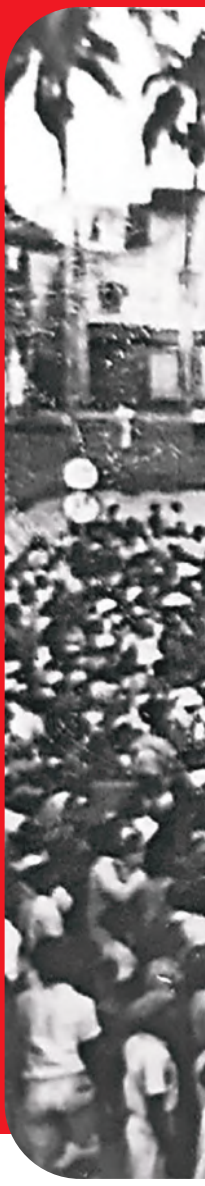


Too Hot to Handle, Film Poster 1938.

Coca-Cola and the American Brand

Due to growing economic ties, American companies sought to invest in Suriname. Jule Fernandes obtained the Coca-Cola bottling franchise in 1938 after a chance conversation with a Coca-Cola manager during a flight in America. The I. Fernandes & Son Bottling Company in Suriname has been the exclusive bottler of Coca-Cola in the country since 1938. The company started bottling the first bottles of Coca-Cola in Suriname on March 19, 1939. In the early 1940s, Jule launched the popular soft drink brand Fernandes. The arrival of American troops in Suriname in 1941 significantly increased the popularity of Coca-Cola in Suriname. It even led to soldiers naming a recreation area near their post at Zanderij 'Cola Creek', because of the similarity of the water's color to Coca-Cola.

Other American brands soon followed. CKC Machinehandel Surmac N.V. has been the only authorized representative of Caterpillar in Suriname since 1941. Goodyear, Ford, Esso and John Deere also entered the Surinamese market around this time. In 2002, American companies in Suriname formed the American Chamber of Commerce of Suriname at the initiative of U.S. Ambassador Daniel Johnson. Today, AmCham Suriname boasts over 70 members and works to promote a conducive environment for investment, entrepreneurship, and economic development.





Jule Fernandes on Klipstenenstraat with the Coca-Cola distribution truck and Stootkar.



Parade and celebration in Paramaribo on the return of the Irene Brigade Surinamese soldiers from the Dutch East Indies, February 17, 1947.

Logo of the American Chamber of Commerce of Suriname

Allied Casualties and a Fallen Diplomat

Even prior to the attack on Pearl Harbor and U.S. entry into World War II, U.S. troops were already stationed in Suriname to protect the bauxite mines, defend Suriname against the threat of invasion and contribute to the protection of shipping from submarine warfare in the sea lanes off Suriname's coast. In 2024, the American Battlefields and Monuments Commission (ABMC) commemorated these U.S. troops with a marker – the first in the Caribbean – highlighting the military cooperation between the United States and Suriname during the war. By the end of WWII, an estimated 8,000 American soldiers had served in Suriname, with the U.S. military presence ending in 1947.

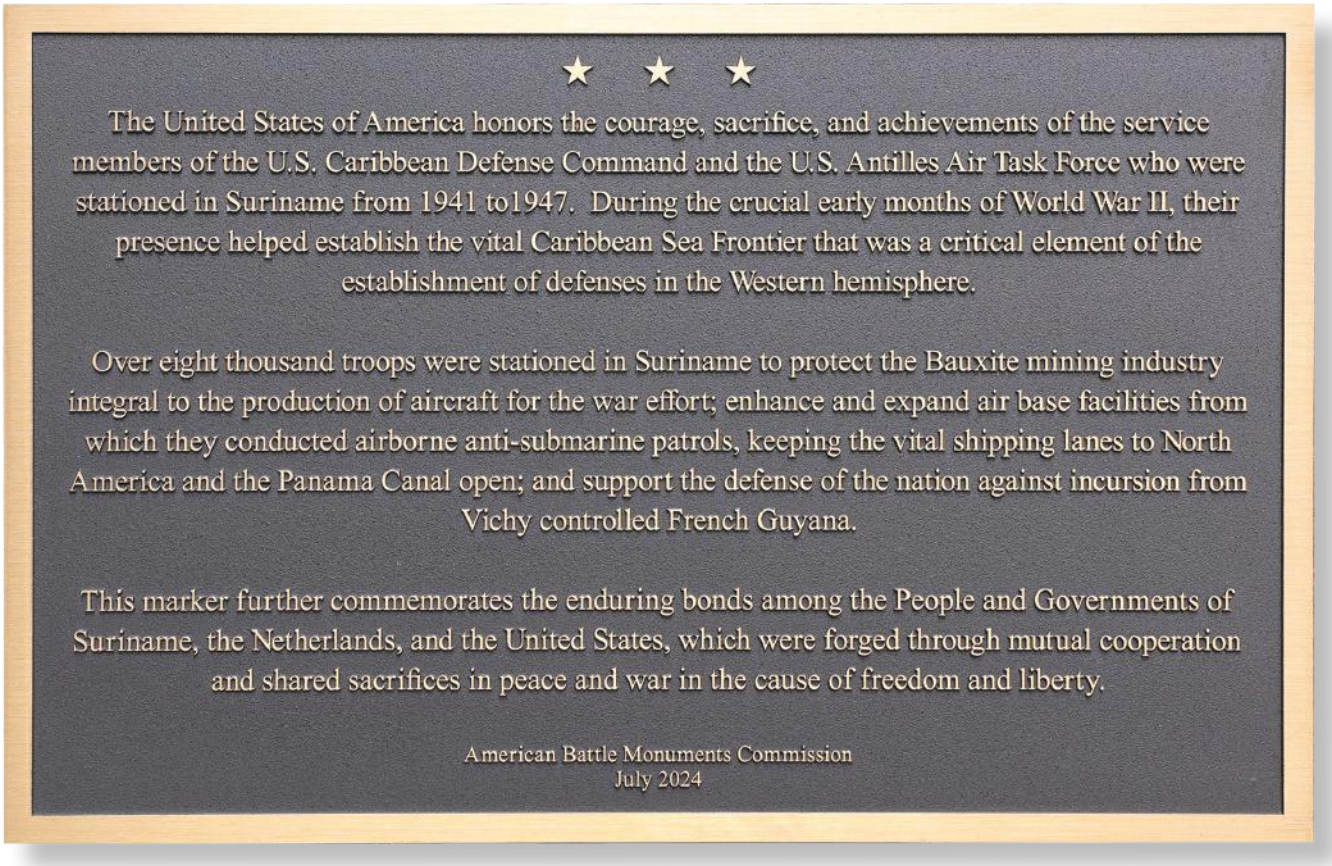
During the course of the war, many American troops lost their lives in Suriname, mostly through accidents, including horrific plane crashes. On January 15, 1943, a C-54 plane on a secret mission to carry passengers to the Casablanca Conference, a strategic meeting between President Roosevelt and Winston Churchill, crashed near the



Memorial Day dedication of the ABMC Marker at the U.S. Embassy on Saturday, May 25th, 2024, in Paramaribo, Suriname. Left to Right: Brigadier General Deborah L. Bartunek, South Dakota National Guard, Suriname's Foreign Affairs Minister Albert Ramdin, U.S. Ambassador Robert J. Faucher, and Suriname's Defense Minister Krishna Mathoera

Bakkie Plantation in Suriname, killing all 35 people on board. It was the worst aviation disaster in the Western Hemisphere at that time. Among those onboard was diplomat Osmon E. Henryson, who was recognized by Secretary of State Cordell Hull as the first State Department casualty of the Second World War. Also onboard were Eric Knight, the author of Lassie and a member of the U.S. army, and Percy Foxworth, the Assistant Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigations.

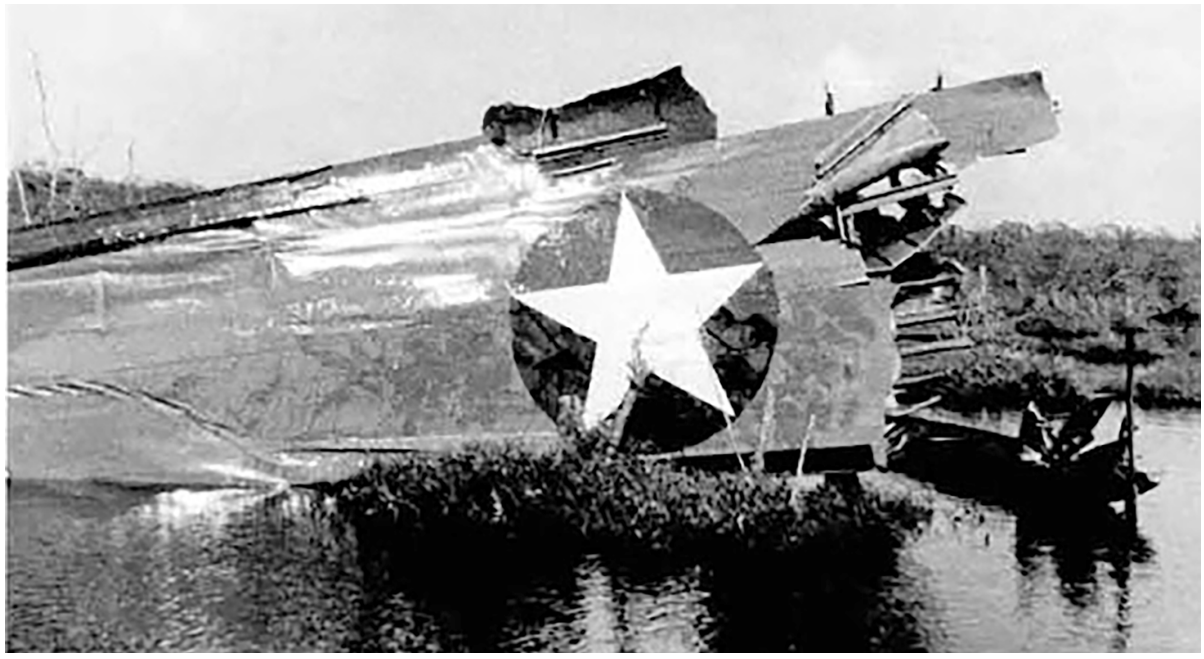
Luckier U.S. servicemen miraculously survived the 48 recorded plane crashes in Suriname during the war. B-25 bomber pilot Tom Harmon survived an April 8, 1943 crash in the rainforest near the border with French Guiana. No other members of his crew survived. After five days of wandering in the jungle, Harmon was rescued by two local Surinamese maroons, who took him in a dugout canoe to the nearest village. He was already famous for winning college football's most prestigious award, the Heisman Trophy in 1940, and he would go on to complete his war service surviving another crash in China. Tom Harmon became father to Mark Harmon, a famous Hollywood actor.



