



# PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 1954.

The Department of External Affairs announced today that it has learned that Squadron Leader A.R. MacKenzie, an R.C.A.F. exchange pilot serving with the United States Air Force in Korea, who was shot down on a mission over North Korea in December 1952, is alive and well and will be released by the Chinese Communist authorities.

Squadron Leader MacKenzie was shot down on December 5, 1952, at a point northeast of Sinuiju in North Korea, not far from the Yalu River boundary with Manchuria. No one saw his plane or parachute land. Subsequently, reports from repatriated prisoners-of-war indicated that he had been taken prisoner and had been seen in a prisoner-of-war camp. However, he was not repatriated in the main exchange of prisoners-of-war which took place in September 1953.

The Canadian Delegation to the Geneva Conference approached the Chinese Communist Delegation informally with a view to securing information about Squadron Leader MacKenzie. Following informal discussions, the Canadian Delegation was informed on June 17 that Squadron Leader MacKenzie was "alive and well" and that he would be released, although a definite date for this release has not yet been set.

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