

# CURAÇAO: SMALL ISLAND, STRATEGIC LOCATION

So important was Caribbean trade to the new United States, that in 1793 our government opened one of its earliest consulates on the island of Dutch-owned Curaçao in the Caribbean Sea.

Today Curaçao forms part of the Netherland Antilles, comprising the islands of Curaçao, Bonaire, Saba, Sint Eustatius, and Sint Maarten. Currently the U.S. Consulate General conducts diplomatic relations with the Netherland Antilles and Aruba. It also provides a variety of American citizen services.

Due to the strategic location of the Netherland Antilles and Aruba for the U.S., the consulate wrestles with major issues such as securing U.S. borders, thwarting terrorism and fighting international crime, especially narco- and human trafficking. The Consul General resides in the historic Roosevelt House, which was the local government's gift of property to our country in 1950 as an expression of gratitude for U.S. protection during World War II.

Along with the plaques on display, this book includes images of all the plaques the US Diplomacy Center received.

*Donor: Bernard Woerz  
Dates of plaques: 1990s*



Sketch, U.S. Consul General's Residence, Roosevelt House, Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles



**USS Biddle CG-34**

“Deus Clypeus Meus” (Latin motto for “God is my shield”) on emblem.

*Inscription:* “On The Occasion  
Of Our Visit  
To Curacao  
25-28 Jan 93”



**USS Long Beach CGN-9**

“Strike Hard – Strike Home” on emblem.

*Inscription:* “Presented on the occasion of  
USS Long Beach (CGN-9)  
visit to Curacao  
22-25 June 1993”



USS Monterey/ CG 61  
"Rough in Battle/ Ready in Peace" on emblem.

*Inscription:* "Presented to  
Mr. Bernard J. Woerz  
United States Consul General  
Netherlands Antilles  
27 June 1994"



Patrol Squadron/ Forty-five/ 'Pelicans VP 45.  
*Inscription:* "In appreciation for all your support"



Clay plaque, painted.

*Inscription:* "Consulate General of the United States of America  
Curacao, Netherlands Antilles."



Joint Interagency Task Force/ East  
"Pursuing Excellence" on emblem.

*Inscription:* "Presented to  
The Honorable Bernard J. Woerz  
Consulate General of the United States of America  
American Consulate General Curacao  
January 30, 1995"



**“St. Maarten**

**Semper Pro Grediens”** (Latin motto for “Always moving forward”) on scroll.  
St. Maarten is an island of the Netherland Antilles along with Curaçao.



**USS Santa Barbara  
AE-28**

**“Nos Numerus Unus”** (Latin motto for “We are number one”) on emblem.

*Inscription on plaque:* “Hon. Bernard J. Woerz  
Consul General  
Netherlands Antilles”

*Inscription on wood:* “Presented by the Commanding officer  
USS Santa Barbara  
AE-28”



**USS Sand Lance**

“Rough in Battle/ Ready in Peace” on emblem.

*Inscription:* “Presented by  
the crew of  
USS Sand Lance  
(SSN-660).”



**USS Spruance DD-963**

“Wisdom, Fortitude, Reason” on emblem.

*Inscription:* “To The  
United States Consul General  
And The Consulate Staff  
With Special Thanks  
From The Officers And Crew  
Of USS Spruance  
20 DEC 1992”



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