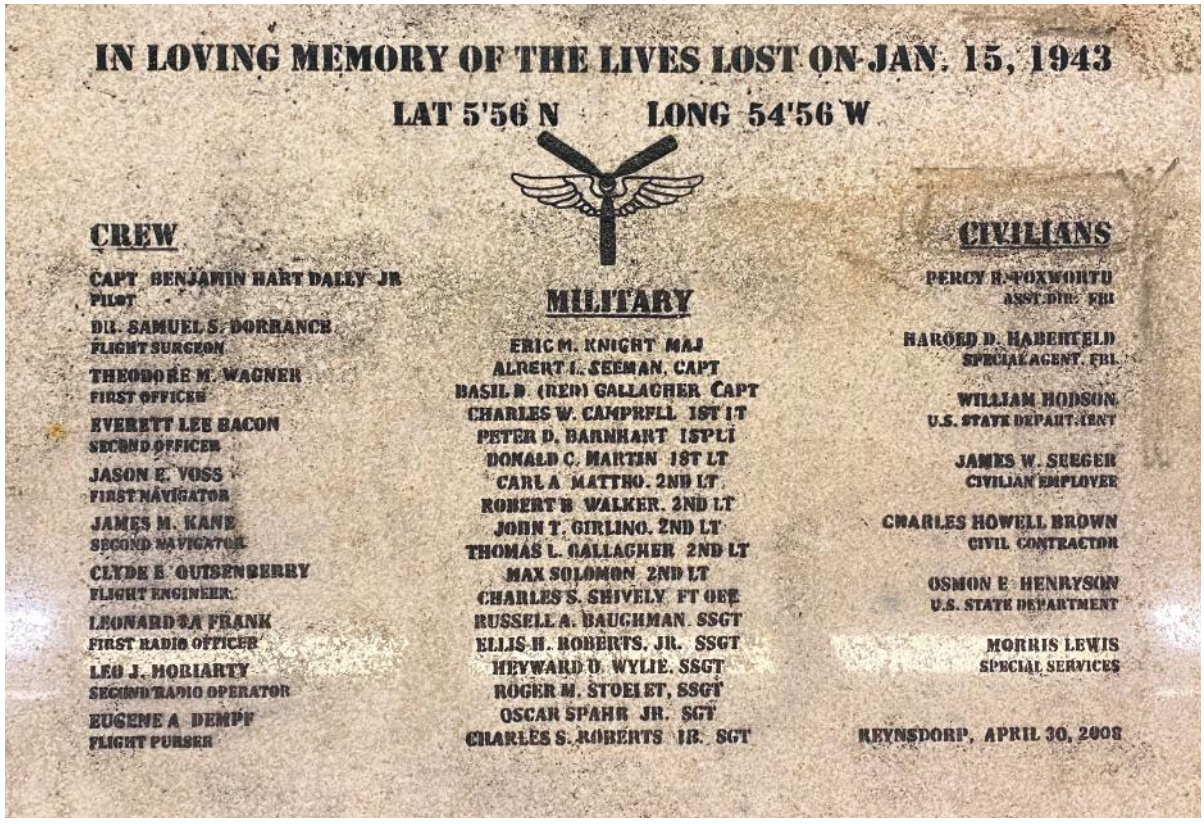
American Battlefield and Monuments Commission marker, U.S. Embassy Paramaribo.



Pilot Tom Harmon behind a WWII P-38 nose art aircraft.



The plane that crashed at Bakkie, taken on January 16, 1943 by crash investigators.



A plaque honoring the 35 men who died was unveiled April 30, 2008 at Bakkie (Reynsdorp), the nearest village to the crash site.

Growing U.S. Influences



While the U.S. mission was to protect Suriname, its bauxite mines, and the sea lanes, the WWII U. S. military presence impacted many aspects of Surinamese life. The U.S. military developed the airfields at Zanderij and Zorg en Hoop, giving rise to Paramaribo's two main airports. Zanderij soon became the largest airport in South America. Zorg en Hoop was home to a dirigible field, and soon U.S. Navy blimps could be seen flying above Suriname while their crews monitored the coastal waters for enemy submarines. At the same time, Pad van Wanica was paved and bridged to ease access to Zanderij.

Socially, local wages went up significantly, job opportunities became plentiful, and for the first time, American consumer goods and music became readily available. While in Paramaribo, U.S. personnel could access the officer's club at the Kerkplein, where the USO (United Service Organization) provided entertainment and leisure activities that proved popular with the locals as well.



B-18's of the 99th Bombardment Squadron, Caribbean 1942



Zanderij Airport 1948.





A U.S. Navy K-class blimp is towed toward a hangar, circa in 1944.

Basketball Diplomacy

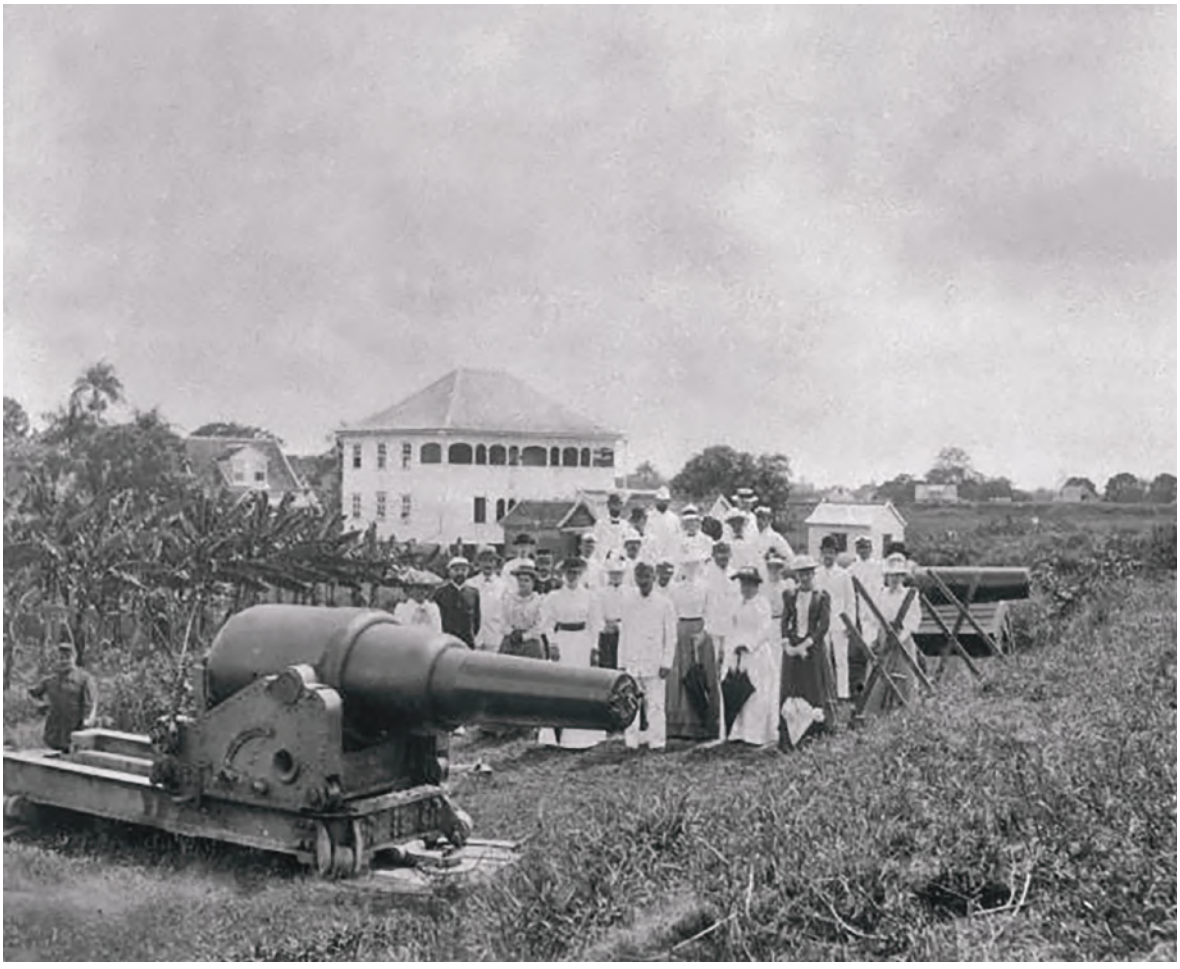
Although basketball had been introduced to Suriname earlier, in November 1941 the arrival of U.S. troops led to organized games between U.S. military and local community teams. Troops coming to Paramaribo from Zanderij on the weekends noticed basketball hoops at the Chinese association Chung Fa. Thanks to the efforts of Lieutenant Carlsen and Sergeant Calloway, regular Sunday games were soon held between the U.S. soldiers and the Chung Fa Foei Kon team. The first game was held in June 1942 between the 35th Bombing Squadron and Chung Fa Foei Kon and by September of that year, Suriname's first basketball club and an official basketball association were established with American and Chinese support. The soldiers and Chinese Surinamese also faced off on the volleyball court. On Saturday 10 October 1942, on the occasion of the Chinese Republic Day, a friendly match was organized at the Chung Fa Foei Kon grounds at 18:30 between 35th Bombing Squadron and Chung Fa Foei Kon. The Chung Fa Foei Kon won 21-12 and 21-13.



Suriname-America Basketball Contest, 1942.

Fort Nieuw-Amsterdam

During World War II, Fort Nieuw-Amsterdam, a historic fort built in 1734 on the eastern bank of the Suriname River across from Fort Zeelandia, was host to a contingent of U.S. troops who used the fort as a base to strengthen Suriname's defense capabilities including the installation of a shore battery. The U.S. presence at the confluence of the Suriname and Commewijne Rivers protected the vital shipping routes and allowed bauxite to safely transit by water to the United States. The U.S. Embassy funded a preservation project in 2012 at the Fort through the Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation. The project addressed serious deterioration of decorative and structural elements of the Fort's historic commander's residence.

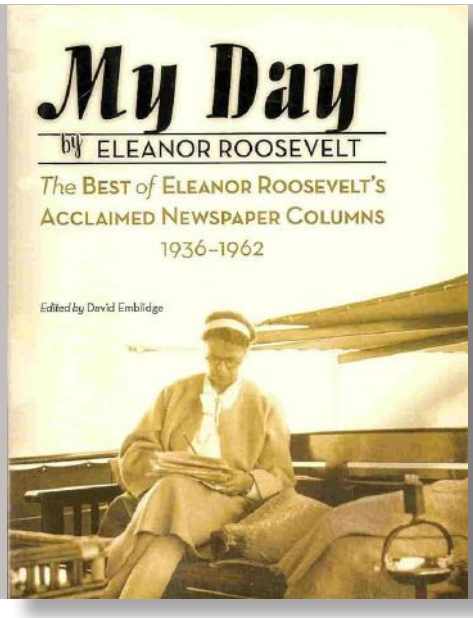


Earlier shore battery at Fort Nieuw Amsterdam.

Eleanor



Eleanor Roosevelt at Zanderij.



My Day – collection of Eleanor Roosevelt's national newspaper column.

First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt visited Suriname twice, in 1938 and later in 1944. Her 1944 visit underscored the importance of the cooperation between Suriname and the United States in the Allied war effort. As the First Lady of the United States, her visit was a morale booster and a symbol of the strong ties between the two nations. During her visit, she toured the bauxite mines and facilities, acknowledging the contributions of Surinamese workers to the war. She wrote about her 1944 visit in her nationally syndicated newspaper column. Eleanor Roosevelt is the only U.S. First Lady to have visited Suriname.



Eleanor Roosevelt dining with U.S. troops in Suriname.

Josef Nassy

Surinamese-American artist Josef Nassy was born in Paramaribo in 1904, but by 1919 he had joined his father in New York, where he received U.S. nationality. In 1929 he moved to England and later to Belgium, to work as a portrait artist. After the German invasion of Belgium, Nassy was arrested as an enemy national and imprisoned in internment camps in Beverloo (Belgium) and Laufen and Tittmoning (Germany). During his 3 years in captivity, he created more than 200 paintings and drawings depicting the day-to-day life in the camps, which were home to a large number of British and American expats. The majority of his works are housed at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington D.C. and two of his paintings can be seen at the Suriname Museum at Fort Zeelandia.



Passing the Days , 1942 - 1945.



Laufen, 1944 - 1945.



Laufen, 1944 - 1945.

