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Ambassador to Discuss Historic Uprisings in the Middle East at MBL Falmouth Forum, March 9

MBL, WOODS HOLE, MA—Ambassador Robert Pelletreau, former U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, will examine the extent of popular uprisings throughout the Arab world in an MBL Falmouth Forum talk titled “The Arab Spring One Year After.” The lecture is scheduled for Friday, March 9th at 7:30 PM at the Lawrence School, 113 Lakeview Avenue in Falmouth. Sponsored by the MBL Associates, it is free and open to the public.

In his lecture, Ambassador Pelletreau will discuss the causes and relative success or failure of recent uprisings in various Middle Eastern countries, and the role and response of the United States to these historic upheavals.

Ambassador Pelletreau served as U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs from 1994 to 1997, capping off a 35-year career in the Foreign Service that included Ambassadorships in Egypt, Tunisia, and Bahrain. His other assignments in the Foreign Service included Algeria, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, and Syria, as well as senior positions in the Departments of State and Defense.

While in Tunisia, Ambassador Pelletreau conducted the U.S. dialogue with the P.L.O. As Ambassador to Egypt, he joined the U.S. delegation to the 1991 Madrid Middle East Peace Conference, and as Assistant Secretary, he traveled frequently to the region as a Member of Secretary Christopher’s negotiating team. During this period, he also played a key role in the development and implementation of the U.S. policies toward North Africa, the Levant, Egypt and the Gulf, including Iraq and Iran. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the American Foreign Service Association and the American Academy of Diplomacy, and serves on the boards of several Middle East-related organizations.

For more information about the Falmouth Forum, visit mbl.edu/falmouthforum or contact the MBL Communications Office at: (508) 289-7423; comm@mbl.edu. Important Note: Due to renovations being done to the MBL’s Lillie Auditorium this winter, all of this season’s remaining lectures will be held at either Falmouth High School or the Lawrence School. All lectures will begin at 7:30 PM.

The remaining Falmouth Forums of the 2011-2012 season are listed below. Visit the Falmouth Forum web page at <http://www.mbl.edu/events/falmouthforum/> for details.

Continued...

March 16:

"Poetry Reading: Imagination, Language and the Life of the Mind" - HERMAN T. EPSTEIN
ENDOWED MEMORIAL LECTURE - Jean Nordhaus, Washington D.C. area poet, teacher, author and editor - 7:30 PM, Lawrence School, Falmouth

March 30:

"Honeybee Democracy" (co-sponsored by the 300 Committee) - Dr. Thomas Seeley, biologist and author, Cornell University - 7:30 PM, Falmouth High School

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