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Statue of Sir Lynden Officially Unveiled At Lynden Pindling International Airport

By Betty Vedrine
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NASSAU, The Bahamas – It was 59 years ago that the Right Honourable Sir Lynden O. Pindling began his parliamentary career in The Bahamas. ‘Sir Lynden’ as he was affectionately called became known as the ‘Father of the Nation’ after leading as Prime Minister for over 25 years. In recognition of his contributions to the country, a life-sized statue was erected at the entrance of the International wing of the Lynden Pindling International Airport. The statue, which took two years to build, was created and produced by Bahamian sculptor, Peter Johnston.

During an emotionally charged ceremony commemorating the Official Unveiling of a statue in his image, several persons spoke to Sir Lynden’s legacy as a leader ‘for the people.’ The ceremony was held on Thursday, July 9th at the Lynden Pindling International Airport (LPIA).

Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Perry G. Christie was in attendance and paid homage to the former Prime Minister. He said that it was with great pride and humility that he stood before the attendees of the ceremony.

Describing Sir Lynden as a man of great vision who had a profound love for the Bahamian people, Mr. Christie said that it was Sir Lynden’s humility and compassion that resonated with the people at a time when black Bahamians needed hope and inspiration.

Minister of Transport and Aviation, the Hon. Glenys Hanna-Martin delivered a moving speech on Sir Lynden’s legacy and likened him to

'Moses' during the exodus of the Israelites out of Egypt. "This is indeed a proud moment for me today as I stand here bearing witness to this great moment in our history," said Mrs. Hanna-Martin. "I am also very happy that my father, His Excellency Arthur D. Hanna, who is one of the freedom fighters for our country, is still alive to experience this occasion today."

Sir Lynden O. Pindling was born on March 22, 1930 and died on August 26, 2000. He led The Bahamas to majority rule on January 10, 1967 and to independence on July 10, 1973. Sir Lynden's widow, Her Excellency Dame Marguerite Pindling, is the current Governor General of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

Photo Captions:

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Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Perry G. Christie, delivers the keynote address at the Official Unveiling of the statue of the Rt. Hon. Sir Lynden O. Pindling. The ceremony was held on Thursday, July 9, at the Lynden Pindling International Airport. (BIS Photo/Letisha Henderson).

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Governor-General Her Excellency Dame Marguerite Pindling smiles after unveiling the plaque at the base of the life-sized statue of her husband, former Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Sir Lynden Oscar Pindling. The statue was unveiled during a ceremony held at the Lynden Pindling International Airport on Thursday, July 9. Next to Dame Marguerite is Minister of Transport and Aviation the Hon. Glenys Hanna-Martin. (BIS Photo/Letisha Henderson)

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Sir Lynden's grandchildren participated in the ceremony by removing the flag-coloured draping to unveil the statue. (BIS Photo/Letisha Henderson)

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A life-sized image of former Prime Minister of the Bahamas, the Rt. Hon. Sir Lynden Oscar Pindling was erected at the entrance of the International wing of the Lynden Pindling International Airport. The ceremony was held on Thursday, July 9, 2015. (BIS Photo/Letisha Henderson)

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