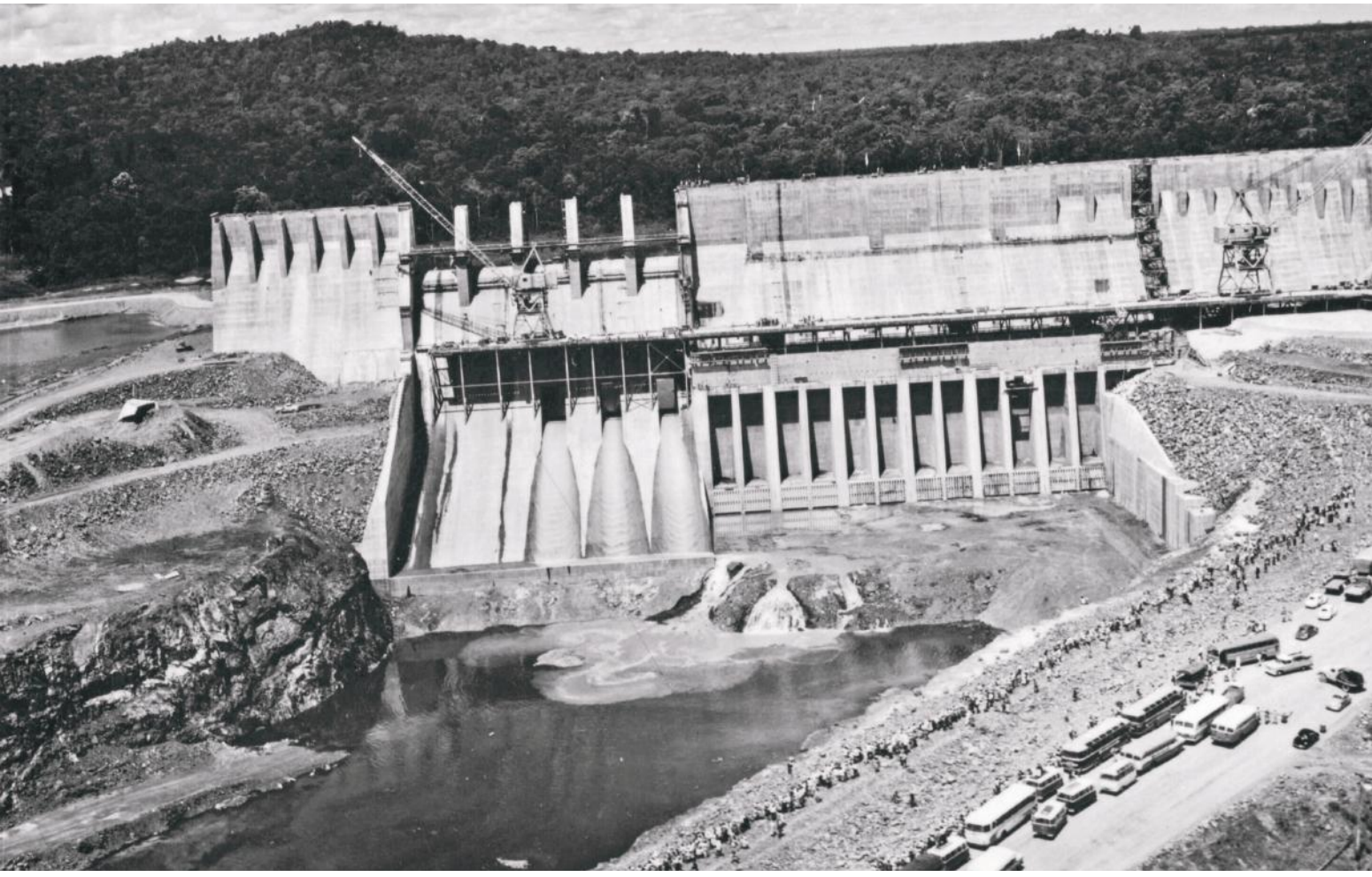


The Mood in the Courtyard, 1942 - 1945.

Chapter 4
Mid-Century Modernization

The post-War era marked a period of rapid modernization and growing connections between Suriname and the United States. Advances in air travel brought historic visits by U.S. Presidents Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1960 and Lyndon B. Johnson in 1967, reflecting the increasing importance of Suriname in regional and global affairs. During this transformative period, American expertise and resources contributed to major infrastructure projects, including the construction of the Afobaka Dam in the 1960s to provide the hydropower essential for Suriname's development.

Cooperation extended beyond infrastructure to environmental conservation and scientific exploration. When the rising waters created by the Afobaka Dam threatened local wildlife, American volunteers initiated Operation Gwamba, a remarkable effort to rescue thousands of animals from the flooded areas. Meanwhile, the skies above Suriname became a frontier for technological progress when NASA and the Dutch Space Agency selected Totness, Coronie, as a launch site to test rockets in 1965.



Construction of Afobaka Dam.

Departures

U.S. troops had arrived in Suriname on November 23, 1941 at the invitation of the Dutch government-in-exile. The troops left in October 1947. During those six years, Suriname underwent a number of changes. Local Surinamers who used to look solely to the Netherlands were now familiar with the United States, its society, economy, and culture.

Before the arrival of the American troops, the Atlantic Charter issued on August 14, 1941 outlined the post-WWII goals of the United States and the United Kingdom. Those goals included self-determination, cooperation, and limited barriers to trade. The Netherlands agreed to those principles at the Inter-Allied Council on September 23, and two months later U.S. troops arrived in Suriname.



American troop ship arrives in Dutch Guiana.

After the war, as part of the broader post-war decolonization movement, Suriname held its first elections in 1949, selecting Julius Caesar De Miranda as Prime Minister. On June 29, 1954 the United States released the Second Atlantic Charter, a joint statement with the United Kingdom, which affirmed the U.S. commitment to peace based on self-government and peaceful resolution of disputes within the United Nations framework. Just a few months later, Suriname and the Netherlands Antilles received autonomy within the Kingdom of the Netherlands under the December 1954 "Statute of the Kingdom"



President Roosevelt and Churchill at Atlantic Conference. Newfoundland, August 1941.

During the war, responsibility for Suriname passed from the U.S. Army's Caribbean Defense Command to the Puerto Rico's National Guard. Prior to the Guard's final withdrawal in 1947, the Puerto Rican lawmaker Antonio Pacheco Prado proposed purchasing Suriname and integrating it into the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. This proposal received limited support.



June 1954. American Secretary of State, John Foster Dulles (extreme left); British Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill, President Eisenhower and the British Foreign Secretary, Anthony Eden, on the White House lawn.



U.S. flag lowering, 1947.

President Eisenhower

On March 3, 1960, President Dwight D. “Ike” Eisenhower became the first U.S. president to visit Suriname when his plane made an emergency landing at Zanderij on his way to Washington from Uruguay. The President was accompanied by Secretary of State Christian Archibald Herter. Despite the unplanned nature of the visit, the event was well received. The President met with the Governor Jan van Tilburg and Prime Minister Severinus Desiré “Freek” Emanuels.





President Eisenhower at Zanderij.

Hey, Hey, It's LBJ!

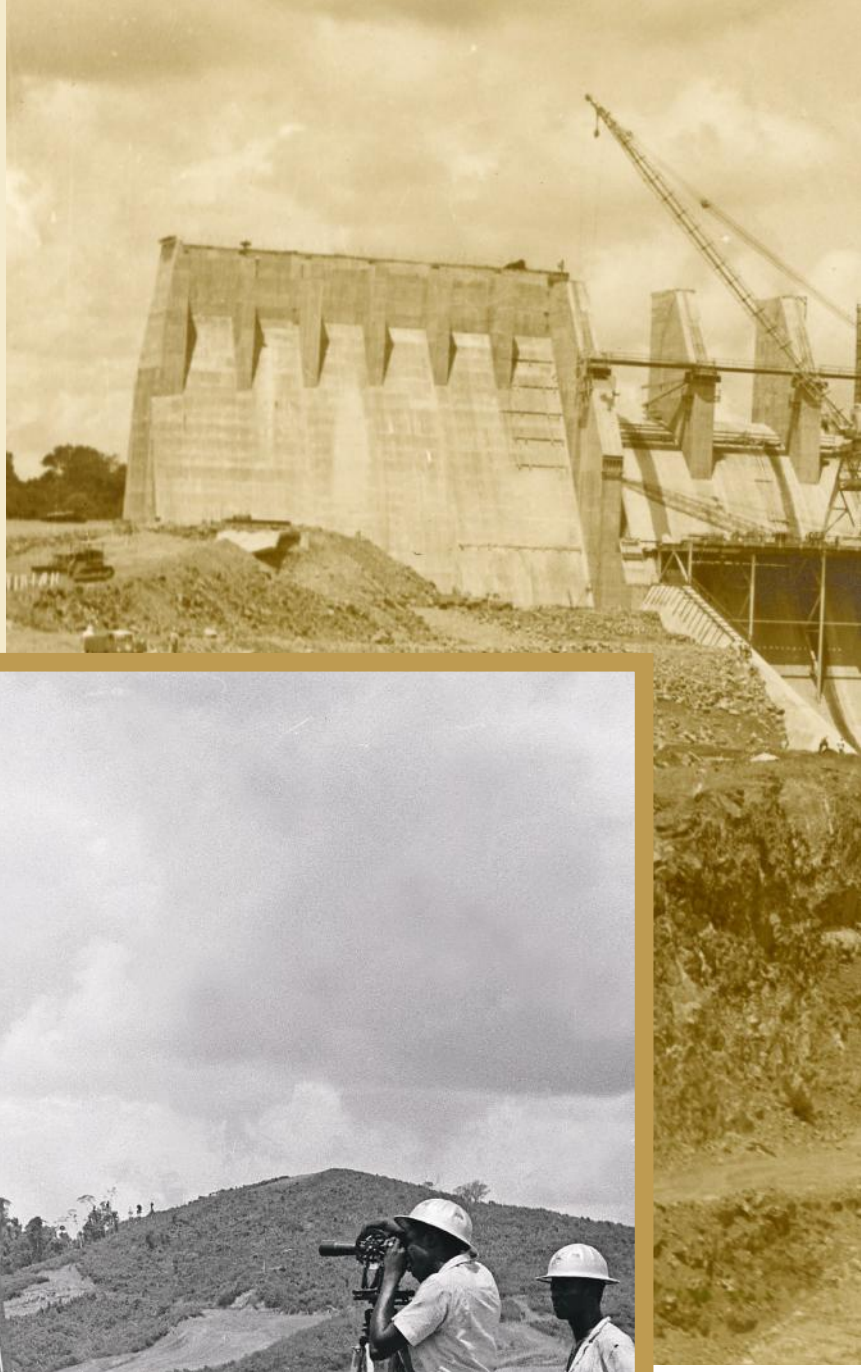
On 14 April 1967, President Lyndon Baines Johnson (LBJ) arrived at Zanderij during a rainstorm for a planned refueling stop. He was en route from Uruguay, where the President attended the Punta del Este Summit meeting with Latin American heads of state. President Johnson met with Prime Minister Johan Pengel and was accompanied by Secretary of State Dean Rusk.



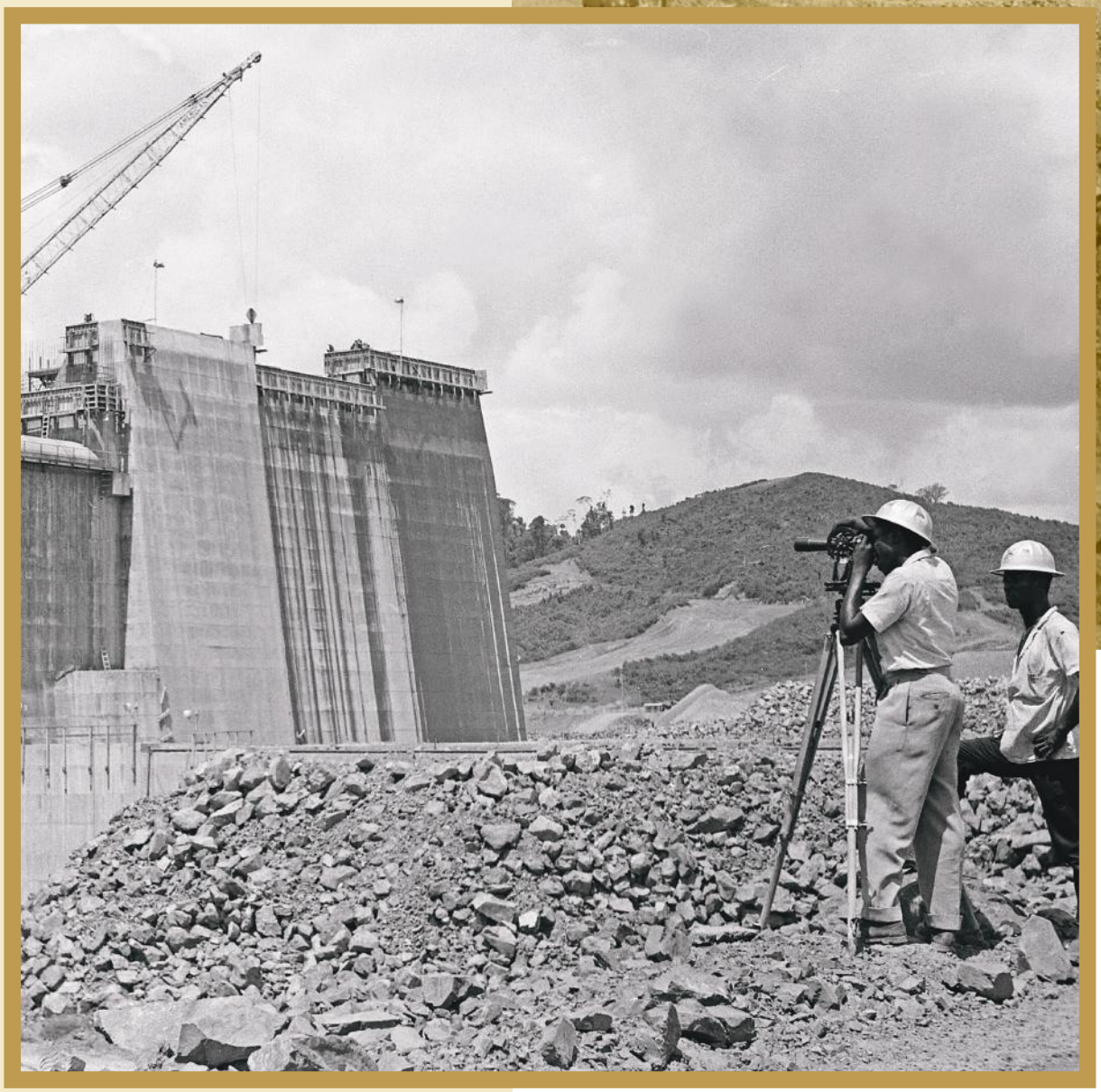
LBJ at Zanderij.

