



REF

communiqué

No: 59
No.:

DIFFUSION: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
RELEASE: AUGUST 8, 1977

CANADIAN ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL

RESUMPTION OF NORMAL OPERATIONS BY THE CANADIAN EMBASSY, BEIRUT, LEBANON

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Don Jamieson, announced today the resumption of normal operations by the Canadian Embassy at Beirut, Lebanon.

It will be recalled that the Canadian Embassy was temporarily withdrawn from Beirut on March 30, 1976 due to the serious deterioration of the Lebanese situation which had made it impossible for the Embassy to function effectively.

The dramatic improvement of the situation in Lebanon during recent months, however, has encouraged the Canadian Government to take the decision to resume the Embassy's normal operations at Beirut. The Chargé d'Affaires and other members of the Embassy who have been resident in Amman, Jordan and Limassol, Cyprus since the withdrawal have returned to Beirut and the temporary offices in Amman and Limassol have been closed.

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