

and their underlying rationale. To date, the series totals twenty-five volumes, covering the period from 1909, when the department was established, to 1959. It also includes two special volumes on relations with Newfoundland in the two decades before it joined Canada in 1949. *Documents on Canadian External Relations* has reprinted over 20,000 documents so far, totalling almost 35,000 pages of text and making it one of the largest publishing projects in Canadian history.⁵

These volumes and this collection are based primarily on the records of Canada's foreign ministry, then known as the Department of External Affairs, and its cabinet secretariat, the Privy Council Office. These are supplemented where necessary by the private papers of Cabinet ministers and senior officials, as well as the files of other government departments. In preparing this selection of documents on Canada and the Hungarian Revolution, I was given complete access to the files of the Department of External Affairs and generous access to other collections.

To help readers wishing to do further research, the source is indicated at the upper right-hand corner of each document. The symbols are explained in the Location of Documents. A dagger (+) indicates a Canadian document that has not been printed. Editorial excisions are shown by an ellipse (...). The phrase "group corrupt" indicates decryption problems in the transmission of the original telegram. Words and passages that were struck out by the author, marginal notes and distribution lists are reproduced as footnotes only when important. Unless otherwise indicated, it is assumed that documents have been read by the addressee. Proper and place names are standardized. The editor has silently corrected spelling, punctuation and capitalization, as well as transcription errors whose meaning is clear from their context. All other editorial additions to the documents are indicated by the use of square brackets. Documents are reprinted in either English or French, depending on their language of origin.

GREG DONAGHY
OTTAWA, ONTARIO
SEPTEMBER 2004

⁵ Greg Donaghy, "Documenting the Diplomats: The Origins and Evolution of *Documents on Canadian External Relations*," *The Public Historian*, Vol. 25, No. 1 (Winter 2003), pp. 9-28.