

“**HOWARD W. GUTMAN** ENDS HIS VISIT IN CONCENTRA BUILDINGS”

“U.S. Ambassador on Visit”

“Hasselt – Howard W. Gutman, the American Ambassador in Belgium, made a visit to our province yesterday. He concluded his day with a visit to the *Concentra* buildings in Hasselt, where the news desk of *Het Belang van Limburg* is established.”

“Together with his spouse Michelle Loewinger, U.S. Ambassador Howard W. Gutman crossed the whole province yesterday. Upon his entry into office in September, he actually promised to visit all Belgian municipalities.”

“In the late afternoon, Gutman was expected at the Concentra buildings in Hasselt. The Ambassador – known for his enthusiastic style – full of interest listened to a short expose on the company by CEO Marc Vangeel, after which he extensively took the time to enter into a conversation with members of the board and a couple of news writers. He described President Obama as a ‘calm person who leaves no one unmoved’. At the end, he thanked Concentra for the visit and ‘for bringing the news to Belgium’.”

“Earlier in the day, Gutman visited Maasmechelen village and the Hasselt House of the Province, where he met with Province Governor Herman Reynders and Hasselt Mayor Hilde Claes (SP.A). Also a meeting with fashion designer Stijn Helsen was part of the program.”

The article is illustrated with two pictures, one of the Ambassador visiting Maasmechelen village, the other one showing the Ambassador signing *Concentra*’s golden book. Caption under the latter picture reads: “Picture on top: Ambassador Gutman signs Concentra’s golden book. Next to him (from left to right) the Ambassador’s spouse, Jan Baert, Frans Baert, Robert Ceuppens, Marc Vangeel and Sylvie Baert.”