In an address to the people of Suriname, President Johnson proclaimed:

"I value very much the close and cordial ties which link our countries... You also know the happiness and other benefits racial cooperation and harmony can produce. You give to the hemisphere and to the entire world, for that matter, very vivid testimony to the advantages which peace, stability, and the democratic process can bring to people".



Afobaka dam, nearly completed.



Surveyor at Afobaka Dam



Suri-dam

In the search for power to fuel the processing of bauxite to aluminum as the next step in Suriname's development, Alcoa subsidiary Suralco partnered with the local Surinamese and Dutch governments to build the Afobaka Dam. Suralco signed the Afobaka Agreement in 1958, with construction work starting in 1961 on the upper Suriname River. The dam was completed in 1964. Electricity generation started in 1965, although the reservoir wasn't fully filled until 1971. Over 43 villages were flooded, with local authorities relocating more than 5000 residents to new villages above and below the dam. Up to 75% of the generated electricity was used for bauxite processing, with the remaining electricity used to power Paramaribo.

Operation Gwamba

As the waters rose behind the Afobaka dam, one of the largest animal rescue missions in the history of the world took place. Spearheaded by American John Walsh of the Boston-based International Society for the Protection of Animals (now called World Animal Protection), Operation Gwamba saved more than 10,000 animals from the rising floodwaters. A team of U.S. and Surinamese volunteers and experts worked together as the waters submerged increasingly large areas of rainforest. They relocated at least 43 species of animal to higher ground, including 2,104 three-toed sloths, 1,051 nine-banded armadillos, 973 tortoises, 927 porcupines, 840 two-toed sloths, 671 deer, 538 monkeys, and various other tapirs, ocelots, anteaters, and kinkajous. John Walsh went on to write a book about his experience in 1967 with coauthor Robert Gannon titled Time is Short and Water Rises.

South America

Jungle Game 'Hunted' to Safety

By Margaret Cobb
Staff Writer of The Christian Science Monitor

Hunters of wild game are playing a key role in the first large-scale animal rescue mission ever attempted in jungle terrain.

In fact, Operation Gwamba now in progress in Surinam, South America, could hardly get along without them.

So say those responsible for carrying out the gigantic task of rounding up thousands of animals marooned in the flooded Brokopondo Valley, and transporting them safely to dry ground.

(Freely translated, Gwamba means "animals" in the native dialect.)

Hidden in Jungle

Many deer, monkeys, ocelots, and some 30 other species which the humane mission hopes to rescue between now and next spring are hidden deep in the rank jungle thickets.

"How could they be reached before they drown or die from starvation?" project officials asked themselves.

It was a serious problem since the success of Gwamba depended on its solution.

Both J. Robert Smith, director of the Boston-based operation and his young assistant, John Walsh, puzzled over it long and hard.

As often happens, they found the answer close at hand. Why not send some experienced hunters, along with their dogs (but no guns!), into the bush? In this way the animals could be flushed out into the open waters, where men with dugout canoes waited to capture them as they emerged.

To date this solution has worked like a charm, reports Mr. Smith, whose organization —the International Society for the Protection of Animals— sponsors Operation Gwamba.

"We find the dogs do a marvelous job," the project official remarked on his recent return from the flooded areas.

"They have been trained to keep quiet until they sight game." Only then do they bark. They are also taught not to chase wild life. This is essential, the Gwamba people point out, because wild animals frighten easily. They have even been known to die from sudden noise or motion.

There have been few casualties, in Mr. Smith's estimation, from the time the new Afobaka Dam was closed and waters of the Upper Surinam River began mounting behind it.

Fortunately, the impounded waters — which eventually will form an artificial lake some 870 square miles in area — are rising very slowly. Less than an inch a day, the ISPA officer says. This means the rescue missions can be carried on without undue haste.

Meanwhile, wild life is "island hopping," moving ahead of the rising floods from one level of terrain to a higher.

Many sloths and tree porcupines were found clinging to tree tops where land had already been inundated. People in canoes equipped with outboard motors, moving in and out of the covered areas, were able to rescue them.

Mr. Smith feels there is ample time left to evacuate all the animals, "great and small."

While the Surinam Government committee which cooperates with ISPA believes it will take at least a year "to finish the job," the project director himself thinks six or eight months are all that are needed.

Enough Time Left

"The important thing is that we now have time to clear all the lower islands, starting from the dam site and following the river bed."

Quite aside from its humane aspects, Operation Gwamba appears to be having a very decided impact on the bush Negro himself (as natives of the former Dutch colony are known).

For one thing, it is curtailing his hunting habits. Mr. Smith, commenting on this said he was delighted to learn during his recent trip to Surinam that the government has banned shooting any animals which have been transplanted to the "mainland."

"The law will be in force for five years to give animals a chance to get settled in a new environment," the ISPA official said.

The very fact that skilled hunters are willing to take part in rescuing the very sort of animals they formerly shot — often with prodigal abandon — is considered a hopeful step toward becoming conservation-minded.

Until Operation Gwamba entered their domain this summer, natives as a rule were terrified of live animals, no matter how defenseless. They would shoot them on sight, John Walsh reported in one of his letters.

Today the picture is changing. Negro helpers on the Gwamba staff, following training in rescue techniques, are more inclined to lean over backward to "prove how brave they are."

Their status has gone up considerably, that's certain, Mr. Smith remarked with a smile. "Well, actually they are braver than their forbears, and they know it!"

Lapses Recalled

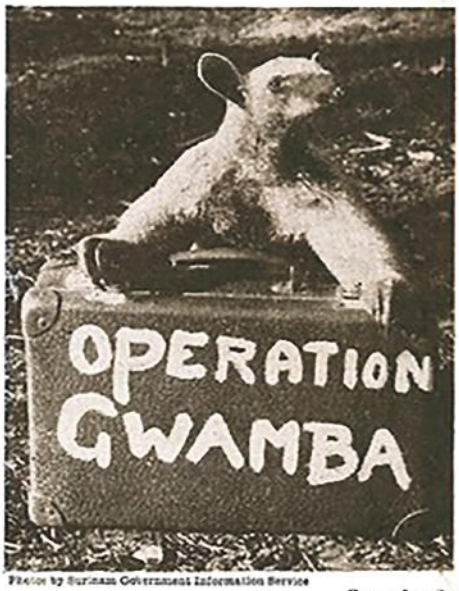
Of course, lapses do occur. Such as the time a boa constrictor invaded Gwamba's base camp.

According to the project leader, it was a clear "beautiful night." All had retired. Suddenly bedlam broke loose in the Negro quarters. We rushed over to find a seven-foot boa, shimmering with an irridescent glow in the moonlight, coiled nearby. Holding a flashlight to its eyes, John quickly grabbed the reptile behind the head, picked it up, and shoved it into a burlap bag.

Later they were to learn, from the ever-present reference books, that they had caught a rare species—a rainbow boa constrictor.

Next day "we let it loose on the mainland," Mr. Smith said.

However, the frightening incident has not dulled the natives' eagerness to bag "Bu-



Photos by Surinam Government Information Service

Gwamba Say

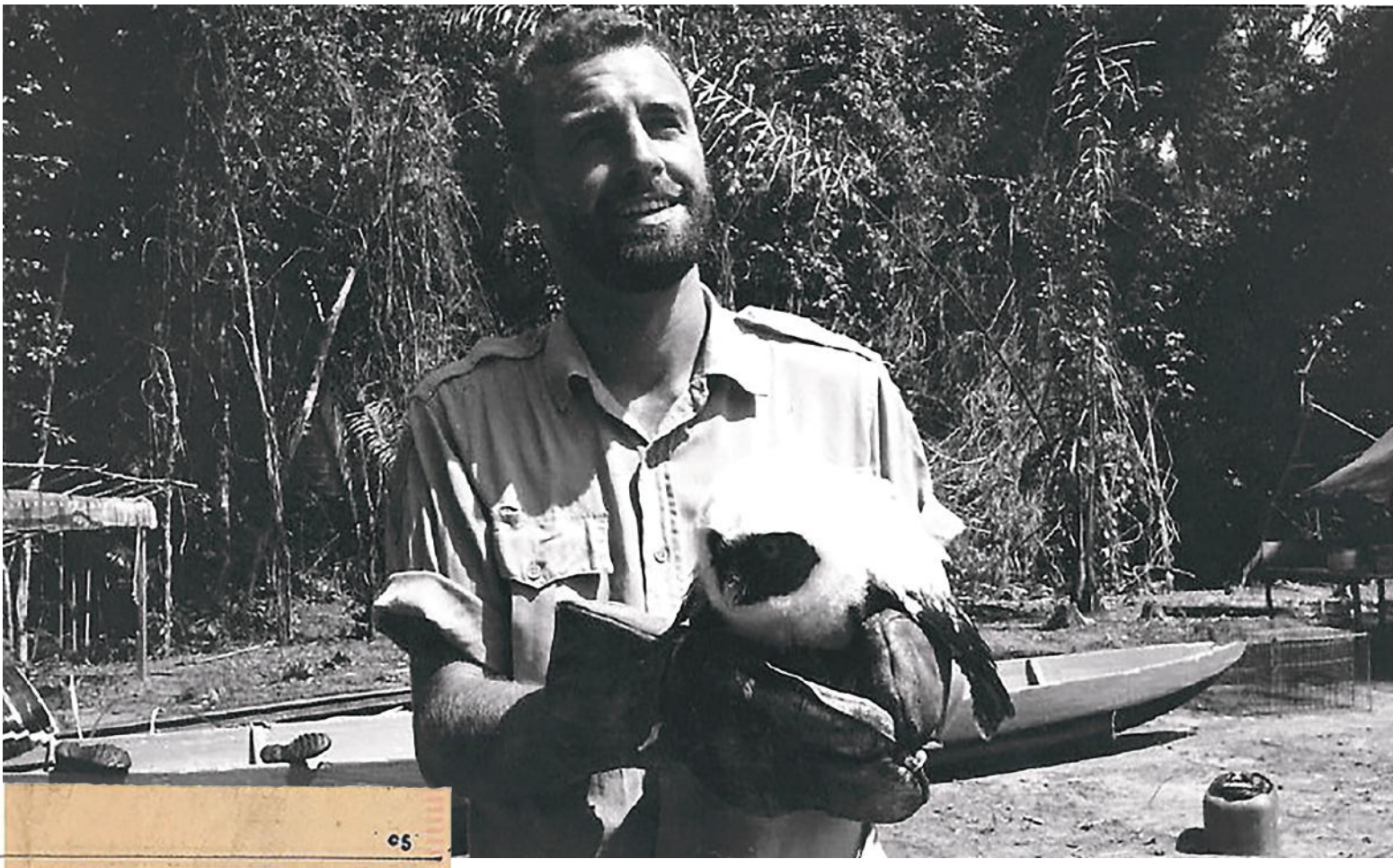
Bu," their name for jaguar.

