PRESS RELEASE



COMMUNIQUÉ

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

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The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Howard Green, has instructed Mr. Paul Bridle, Canadian Commissioner on the International Commission in Laos to convey the following message to Prince Souvanna Phouma, who is to head the new Laotian Government of National Union:

"I should like to convey to you my own gratification and that of the Canadian Government on the agreement to form under your leadership a Government of National Union dedicated to a policy of independence, integrity and neutrality. I sincerely hope that this will mark the beginning of a new and happier period for the people of Laos and will open the way to a final accord at the Geneva Conference. I wish to assure you that Canada remains prepared, in co-operation with the Government of Laos and with the other members of the International Commission, to assist in every practicable way in the carrying out of the agreed settlement."