

We cannot be soft-headed about this matter for power in the hands of irresponsible rulers could be dangerous to our peace. But while we could not be soft-headed, we should certainly be clear-headed, I agree that we must be careful and alert. But also we must not let fear freeze our diplomacy into immobility or fire it into panic action.

"The purpose of Canadian policy - and I do not think there is any division of opinion in this country about this - is not merely to build up military collective strength, important as that is. Our purpose is to work together with our friends in solving our own problems and also, if possible, to negotiate with those whom we fear, in solving those other problems which now divide the world.

"Canada is anxious to play its part also in this form of collective security, anxious to play its part in seeking, by negotiation, international solutions to differences, to seek them by negotiation from the strength, which we are now collecting, and with strength but also with wisdom, with a full realization of the calamitous result of failure, and in the hope that one day security will rest upon a stronger basis even than the certainty of massive retaliation, atomic retaliation if you like, against anyone who would break the peace; retaliation which would certainly annihilate the enemy but might also destroy ourselves."

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TRADE PACT WITH JAPAN: The Department of External Affairs announced on March 31 the signature of an Agreement on Commerce for the exchange of most-favoured-nation treatment between Canada and Japan. This Agreement was signed in Ottawa on behalf of Canada by the Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr. C.D. Howe, and by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. L.B. Pearson, and on behalf of Japan by His Excellency Mr. Koto Matsudaira, newly-appointed Japanese Ambassador to Canada.

This Agreement will enter into force on its ratification by both countries. It will be valid for one year from the date of ratification and will continue in effect unless terminated by either party.

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AMBASSADOR OF JAPAN: On March 30 His Excellency Koto Matsudaira presented to His Excellency the Governor-General his Letter of Credency as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Canada. The ceremony of presentation took place at Government House.

Mr. Matsudaira was born in 1903. He is a career diplomat, having entered the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1926. He has represented his country in Paris, Washington and Moscow and has held various posts in the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Since 1952 he has been Special Assistant to the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

APPOINTMENTS: The Secretary of State for External Affairs on March 29 announced the appointment of Mr. C.S.A. Ritchie as Canadian Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany and of Mr. E.W.T. Gill as Canadian High Commissioner to the Union of South Africa.

In Bonn, Mr. Ritchie, who accompanied the Prime Minister on his around-the-world tour and who up to recently had been Deputy Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, will succeed Mr. T.C. Davis, who is returning to Canada on home leave. In Pretoria Mr. Gill will succeed Mr. T.W.L. MacDermot, who was appointed Canadian Ambassador to Greece in March. Mr. Ritchie will take up his post in May and Mr. Gill in July.

ACCOMPANIED MR. ST. LAURENT

Charles Stewart Almon Ritchie was born in Halifax on September 23, 1906 and studied at Kings College, Dalhousie University, at Oxford and Harvard Universities and at the Ecole Libre des Sciences Politiques in Paris. He joined the Department of External Affairs in August, 1934, and served in Washington, 1936-39; London, 1939-45; Ottawa, 1945-47 and Paris, 1947-50. He returned to Ottawa in January 1950 and served as Assistant, Deputy and Acting Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs until early this year. He then accompanied Mr. St. Laurent on his recent tour, with the special rank of Ambassador.

Mr. Ritchie has attended a number of international conferences including: the United Nations Conference on International Organization in San Francisco, 1945; General Assemblies of the United Nations in London, 1946, Paris, 1948 and New York, 1950; and sessions of the Security Council in New York in 1946 and 1948; Peace Conference, Paris, 1946; Executive Committee and General Council of the International Refugee Organization, Geneva, 1949; North Atlantic Council, Ottawa 1951 and Lisbon, 1952.

Mr. Gill was born in Ottawa on November 2, 1902, and graduated from the Royal Military College, Kingston, in 1923, and McGill University in 1925. Before the war he served with industrial and commercial organizations. He joined the Canadian Army in 1940 and rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in 1944. From 1944 to 1946 Mr. Gill served as Secretary to the Chiefs of Staff Committee and as a member of the Cabinet Secretariat. On demobilisation he was appointed to the civilian staff of the Privy Council Office and served as Secretary to the Cabinet Defence Committee and other Cabinet Committees. He joined the Department of External Affairs in 1950 and during 1950-51 served as Counsellor at Canada House, London and as Canadian representative and Vice-Chairman of the North Atlantic Defence Production Board. He attended meetings of the North Atlantic Council in London, The Hague and Brussels, 1950-51, and in November 1951 returned to the Department to serve as the Head of Personnel Division.