Mr. Walsh wired headquarters that they had found clawmarks of a heavy jaguar estimated to weigh perhaps 300 pounds, on trees on one of the islands. One of these days he hopes, Bu-Bu may turn out to be their prize captive.

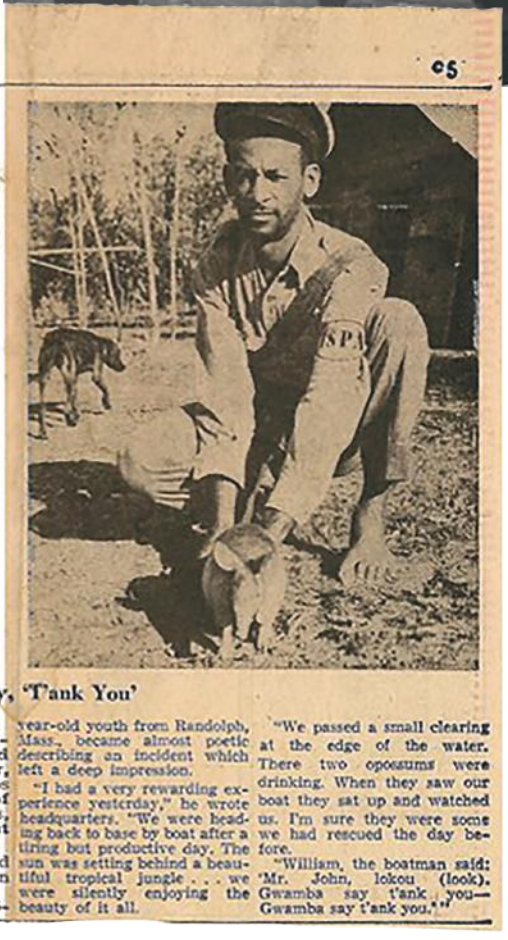
"By the way," commented his mentor in Boston, "John doesn't want to come home."

Not too long ago the 21

Operation Gwamba article in The Christian Science Monitor.



John Walsh rescuing an owl during Operation Gwamba in 1964.



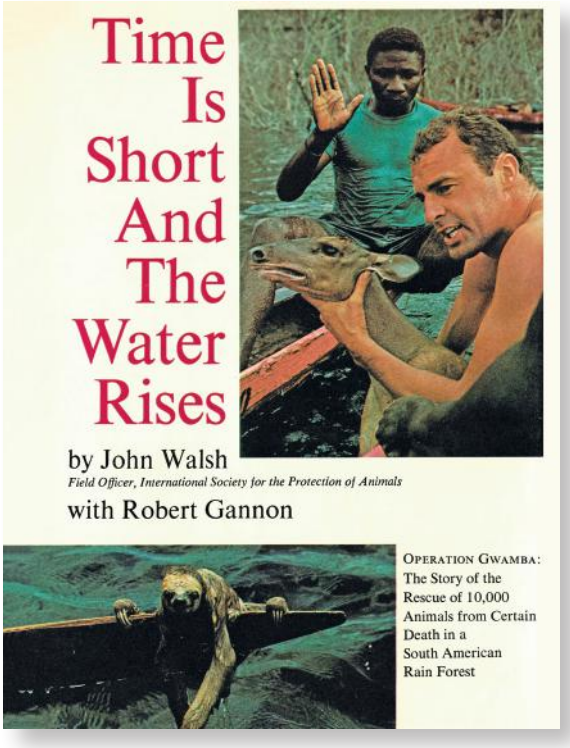
'Tank You'

year-old youth from Randolph, Mass., became almost poetic describing an incident which left a deep impression.

"I had a very rewarding experience yesterday," he wrote headquarters. "We were heading back to base by boat after a tiring but productive day. The sun was setting behind a beautiful tropical jungle . . . we were silently enjoying the beauty of it all.

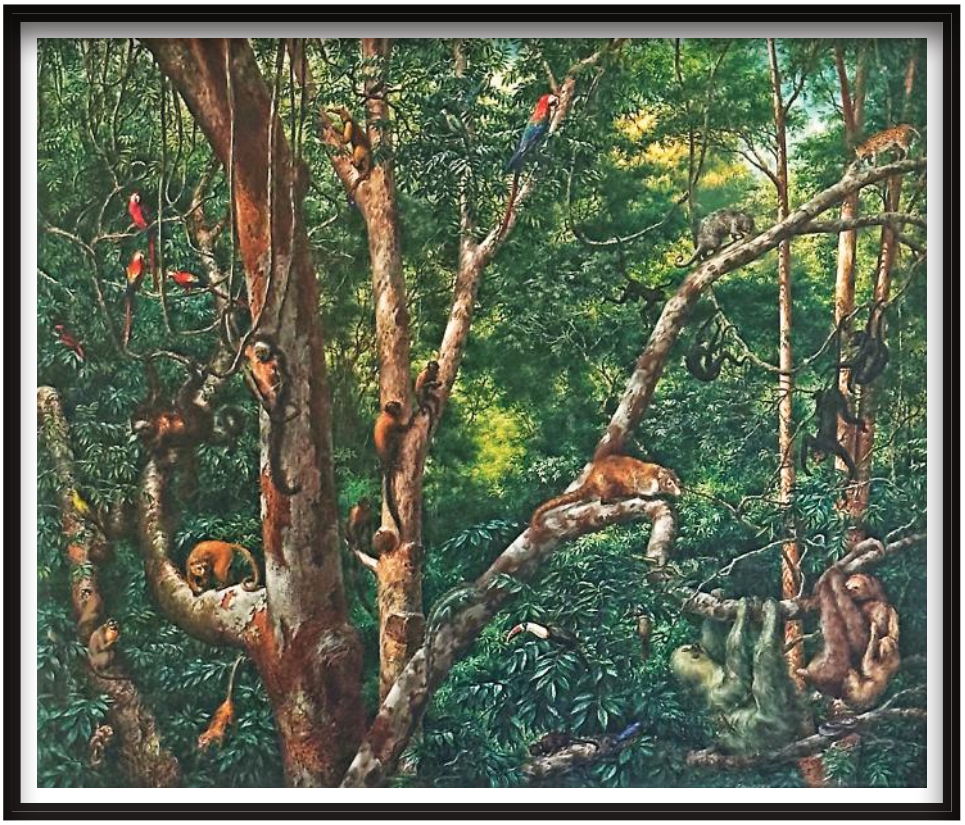
"We passed a small clearing at the edge of the water. There two opossums were drinking. When they saw our boat they sat up and watched us. I'm sure they were some we had rescued the day before.

"William, the boatman said: 'Mr. John, lokou (look). Gwamba say t'ank you—Gwamba say t'ank you.'"



Book by John Walsh
Time Is Short and the Water Rises

Into the Rain Forest



Rainforest Canopy with Monkeys and Sloths
Rudolph F. Zallinger, *The World We Live In, Part XI: The Rain Forest* (LIFE, Sep 20 1954, pp. 76–102)

Ten years earlier, in 1954 American artist Rudolph Zallinger visited Suriname for several months on a commission from *LIFE magazine*. LIFE was then the most popular and important photomagazine in America; it sought to bring readers closer to the world through powerful imagery and journalism. While in Suriname, Zallinger traveled into the interior to complete eight scenes capturing life in the rainforest as part of the series Part XI ("The Rain Forest") of the series *The World We Live In*. His beautiful works, featuring parrots, macaws, eagles, monkeys, and sloths, introduced many Americans to the wonders of Suriname's natural world for the first time and inspired a generation of future naturalists.

Some of those naturalists eventually came to Suriname after independence in 1975 through American conservation-related organizations. Conservation International, which was founded in the U.S. in 1989, established its Suriname office in 1992. One of its earliest projects was a successful cooperation with the Surinamese government to found the Central Suriname Nature Reserve, an area covering 4 million acres that was recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2000. In 1996, Amazon Conservation Team was founded by Mark Plotkin with the goal of working with local and indigenous communities to protect the Amazon. ACT has supported the recognition of land rights, economic growth, indigenous medicine, and community mapping projects in the rainforest. These efforts and more have boosted investments to the interior of Suriname that support local communities through ecotourism while also preserving Suriname's status as the most forested country in the world.



Macaws and
Harpy Eagle in the
Rainforest
Rudolph F. Zallinger,
The World We Live In,
Part XI: The Rain Forest
(LIFE, Sep 20 1954,
pp. 76–102)



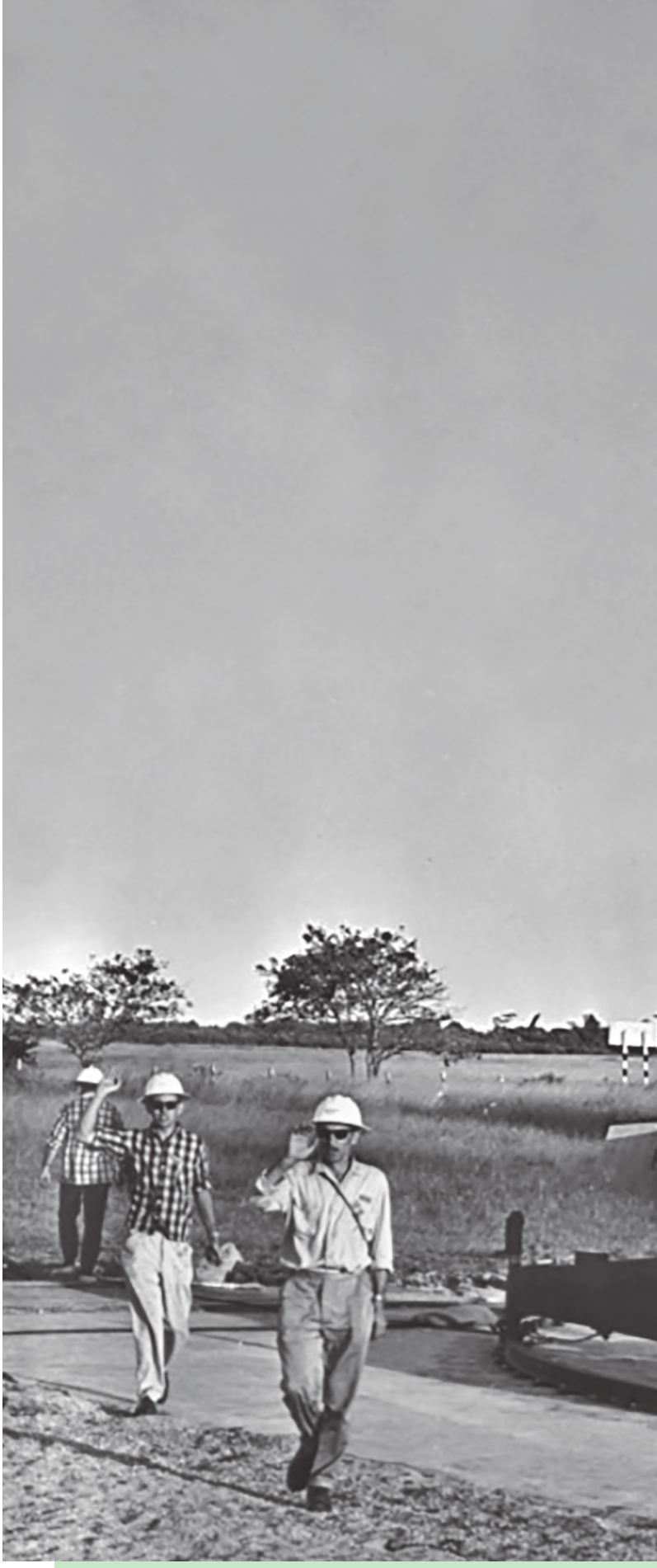
Mark Plotkin, Frits van
Troon, and actor Levar
Burton with Ijetupe, the
Jaguar Shaman from
Kwamalasamutu.

