News Release

Department of External Affairs



Communiqué

Ministère des Affaires extérieures

No. 244

December 8, 1988.

CANADIAN AWARDED UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS PRIZE

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, announced today that a distinguished Canadian, Professor John P. Humphrey of McGill University, has been awarded a United Nations human rights prize on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Dr. Humphrey is the first Canadian so honoured. He will receive his award today in New York where he will speak for Canada at a special plenary session of the General Assembly.

Professor Humphrey, currently Emeritus Professor of International Law at McGill University, Montréal, has enjoyed a long and internationally respected career in the field of international human rights. He was the first Director of the United Nations Human Rights Division and was instrumental in the preparatory work and drafting of the Universal Declaration, which was adopted by the U.N. General Assembly in 1948. In 1966 he returned to Canada, where he has been active in university teaching and working with non-governmental organizations. The author of numerous books and articles on human rights and other aspects of international law, Dr. Humphrey was awarded the Order of Canada in 1974 in recognition of his outstanding contribution to international human rights.

- 30 -

Secretary of State for External Affairs Secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures

anada