

**IBSSA - ISF saluted Chuck Marriman Sensei – a living legend of Karate Do  
(USA, Miami January 2008)**

IBSSA – ISF was represented on the occasion of this special celebration by the President of IBSSA – Prof. George POPPER and by IBSSA – ISF President, Prof. Rony KLUGER and also Mr. Tamás TÖRÖK – Regional Representative of IBSSA for Florida.

During their time in Miami, they had the honour and a great pleasure to join Chuck MERRIMAN Sensei, an old time Senior, Friend and colleague in celebrating his 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Sensei Chuck Merriman was awarded the title of "LIVING LEGEND of Karate Do" for his lifetime activities and achievements. He is a 9<sup>th</sup> Dan of Jundokan and a very dear "older brother" within the community of Karate Do friends.

Dr. Kluger had the privilege to teach and assist Sensei Merriman during a well-attended seminar in Miami, and the IBSSA – ISF President also met and trained with Fumio Demura, Sensei a well-known senior teacher of Shito Ryu karatedo and Kobudo. They know each other for years through teaching in seminars together.

It was a great opportunity to chat freely and very openly with both Senior Teachers about Karatedo, Budo and life... it was pure pleasure and a very treasured time.

During their visit the IBSSA leaders had been participating in various meetings with WKC Board of Directors (Dr. Marko NICOVIC, Dr. Fritz WENDLAND), and they also lead a serial of meetings with Mr. Joe B. MIRZA – Executive President of the IBSSA – ISF for America, President of AAU Karate Program. On this special occasion an IBSSA – AAU meeting, a "working dinner" was held upon invitation of Mr. Joe B. MIRZA with the participation of the following members of IBSSA:

Prof. George Popper – President

Dr. Rony Kluger – General Secretary

Dr. Marko Nicovic – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Dr. Fritz Wendland – Honorary Founding Member

Dr. Anna Popper – Chairman of Event Management and Protocol Department

During this meeting the leaders of IBSSA was informed about the forthcoming WKC and AAU competitions, championships and were all invited to attend these events.

Furthermore Prof. George Popper – President of IBSSA had numerous meetings and serious discussions with Dr. Marko Nicovic, Dr. Fritz Wendland and Mr. Tamás Török and other American members of IBSSA.

The main subjects of these meetings were the development of IBSSA in the USA, and also the close cooperation with INEOA (International Narcotic Enforcement Officers Association) in the fight against drugs.

We trust that in the near future IBSSA and IBSSA – ISF will deepen its presence and open new activities within the USA.

22<sup>nd</sup> January 2008

IBSSA HQ