Totness Blastoff

In 1965 four Nike Apache rockets were launched from Totness, Coronie. NASA and the Dutch Koninklijk Nederlands Meteorologisch Instituut (KNMI) organized the launches to test the space worthiness of Coronie as a rocket launch site, bringing the space age to Suriname.

The rockets and the launch pad were supplied by NASA. The launch pad was only 20 by 20 meters, but enough to get the Coronie launch site listed in international directories following the listing for “Cape Canaveral.” There were a total of four launches, September 18, September 21, September 24, and September 27, 1965. Although NASA and KNMI were satisfied with Totness as a launch site, Kourou was eventually chosen as the launch center for the European Space Agency.

The Nike Apache, also known as Argo B-13, was a two-stage sounding rocket developed by Aerolab, later Atlantic Research, for use by the United States Air Force and NASA. It became the standard NASA sounding rocket and was launched over 600 times between 1961 and 1978 all around the world.



Totness Rocket.



Crew from
NASA and KNMI.

Chapter 5
Post-Independence

Since Suriname's independence in 1975, Suriname and the United States have enjoyed a strong and dynamic relationship founded on mutual respect and a shared vision for progress. The United States was among the first nations to recognize Suriname's independence, swiftly establishing diplomatic ties and opening its Embassy in November 1975. Over the decades, high-profile visits have underscored the partnership, including those by U.S. Secretaries of State Marco Rubio and Mike Pompeo and Secretary of Defense Robert Gates.

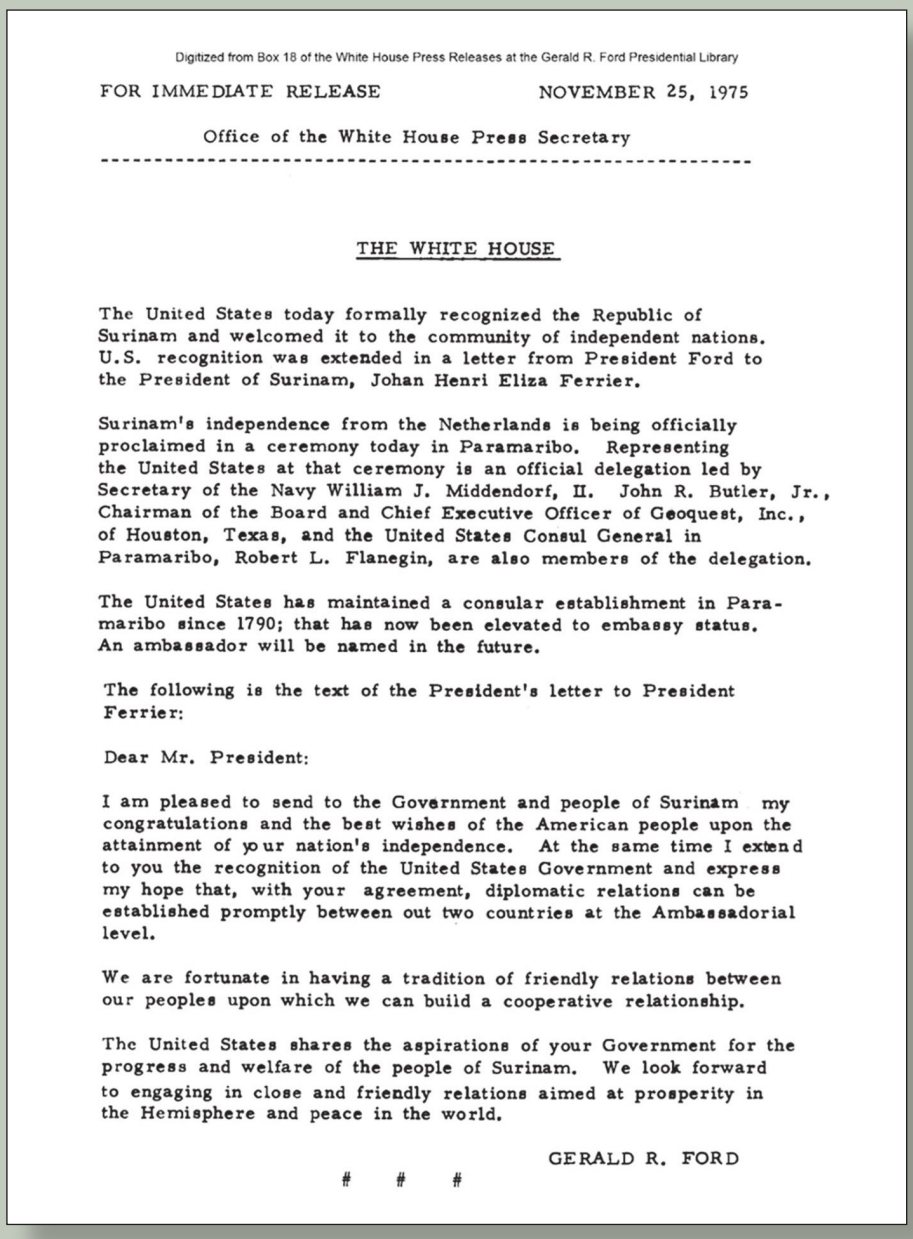
The State Partnership Program, established in 2006 between the South Dakota National Guard and the Suriname National Army, has fostered strong military collaboration and the shared commitment to regional stability. USAID's presence in Suriname, along with the contributions of the Peace Corps, supported local development initiatives, empowering communities and advancing education, health, and resilience. These initiatives, alongside deepening economic and cultural ties, illustrate the enduring bond between Suriname and the United States — a relationship that continues to grow, adapting to new challenges and opportunities in the 21st century.



Painting by Helen Zurhellen, wife of J. Owen Zurhellen, the first U.S. Ambassador to Suriname, presented to President Ferrier in 1978.

1975 Independence

When Suriname gained independence on November 25, 1975, U.S. Secretary of the Navy J. William Middendorf represented the United States at the ceremony in Paramaribo. On the same day, President Gerald Ford wrote a letter to Surinamese President Johan Henri Eliza Ferrier, extending recognition of Suriname by the United States Government. In his letter, President Ford expressed his hope for the prompt establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. Diplomatic relations were established that same day, with Charge d'Affaires Robert L. Flanagin in place.



Digitized from Box 18 of the White House Press Releases at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE NOVEMBER 25, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

The United States today formally recognized the Republic of Surinam and welcomed it to the community of independent nations. U.S. recognition was extended in a letter from President Ford to the President of Surinam, Johan Henri Eliza Ferrier.

Surinam's independence from the Netherlands is being officially proclaimed in a ceremony today in Paramaribo. Representing the United States at that ceremony is an official delegation led by Secretary of the Navy William J. Middendorf, II. John R. Butler, Jr., Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Geoquest, Inc., of Houston, Texas, and the United States Consul General in Paramaribo, Robert L. Flanegin, are also members of the delegation.

The United States has maintained a consular establishment in Paramaribo since 1790; that has now been elevated to embassy status. An ambassador will be named in the future.

The following is the text of the President's letter to President Ferrier:

Dear Mr. President:

I am pleased to send to the Government and people of Surinam my congratulations and the best wishes of the American people upon the attainment of your nation's independence. At the same time I extend to you the recognition of the United States Government and express my hope that, with your agreement, diplomatic relations can be established promptly between out two countries at the Ambassadorial level.

We are fortunate in having a tradition of friendly relations between our peoples upon which we can build a cooperative relationship.

The United States shares the aspirations of your Government for the progress and welfare of the people of Surinam. We look forward to engaging in close and friendly relations aimed at prosperity in the Hemisphere and peace in the world.

GERALD R. FORD

# # #

Letter from Gerald Ford.

Embassies

The United States was the second country to recognize an independent Suriname, following the Netherlands. Offices for the first U.S. embassy were located on the upper floors of the Hakrinbank building. Joseph Owen Zurhellen Jr. was the first Ambassador to Suriname, arriving 1976. As the diplomatic relationship between Suriname and the United States grew, the embassy moved to its own building on Dr. Sophie Redmondstraat in 1980, where it would remain until 2016. After the terrorist



Picture of the Hakrin Bank Building.

attacks in the United States on September 11, 2001, new security directives required the portion of Dr. Sophie Redmondstraat in front of the embassy to be moved for set-back for the embassy, creating the curve in the road that is there to this day.



U.S. Embassy on Dr. Sophie Redmondstraat.

Secretary of Defense Robert Gates

On October 6, 2007, Secretary Robert Gates (2006-2011) became the first U.S. Secretary of Defense to visit Suriname and the first Cabinet-level visitor since Suriname's independence. During his visit, he met with President Ronald Runaldo Venetiaan. Secretary Gates also met patients aboard the U.S. military hospital ship, USNS Comfort, that was anchored off the coast of Suriname. The Comfort provided medical treatment to patients in a dozen countries during a four-month humanitarian deployment to Latin America and the Caribbean, including Suriname.



Secretary Gates arriving at Johan Adolf Pengel International Airport

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo

U.S. Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo (2018-21) visited Suriname on September 17, 2020, the first visit by a U.S. Secretary of State since independence, and at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. Pompeo highlighted the hard work of the Surinamese people a few months earlier to ensure a democratic transfer of power from President Bouterse to President Santohki. Secretary Pompeo pledged U.S. partnership with Suriname on the development of the oil and gas industry and offered technical assistance in security, defense capacity, and regional stability.



Secretary Pompeo and President Santokhi.

Secretary of State Marco Rubio

On March 27, 2025, during his first trip to the Caribbean as Secretary of State and only 66 days after being confirmed for the position, Secretary Rubio became the second Secretary of State ever to visit Suriname since its independence. Secretary Rubio's visit highlighted the growing partnership between Suriname and the United States, especially in the areas of energy, and economic and security cooperation. Secretary Rubio joked about his desire to be the first Secretary of State to visit Suriname multiple times.



Secretary Rubio with President Santokhi.

Development Together

Among the programs managed by the U.S. Embassy, two were established by President John F. Kennedy in 1961 – USAID (United States Agency for International Development) and the Peace Corps. In response to President Kennedy's announcement of a program to build deeper educational ties between the United States and Latin America, Suriname's Minister-President S.D. Emanuels applied for Suriname to receive assistance on housing, education, agriculture, and water management. Projects started in 1962 through USAID, including testing of the local electrical grid and the possibility of using solar paneling.

Although the office of USAID in Suriname closed in the early 1970s, regional projects continued, and the office reopened in 2023 at the U.S. Embassy before closing again in 2025 as part of President Donald Trump's plan to transfer USAID responsibilities to the Department of State.

The Peace Corps arrived in Suriname in 1995 and its final projects ended in 2013. Over the course of 18 years, over 450 Peace Corps Volunteers served as health and community economic development volunteers in more than 100 villages, primarily in the interior of Suriname. Volunteers learned to speak Dutch, Sranan Tongo, and other local languages, building lasting ties between Suriname and the United States.

One volunteer sadly passed away in Drepada, Brokopondo District in 2007. Blythe O'Sullivan was just 25 when she suffered a mortal gunshot wound to the leg after accidentally triggering a gun trap set by local hunters.



"fighting time
2 hrs., 25 minutes"

When the SHIELD heard, via grapevine, about Gertrude Salley catching a BIG fish down in Surinam, we wrote post haste for details and received this picture and information from her proud husband, R. Bruce Salley, Sanitary Engineer for A.I.D. in Surinam.

"The tarpon was, according to the world almanac, a world's record for women using rod and reel. Caught in the Tibiti River, April 20, 1962—fighting time 2 hrs. and 25 minutes—length 7 feet, 3 inches. Impossible to weigh as we were too far up in the jungle to warrant bringing him out in a boat that was already over-loaded with camp equipment, etc."

SPORTS

32

Shield article on USAID staff fishing in Suriname.



Peace Corps photo.



Swearing in of 12th group of Peace Corps Volunteers in Paramaribo Suriname, August 2006.



Peace Corps Volunteer Blythe O'Sullivan.

South Dakota Partners



South Dakota National Guard medics at work during Gran Mati.

Through the U.S. Department of Defense's "State Partnership Program," Suriname's National Army and the South Dakota National Guard have worked together since 2006. The State Partnership Program serves as a continuing cornerstone of U.S.-Suriname bilateral relations and security cooperation. Partnership projects have included military joint trainings, medical missions, and school construction. Over 30 medics visited Suriname for Operation Gran Mati in 2024, treating more than 1600 patients. Since 2016, 10 schools have been renovated. Thanks to this strong partnership , Suriname was selected to host U.S. Southern Command's TRADEWINDS 2027 exercise, which will involve over 1000 participants from 26 countries.



