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...awarded American Friendship Medal

Prime Minister Edward Seaga has been awarded the American Friendship Medal by Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

The Freedoms Foundation is a non-political, non-sectarian educational organisation which has amongst its objectives the promotion of "love of freedom; and to contribute to the development of responsible citizenship."

The American Friendship Medal is the highest honour that Freedoms Foundation can give to friends of the United States, and is

presented to a non-American "who has made exceptional contributions on behalf of peace, freedom and democracy."

The Prime Minister was invited to accept the Award last December and it will be bestowed on him next Tuesday, February 22, when he will be in the United States to attend the annual joint meeting of the US/Jamaica Business Committee and the Prime Minister's Committee on Investment and Employment.

The Freedoms Foundation 1982 National Awards Jury who

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selected Mr. Seaga for the award was chaired by Hon. Vincent L. McKusick, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Maine and included Justices from the Supreme Courts of four American states and representative of a range of U.S. civic and educational organisations, among them the American Association of School Administrators, the National Catholic Education Association, the National 4-H Council and the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

The American Friendship Medal is not an annual award and has had over the years a number of distinguished recipients including, Winston Churchill, Conrad Adenauer (former Councillor of the Federal Republic of Germany), Alexander Solzhenitsyn (Nobel Prize winning Russian author now living in the United States) and Ambassador Ken Taylor —who was Canadian Ambassador to Iran during the hostage crisis.

The medal was posthumously awarded to the late President Anwar Sadat of Egypt.

National Library of Jamaica