Renovation at O.S. Raka Raka.



Tradewinds 2025.

Chapter 6
People to People

Cultural connections between Suriname and the United States have flourished over the years, weaving a rich tapestry of shared experiences and creative exchanges. Suriname's influence on the global stage is exemplified by Anthony Nesty, the nation's first Olympic gold medalist, who went on to become the U.S. Men's Olympic Swim Team coach for the Paris 2024 Summer Olympic games. Music has served as a vibrant bridge, with collaborations such as the Suriname Jazz Festival and the Moengo Festival, enriched by visits from American bands that bring diverse sounds and cultural dialogue to the forefront.

Suriname's unique and richly diverse culture has also been celebrated and shared through platforms like the Smithsonian annual Folklife Festival, showcasing the country's cultural heritage to American audiences. Meanwhile, U.S. television programs such as *Reading Rainbow, Bizarre Foods with Andrew Zimmern,* and *River Monsters* have filmed in Suriname, bringing the country's natural beauty and cultural diversity into homes across the United States.

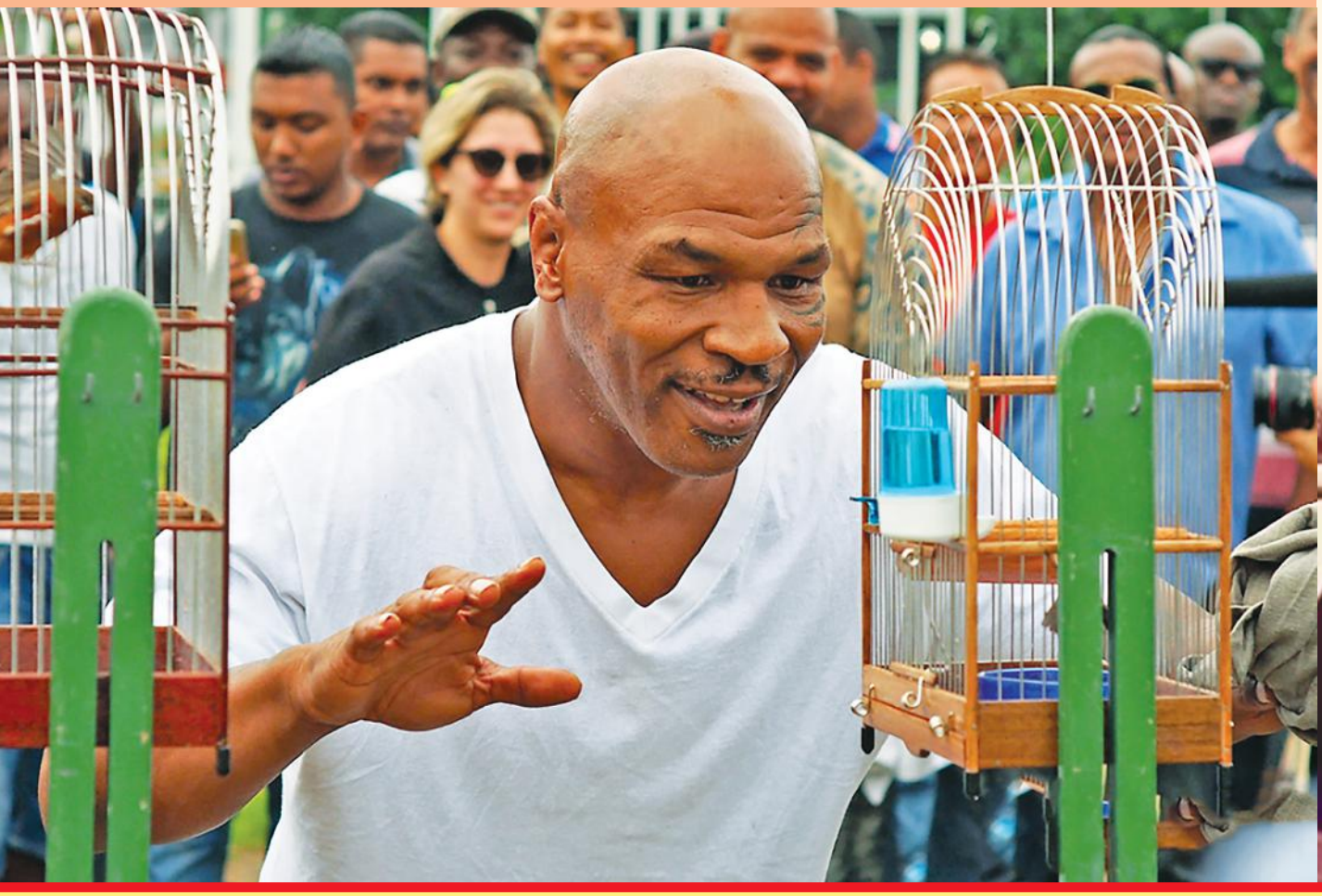


Muhammad Ali in Paramaribo.

Visiting Sports Heroes

World boxing champion Muhammad Ali visited Suriname at the invitation of the Surinamese Islamic Association in April 1979. He visited together with Imam Wallace Deen Muhammad, leader of the Nation of Islam. Ali met with President Johan Ferrier and with sports organizations. He also paid a visit to the Maroon village Santigron and was present at a boxing event in the Streepy Stadium. During a parade in an open car through the streets of Paramaribo, the police had difficulty escorting this high-ranking company.

Another world heavy-weight champion, Mike Tyson, visited Suriname in March 2017 as part of Fusion TV's new docu-series OUTPOST. He flew in with one of his 70-plus birds to compete in a songbird contest, a long-running tradition in the country. These contests are all about testing a songbird's chirping power. Feathered competitors get a set amount of time to chirp as much as possible, and the bird with the most chirps wins the match. In Tyson's round his bird got out an impressive 107 notes, but was beaten by the contest's champion, who was able to chirp 137 times.



Mike Tyson with his songbird.



Muhammad Ali with Surinam Airways plane.

Surinamese-American Sporting Legends



Soccer star Sergiño Dest.

Sergiño Gianni Dest, born November 3, 2000, is a U.S. professional soccer player who plays as a full-back for Eredivisie club PSV Eindhoven. Born in the Netherlands to a Surinamese-American father and a Surinamese-Dutch mother, Dest played for the United States at the 2017 Under-17 World Cup and 2019 Under-20 World Cup before making a first-team professional appearance. He debuted for the U.S. national team in the September 2019 World Cup contest. In that same year he won the U.S. Young Soccer Player of the Year award. He played for the U.S. Team again at the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar, providing an assist for the winning goal in a match against Iran. Sergiño and Team USA won the CONCACAF Nations League in 2022 and 2023, coming in 4th place in 2024.

At the 1988 Summer Olympics in Seoul, South Korea, Surinamese swimmer Anthony Nesty stunned the world. He edged U.S. favorite Matt Biondi by one one-hundredth of a second to win the 100-metre butterfly; he finished the event in 53.00 seconds and Biondi in 53.01. Nesty's gold medal is Suriname's first and only Olympic gold medal. After moving to the United States and gaining U.S. citizenship, Nesty made more history when he was picked as the Head Coach of the U.S. men's Olympic swimming team for the Paris 2024 Olympics. The swim team won 28 medals including 8 gold medals. Nesty was also the coach of U.S. women's team member Katie Ledecky, a 9-time gold medalist. In 2025 he was coach for the U.S. men's swimming team at the World Aquatics Championships in Singapore.







Anthony Nesty receives gold medal at 1988 Summer Olympics in Seoul.
(Heinz Kluetmeier / Sports Illustrated via Getty Images).



Gold Medallist Katie Ledecky and Anthony Nesty Paris 2024
Olympics Swimming Women's 800m Freestyle Victory Ceremony.

U.S.- Suriname Harmony

Over the decades the U.S. Embassy has invited American bands to Suriname and has supported the Suriname Jazz Festival and the Moengo Festival. In 2006, an Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation project with the National Public Music School designed the first Surinamese music curriculum, preserving traditional musical culture and celebrating Suriname's unique combination of African, Indian, Indonesian, Chinese, Indigenous, and European sounds.



12th Suriname
Jazz Festival 2014.







American musician
Maya Azucena at
the Moengo Festival in 2013.

Suriname Comes to Washington DC



Saramakas pose with possesiondance regalia at Smithsonian Folklife Festival 1992.

In addition to bringing American culture to Suriname, the United States has also brought Surinamese culture to Washington D.C. Suriname featured at the 1992 Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage's prestigious annual Folklife Festival on the National Mall in Washington D.C. The exhibition, entitled Creativity and Resistance: Maroon Culture in the Americas, featured Maroons from Suriname and other countries. Okanisi Ndyuka Granman Gazon Matodya led a delegation of seven representatives and Saamaka Granman Songo led a delegation of nine. They highlighted Maroon music, dances, foodways, hunting techniques and woodcarving culture. The festival ran from June 25 to July 5, 1992 and attracted thousands of visitors.



Maroons from the Guianas assemble for a group photo.

U.S. TV Comes to Suriname

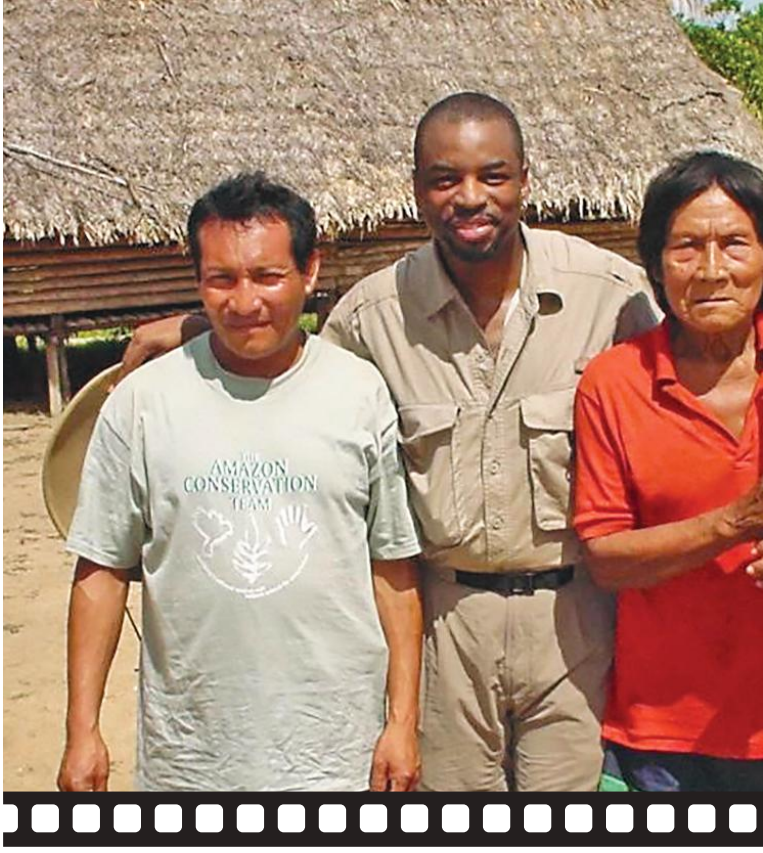
While Suriname may be relatively unknown in the United States, it has featured on a number of recent U.S. TV shows.

1. In 2000, famed actor LeVar Burton traveled to Kwamalasamutu to shoot a segment of his popular PBS show *Reading Rainbow* featuring Amazon Conservation Team's Mark Plotkin and his children's book *The Shaman's Apprentice*. During his visit, Mr. Burton met with granman Asongo Alalaparoe. Mr. Burton gained international fame for his 1977 portrayal of Kunta Kinte in the TV adaption of Alex Haley's book, "Roots."

2. In 2011, host Andrew Zimmern traveled along the Suriname River for an episode of *Bizarre Foods with Andrew Zimmern*. He went hunting with Maroon villagers and enjoyed wild game, including pingo and jungle birds like powisi.

3. Also in 2011, host Jeremy Wade visited Suriname for the episode "Jungle Killer" of River Monsters, during which he traveled to Brokopondo in search of the giant wolf fish *(anjumara)* following reports of attacks on a diver.

4. In 2020, renowned actor Samuel L. Jackson filmed episode 3 of the series "Enslaved" in Suriname, which tells the story of the transatlantic slave trade and follow's Jackson's own genetic origins. The episode included the retelling of the tragic and deliberate sinking of slave ship *Leusden* at the mouth of the Marowijne river, killing over 600 enslaved Africans.



LeVar Burton in Kwamalasamutu.



Andrew Zimmern in the Interior.





Jeremy Wade in Brokopondo.





Samuel L. Jackson on the beach.

Chapter 7
Looking to the Future



U.S. Embassy Paramaribo.

As Suriname and the United States look to the future, our partnership continues to grow, grounded in shared values and a commitment to a safer, more secure and more prosperous region. The opening of the new U.S. Embassy in 2016 marked a significant milestone, demonstrating the United States' long-term commitment to strengthening ties and fostering cooperation. This commitment extends to economic development, exemplified by the recognition of Newmont Mining Corporation with the 2024 Secretary's Award for Corporate Excellence for its contributions to local communities and environmental sustainability. The success of companies like Newmont serves as a model for future U.S. investment in Suriname, further highlighted by the 2024 $10.5 billion investment decision by APA, in partnership with TotalEnergies, in Suriname's emerging oil and gas sector. These developments underscore the potential for deepening economic cooperation and sustainable growth in the years ahead.

Beyond business and infrastructure, the heart of our enduring relationship lies in the strong people-to-people connections between our two countries. The Suriname America Alumni Association, with over 900 members, represents a network of leaders who have benefited from U.S. government educational and professional exchanges, including including former presidents and sitting members of the government. These alumni are poised to play a crucial role in shaping the future of U.S.-Suriname relations, driving innovation, collaboration, and mutual understanding. Recent university partnerships, such as those between Suriname and the University of Pittsburgh in public health through Maureen Lichtveld's initiatives and Michigan Tech University's collaboration with the USDA on wood testing, reflect the exchange of knowledge and expertise that benefits both nations. As we move forward, the bonds between our nations will continue to be strengthened by dynamic exchanges, strategic investments, and a shared vision for a prosperous and sustainable future.

Corporate Excellence

More than a century after the failures of "Jungle Gold," the Newmont Corporation has been producing prodigious amounts of gold from the Merian mine in Langatabiki since 2016. In 2023 alone, Newmont contributed $67 million in taxes and royalties to Suriname's public budget.

Newmont's work as a corporate citizen in Suriname received special recognition from U.S. Secretary of State Anthony Blinken in 2024 with the prestigious Secretary's Award for Corporate Excellence that celebrated Newmont's collaboration with local communities and dedication to environmental sustainability. With the October 2024 decision by APA and its partner TotalEnergies to invest $10.5 billion in Suriname's oil and gas sector, the United States looks forward to further investment and close cooperation between U.S. and Surinamese partners that will grow our shared prosperity



Sarah Morgenthau, special representative for commercial and business affairs U.S. State Department, Shirely Sowma-Sumter, Director, External Relations and Country Manager, Newmont Suriname, Kurt Campbell, Deputy Secretary of State, Robert J. Faucher U.S. Ambassador to Suriname, and Amy Coleman, Acting Assistant Secretary for Economic and Business Affairs.



ACE Award.

2024 TIP Hero

The Department of State recognized Suriname Police Inspector Letitia Pinas as a 2024 TIP Hero. Inspector Pinas revitalized Suriname's Trafficking in Persons Unit by implementing a strategic plan that enhanced investigations, victim support, and public outreach. Pinas improved the unit's effectiveness, established emergency and long-term shelters for victims, and developed a website for anonymous reporting of trafficking cases.

The Department of State released an annual Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report each year. This report uses a tier system to rank countries and evaluate each government's efforts to combat trafficking against the minimum standards outlined



Secretary of State Antony Blinken (back row, center) and Ambassador-at-Large to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons Cindy Dyer (back row, fourth from left) announced the release of the 2024 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report in Washington, June 24.

in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000. As a part of the report rollout, the Department of State honors individuals who have devoted their lives to the fight against human trafficking with the TIP Report Hero Award and invites them to participate in an International Visitor Leadership Program. In 2024, the Department honored 10 TIP Report Heroes working to address trafficking concerns involving Bangladesh, Bolivia, Cuba, Iraq, Kenya, Mali, Philippines, Serbia, Spain and Suriname.





Robert J. Faucher U.S. Ambassador to Suriname and TIP Hero Leticia Pinas Police Inspector.

Education and Exchanges

Since Suriname's independence in 1975, the United States and Suriname have enjoyed growing educational ties. More than 900 Surinamers have traveled to the United States on official U.S. government-sponsored or facilitated civilian exchange programs. These Exchange Alumni now make up the Suriname America Alumni Association, with members representing a multitude of programs, including the International Visitor Leadership Program, the Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship, the Fulbright Program, the Young Leaders of the Americas Initiative, the Kennedy Lugar Youth Exchange and Study Program, and more. Alumni include Vice President Rusland, former president Santokhi, former president Venetiaan, TIP Hero Letitia Pinas, journalist Ivan Cairo and many other leaders in Surinamese politics and civil society. Additional exchanges for members of the military and law enforcement include over 1000 other alumni, including former Minister of Defense Krishna Mathoera.



2024 YLAI Participants in Washington DC.

Outside of official government exchange programs, academics are building a growing number of ties. Epidemiologist Maureen Lichtveld, Dean of the University of Pittsburgh's School of Public Health, has paved the way for Surinamers to study in the United States and every year brings a cohort of American students to Suriname, furthering these ties. Michigan Tech has a longstanding partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Suriname to do wood testing in jungle environments, and they have recently broadened their work to building university partnerships through a small grant from U.S. Embassy Paramaribo.



Suriname America Alumni Asociation (SAAA) Alumni Strengthening Training 2019.



Dr. Lichtveld, a U.S. Embassy intern and the Tulane students pose for a picture with Frits van Troon in front of his Nature Center on Tonka Island, 2015.

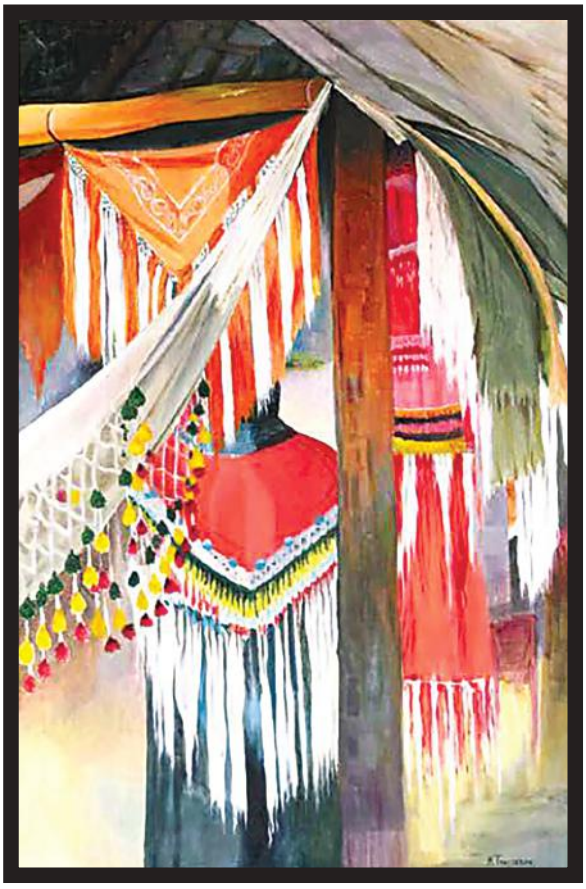


U.S. Embassy Paramaribo.

New Embassy Compound – Commitment to the Future

The 2016 opening of the new U.S. Embassy in Paramaribo marked the next chapter in the enduring relationship between Suriname and the United States. Designed to reflect both modern sustainability and deep respect for local culture, the campus features landscaping with native Surinamese plants and a stunning interior art collection showcasing works by renown Surinamese and U.S. artists. The facility stands as a tangible investment in the future of the U.S.-Suriname partnership, representing our long-term commitment to engagement, cooperation, and shared values and interests. As we look ahead, the Embassy serves not only as a center for diplomacy, but also as a symbol of the friendship and mutual understanding that continue to grow between our nations. The story of U.S.–Suriname ties is still being written, and the foundation laid here offers strength and promise for generations to come.





Under the 'Pina' Hut by Humphrey Tawjoeram



President Jennifer Simons together with U.S. President Donald Trump and First Lady Melania Trump during a dinner in New York, on the sidelines of the 80th United Nations General Assembly.



Power of Diversity by René Tosari



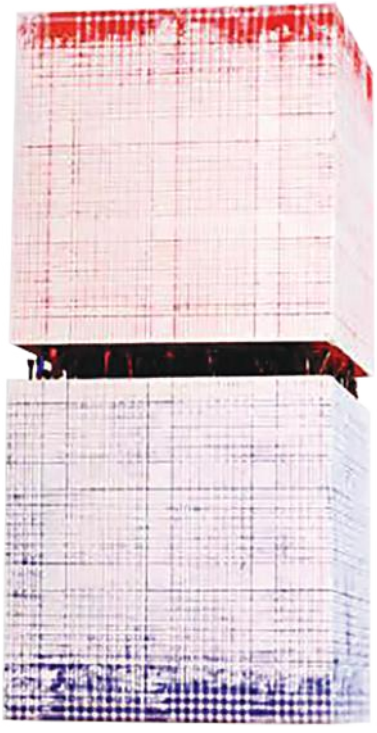
Dancer in Green
by Soekhi Irodikromo



Fositen/Once by Marcel Pinas



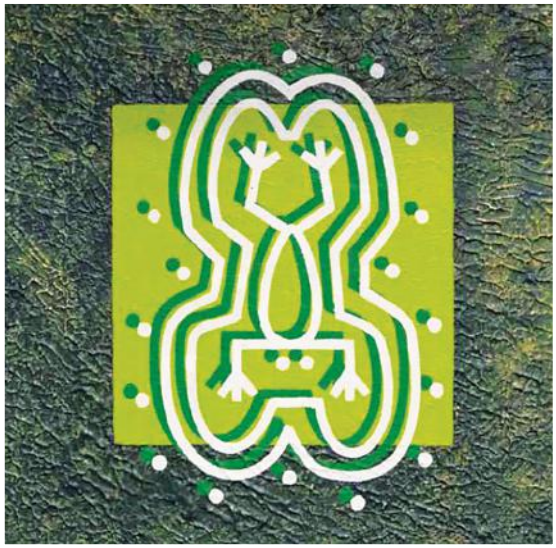
Fodu Composition 3 by Remy Jungerman



Nkisi Pakamatu by Remy Jungerman



Bromki by Winston van der Bok



Toddo by Winston van der Bok



Fowroe by Winston van der Bok



The High Quarry by Steven Towirjo



Afaka Masker by Roddney Tjon Poen Gie



Untitled by Hanka Wolterstorf

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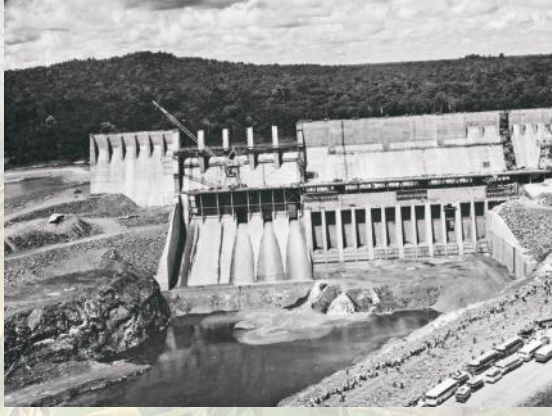
Chevallie Vinkwolk

Ria Jharap

Edwina Abeyta




98
LITTLE BUTCH
II










Jan E. Matzeliger
Shoe Lasting Machine No.274,207
Patented March 20,1883
29
Black Heritage USA


GENERAL WASHINGTON'S JACK ASS.



